

What is the Student Assistance Program?

SAP is a systemic process using techniques to mobilize school resources to remove barriers to learning. The core of the program is a professionally trained team, including school staff and liaisons from community alcohol and drug and mental health agencies.

Privacy
The SAP team will respect students' privacy at all times.



Contacting Your School's SAP Team

If you feel that you or someone you know needs help, please call the school and ask to speak with a member of the SAP team. Someone will be there to help. You may also contact the following team members via email:

Mr. Stoudt – jstoudt@montasd.org

Jr./Sr. High Principal

Mrs. Liscum – dliscum@montasd.org

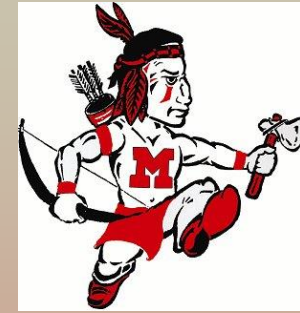
Guidance

Mrs. Bozella – tbozella@montasd.org

Guidance/Student Services

Mrs. Walton – hw Walton@montasd.org

School Nurse



The Student Assistance Program

MASD

Montgomery Area Jr./Sr. High

120 Penn Street, Montgomery, PA. 17752

www.montasd.org

A guide for
teachers, parents, and students



Know the warning signs

- * Withdrawing from family, friends, and/or school
- * Changing friends; no longer spends time with old friends
- * Unexplained physical injuries
- * Needing money without explanation
- * Experimenting with drugs or alcohol
- * Defying authority, both at home and at school
- * Sudden drop in grades
- * Lying
- * Acting aggressively
- * Depressed
- * Talking about suicide

DON'T FEEL EMBARRASSED OR UNCOMFORTABLE ABOUT ASKING FOR HELP.
When extra help is needed, knowing how and where to find help can be overwhelming.

A note for parents

Your school's SAP team will help you find services and assistance within the school and, if needed, in the community. We do not diagnose, treat, or refer your child for treatment. Rather, we will provide you with the information; you make the choices. Remember, you are a part of our team. Our goal is to help your child succeed in school. Anyone can refer a student to the SAP team. Any school staff member, a student's friend, or family member can let the SAP team know that they are worried about someone. The students themselves can even go directly to the SAP team to ask for help. However, the SAP team will not become involved unless we receive your permission.

What if someone has already referred my child to the program?

Know that your child was referred because someone is concerned about observable changes they are seeing in your child. Perhaps a teacher or friend has noticed changes in behavior and habits that you may or may not have noticed at home. Your observations of your child at home are important.

The SAP team will request that you sign a permission form for your child to become involved in the program. Once you sign, the SAP team will begin to work with you and your child. If you feel you need more information before making a decision, please let your SAP team know. Participation is voluntary. If you do not sign the permission form, the SAP team will not become involved.

What happens after I give my permission?

- 1. The SAP team will gather specific data about your child's performance in school. A SAP team member will also talk with you in person or over the phone.**
- 2. Together, you and the SAP team will develop a plan of action to help your child achieve success in school. The plan might include services and activities in school and/or services from a community agency.**
- 3. The SAP team will continue to work with and support your child. They will stay in contact with you to talk about your child's progress and success in school. Your continued involvement is very important.**