**Grand Junction High School**

**Counseling Department**

**Mission Statement**

The mission of Mesa County Valley School District #51 and Grand Junction High School is

**“To lead all students to reach their individual potential by**

**rigorously pursuing and evaluating achievement**

**of high academic and ethical standards**

**in a disciplined, nurturing environment.”**

**Vision**

The vision of the District 51 High Schools is

“**As we prepare our students for a successful future,**

**we will ignite their passion for learning through**

**rigor, relevance, and relationships”.**

**Counseling Department Mission Statement**

Our mission as school counselors is to provide a comprehensive counseling program that will assist all students in acquiring skills, knowledge, and attitudes needed to become effective students, responsible citizens, productive 21st Century workers and lifelong learners.

The comprehensive school counseling program is an integral part of the school’s total program with a commitment to individual uniqueness, an understanding of multicultural diversity, and the maximum development of human potential. The program addresses the individual career and academic as well as the personal/social needs of all students. The program’s ultimate goal is for all students to make self-directed, realistic, and responsible decisions and to be successful contributors to community, state, and society.

**Philosophy**

*The counselors of Grand Junction High School believe:*

* All students have:
* dignity and worth!
* the right to participate in a comprehensive school counseling program!
* the ability to succeed if provided adequate time, support, and a safe and secure learning environment that is built upon trust and respect!
* All students shall have access to a full-time, state certified, master’s-degree-level school counselor to deliver the comprehensive school counseling program.
* All students’ ethnic, cultural, racial, socio-economic, sexual differences and special needs are considered in planning and implementing the comprehensive school counseling program.
* The student and his/her parents/guardians are responsible for monitoring the student’s overall progress with the assistance of a professional school counselor.

*And that the Grand Junction High School comprehensive counseling program should:*

* Be developed and implemented by trained school counselors with support from the school administrators and teachers, as equal partners.
* Be based on specific goals and developmental student competencies for all students 9-12.
* Be evaluated on stated goals and related student competencies, as set forth by the district, the State of Colorado, and the American School Counselor Association (ASCA).
* Be consistent with the developmental stage of learning and should address the academic, career, and social/emotional needs of all students.
* Use school, district, and community resources to provide the requisite prevention and intervention support to all students.
* Use data to drive program development and evaluation to insure that all students meet the ASCA student competencies, the Colorado Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) requirements, and the Mesa County Valley School District #51 graduation requirements.

*And that all counselors in Grand Junction High School:*

* Abide by the professional ethics of guidance and counseling as advocated by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA) and the Code of Ethical Behavior of the Mesa County Valley School District #51.
* Participate in professional development and continuing education activities essential to maintain a quality comprehensive school counseling program.