



Mental Health and Safety Resources at MacLaren

As a community of learners, we at MacLaren place a high premium on relationships—staff relating to one another, teachers relating to students, older students to younger students, and so on. We aim to enfold our students in a school culture in which each one is known and seen. In this context, we task a number of staff and faculty with specific roles:

- Deans of Students – At MacLaren, Deans are not primarily disciplinarians, but are charged first and foremost with helping to build student culture through relationships with the students. Yes, Deans do administer and review disciplinary matters. But their primary role is to build rapport with students and foster a culture of “kindness, friendliness, and peace.” Deans are also an important resource for students who are struggling with relationships among peers or with anything that might be impacting their life at school. (Students who are struggling with a particular teacher or Dean of Students should talk directly to their Head of School or an Assistant Head.)

Lower School Deans

Laura Schlichting, Assistant Head of Lower School (K-2)

lschlichting@maclarenschool.org

Jared Gonzalez, Assistant Head of Lower School (3-5)

jgonzalez@maclarenschool.org

K-2 Joy Davis

jdavis@maclarenschool.org

3-5 Evan Schmittgen

eschmittgen@maclarenschool.org

Upper School Deans

Tim Pingel, Assistant Head of Upper School

tpingel@maclarenschool.org

Boys

6-8 Caleb Leong

cleong@maclarenschool.org

9-12 Cole Hensley

chensley@maclarenschool.org

Girls

6-8 Mary Madeline Cassell

mcassell@maclarenschool.org

9-10 Chris Templin

ctemplin@maclarenschool.org

11-12 Pam Burrell

pburrell@maclarenschool.org

- Counselors – Any time a Dean thinks that a student would benefit from speaking to a counselor, he or she makes that referral. Unless parents have opted out of counseling, Upper School students are also able to sign up to speak to a counselor. School counselors are not meant to be a student’s therapist; if a student needs regular counseling, the counselor will work with the family to find outside resources.

Counselors

counselor@maclarenschool.org

Erica Hiebert

ehiebert@maclarenschool.org

Sandi Canzonieri

scanzonieri@maclarenschool.org

- Suicide Risk Assessments (SRAs) – Counselors and key staff are trained in assessing students for self-harm or suicidal ideation. Should a student make concerning comments in these areas, our protocol is to conduct an SRA. We then have standard responses depending on if the SRA finds the student at a low, medium, or high risk. Please note that medium- or high-risk protocols call for a student to be taken to an outside professional to be assessed before returning to school. Upon return to school, the family meets with key staff to review a safety plan which ensures supports are in place for the student. Such supports include listing the student’s trusted adults as well as assigning regular check-ins with the counselor.
- Threat Assessments – Key staff members are trained in Threat Assessment, which is conducted when a student indicates a desire or intention to harm someone else. Depending on the nature and severity of the outcome threat, our assessment tool has clear protocols for what type of plan and interventions should be in place. These range from adult escorts at school, to backpack checks, to full exclusion from school. Police involvement may also be required.

Upper School students are trained in various reporting tools throughout the year. They are trained in discrimination against protected classes, sexual harassment laws and Title IX reporting, the Signs of Suicide program, and tools such as ones that can be used to anonymously report a concern and crisis hotlines, including the following:

- Title IX Coordinator and Support Staff

Kari Coleman

kcoleman@maclarenschool.org

Kaylene Carter

kcarter@maclarenschool.org

- Safe2Tell safe2tell.org or 1-877-542-7233
- Suicide Hotline Call or text 9-8-8
- Colorado Crisis Services Text “TALK” to 38255 or call 1-844-493-8255