

## Counselor's Corner

Ms. Jennifer Weber

August 2024

- **Mental Health Team Update:** The mental health team is gearing up for the start to the new school year. Ms. Weber is preparing an information sheet to send home to all families in the enrollment packets that introduces the members of the team and informs parents how and when to reach out for support. The flyer will include Ms. Weber, Mr. Carrier, Ms. Melville, Mrs. Hilf, and our new school-based therapist, Ms. Emily Black. Ms. Emily comes to us through DCCCH (Diocesan Catholic Children's Home), and she will take Mrs. Cheryl's place due to her retirement. Emily will begin working at Southgate the last week of August. Ms. Weber has also been contacted by a mental health student who would like to complete his internship at Southgate, and Ms. Adamson will begin her counseling internship hours this school year as well. Ms. Weber is excited to bring all these professionals together to offer additional assistance for our students. She will be spearheading monthly mental health team meetings once the school year gets underway to ensure communication, consistency, and efficiency in delivering mental health services.
- **Social-Emotional Learning Resources:** Ms. Weber, Ms. Melville, and Coach A attended the Kagan Social-Emotional Learning training last month, and as a gift to participants who are part of the Trauma-Informed Grant, NKCES awarded us hundreds of dollars in free SEL games, books, and manipulatives. Ms. Weber is working to divide up the resources to pass on to each homeroom teacher. Mrs. Hansman and Ms. Weber have discussed changes to the way teachers can include SEL in their daily curriculum, and we are looking forward to assisting the teachers with resources and support to make social-emotional learning a natural part of every student's daily instruction. There will be more updates to report next month!
- **High School Update:** Ms. Weber has maintained contact with the enrollment officers at Highlands, Bellevue, and Newport throughout the summer, and she is proud to report that *all* Southgate 8<sup>th</sup> graders have successfully enrolled in the school of their choice for high school. As always, Ms. Weber will keep in touch with the other districts regarding our students' progress, and she will share their successes. Once a lion, always a lion!