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September 2011

**ELEMENTARY  
COUNSELOR'S CORNER**

## "The Starfish"

There was a young man walking down a deserted beach just before dawn. In the distance he saw a frail old man. As he approached the old man, he saw him picking up stranded starfish and throwing them back into the sea. The young man gazed in wonder as the old man again and again threw the small starfish from the sand to the water.



He asked him, "Why do you spend so much energy doing what seems to be a waste of time?" The old man explained that the

stranded starfish would die if left in the morning sun. "But there must be thousands of beaches and millions of starfish," exclaimed

the young man, "How can your effort make any difference?" The old man looked down at the small starfish in his hand, and as he threw it to safety in the sea said, "It makes a difference to this one."

Original Story by: Loren Eiseley

## Welcome to the 2011-2012 School Year!

Dear Parents,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all Lakeview students and their families! I hope that the first weeks have been GREAT! I have no doubt that this school year will bring great things to Lakeview! This is my sixth year as a School Social Worker, and my role is to provide guidance and support for all Lakeview staff, students, and families. I visit elementary classrooms as well as provide individual and small group counseling dealing with: self-image and self-esteem, family issues, support during crisis, new student support, personal conflict, and peer facilitation and mediation. My door is always open, and I encourage you to come in and see me or give me a call if you have any concerns about your son or daughter.

Sincerely, Krista Remiger



## The Developmental Needs of Elementary School Students

Elementary school is a time when students develop attitudes concerning school, self, peers, social groups, and family. It is



also a time when decision-making, communication, life skills, and character values begin to really emerge. Early identification and intervention is the key to helping students reach their full potential. If we do not address the issues students are currently facing, we might miss out on the opportunity to help them feel important and successful.

For many children, a school social worker or counselor may be the one positive person that can provide a place of safety, trust and positive regard.

Watch for the Counselor's Corner newsletter every month via emails!  
Or check them out at [www.lakeview2167.com](http://www.lakeview2167.com) under the student and parent tab!

## The Role of a School Social Worker:

- Provide individual and small group counseling dealing with: self-image and self-esteem, personal adjustment, family issues, interpersonal concerns, academic development; behavior modification, as well as peer facilitation and peer mediation.
- Work with specialized populations and needs that require special attention such as culturally diverse populations and students of varying abilities.
- Implement classroom guidance lessons.
- Coordinate school and community resources.
- Provide consultation with teachers, administrators, school psychologists, special education, school counselors, and outside agencies and social services concerning the welfare of the students.
- Make appropriate referrals for special services for students and families within the school and community.
- Communicate and exchange information with parents/guardians by way of conferences, phone calls, emails, and newsletters.

### CONTACT INFORMATION

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