



Welcome Letter from Dr. Quigley

Welcome to the Learning Support & Psychological Services department at St. Junipero Serra Catholic School! We are blessed to be such active members within the school community here. We currently serve about 200 students by way of Individualized Learning Plans (ILPs) and/or counseling and consultation services to address a variety of exceptional needs. Based on the policies and procedures in the [2015 Diocesan Diversified Education Handbook](#), we offer the following support to students and families as part of St. Serra's mission to meet the unique potential of the whole child:

- **Consultation:** This includes meetings with teachers to develop strategies to enhance the whole learning experience for a specific child; meetings with parents to discuss concerns and to design and implement solutions; and, classroom and playground observations to help understand student behaviors in a natural environment.
- **Learning Support Team:** Our philosophy is that we ALL have strengths and weaknesses. Even Einstein himself was rumored to have failed his math classes! What this unique program provides is additional support for students who have academic, behavioral, emotional, and/or physical differences that affect their learning in a typical classroom environment. As coordinators of the Learning Support Team, we collaborate with teachers, families, and administrators to develop and implement ILPs to meet the students' individual needs and help them achieve their full potential in all areas.
- **Counseling:** Sometimes children can benefit from talking to someone about their feelings and the events of their lives, which is provided through short-term, solution-focused, confidential counseling (subject to scheduling availability). Examples of topics addressed include improving emotional and/or behavioral control and regulation; coping skills for family/environmental changes; strengthening social skills; reducing emotional distress; and enhancing self-esteem. Referrals for outside professionals are also available.
- **Resource Library:** We have a variety of resources and books for students, parents, and teachers alike. These can be reviewed and/or checked out at your convenience. We can also provide you with an extensive referral list of local and community-based providers upon request.

Questions? Concerns? You've come to the right place! Please contact me – I look forward to hearing from you!

Preschool - 8th Grade

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