**Statement of Purpose**

**The Problem:** The role of the school counselor is to create a safe environment for the student by helping to overcome obstacles or to show the choices that the student could have. A lot of times you hear students say “what will I do with this information outside of school?” As a school counselor we try to connect the career standards to the classroom. For example, “Standard A students will acquire the skills to investigate the world of work in relation to knowledge of self and to make informed career decisions (ASCA, 2004).” The student will learn through their education the importance of planning and cooperating within a group (ASCA, 2004). My goal for this curriculum design is to help a student to be able to locate, evaluate, and interpret career information along with knowing the variety of different career choices (ASCA, 2004). For career development, the school counselor’s role is to create a foundation of paths in which a student could take to become a working adult after high school.

**Needs of the Learner:** The needs of the learner will be met in several ways with this curriculum design. The learner will be prepared with a balance of work/relax time, make decisions, set goals and develop an area of interest that will carry on into high school (ASCA, 2004).

**Needs of Society:** The needs of the society will be met by the social interactions that the student will make when researching their specific topic. The student will be researching what it takes to pursue a career in a certain field. They will learn how to obtain their goals after they graduate from high school.

**Value of the Subject Matter:** This subject matter will be taught to 8th grade students at the beginning of the year and will be touched upon throughout the school year. The importance of teaching this subject to the students at this age is to prepare them for their path through high school. Schools have vocational, college ready courses, and military interactions in the high school. The student will have a basic understanding of his/her interests and have the tools to pursue them when in the high school level. When the student graduates he/she should have a good foundation as to what will be continued after high school (i.e. college, enter the work force, join the military).

**Education Goals:** This course is designed to develop a student as a whole in the area of career development. The course will provide the student with information on several different career options (traditional vs. nontraditional). The purpose of this course the student is to interact with people of the career path(s) they are interested in, their fellow students, and their teacher/school counselor. The course will provide the student a foundation to build on when he/she enters into the high school. In the high school, the student will be taking courses, vocational classes, or create military contacts to help them advance after graduating.

Resource Page

American School Counselor Association (2004). *ASCA National Standards for Students.*

Alexandria, VA: Author.