

What do school counselors DO?

We work alongside teachers and parents to help students develop socially and emotionally, and to help remove any barriers they have to learning!

We provide:

- Classroom lessons teaching social skills, how to take care of strong feelings, study skills, etc.
- Small group counseling
- Short-term individual counseling
- Consultation with parents and teachers
- Parent workshops
- Community resource referrals (including longer term therapy services)
- Schoolwide programming (Kindness Week, College Week, etc.)

Contact Us!



K through 2nd GRADE

Ms. Marilee Walker

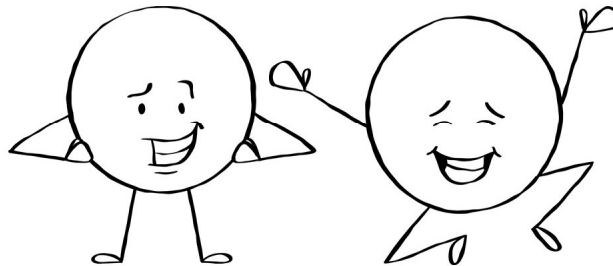
Marileem.walker@cms.k12.nc.us

3rd GRADE through 5th GRADE

Ms. Nicki Elkins

Sarahn.Elkins@cms.k12.nc.us

We are excited and honored to serve you and your child!



****Confidentiality and your family's privacy are important to us. What you or your child discuss with a counselor is private except in cases required by law (when abuse or neglect are suspected).****

Ballantyne Elementary

SCHOOL COUNSELING

Ms. Marilee Walker (K-2)

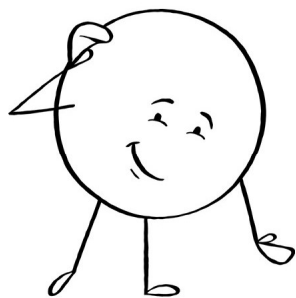
Ms. Nicki Elkins (3-5)



**Counsel.
Educate.
Advocate.
Empower.**

How can we support parents?

- Helping to handle social or emotional concerns you have about your child
- Improving parent-child communication
- Family difficulties or concerns that affect your child at school
- Referrals for community resources
- Understanding the developmental changes of childhood
- Helping your child to be on time to school every day
- Discussing concerns about your child's academic achievement



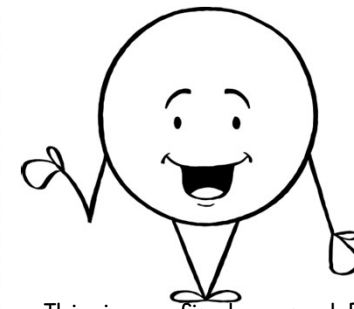
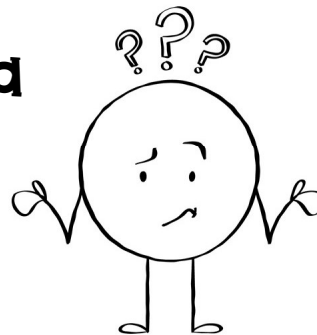
We're here with a listening ear!

What types of things do we talk with students about in class lessons and in counseling?

- Making and keeping friends
- Setting goals
- Teamwork
- Feeling good about yourself
- Making good choices
- Being responsible
- Managing strong feelings
- Conflict resolution

How does a student see a school counselor?

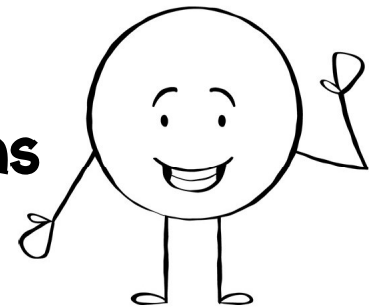
- Self-referral
- Parent referral
- Administrative, teacher, or other staff referral
- Referral by friend(s)



About Ms. Walker

This is my first year at Ballantyne and I could not be more excited to begin this journey with you all! I'm originally from Hendersonville, NC, and attended The University of Alabama for my undergraduate degree. After working in health care in NYC for 6 years, I decided to pivot career paths and pursue Counseling and Guidance. I have a passion for youth development, relationship building, and above all, helping students reach their full potential. I enjoy spending time outdoors, reading, and exploring my new city.

About Ms. Elkins



I am excited to be entering my 9th year as a School Counselor and my 6th in CMS. I am proud to have a son who is a junior at Clemson University and a rescue dog named Kobe. Besides my professional duties, I'm also passionate about working in the yard, planting flowers, and constructing things. My goal is to advocate for your student and help them develop into strong, responsible leaders in our community.