

Name: Alicia Godfre

Position: Professional School Counselor

School: Roundup Elementary School

Years Experience: 13 years

Where you attended graduate school: Montana State University - Billings

1. Share a little more about you: Where you are from? Hobbies/Interests?

I was born and raised in Roundup, where I currently reside. I have a wonderful mom and dad who have instilled morals and values that I hold true to this day and am proud to pass down to my own children. My husband, Cole, and I both work in the school district. We have two beautiful children, Thaiden (14) and Lorien (12_ who fill our days with joy and laughter. As a family, we love to watch Star Wars and Marvel movies. I personally enjoy cooking, crafting, and decorating.

2. What compelled you to be a school counselor or led you to where you are today?

Since I was little, I was always helping people in any way I could. When I first began my college education, I figured out quickly that I wanted to have a profession in mental health. I liked the idea of working in a school. After a short time of working for an after school program, I decided to join the School Counseling Masters program at MSU - Billings. Within the first semester, I knew I was pursuing the right path.

3. Favorite aspect of your job?

Although I love almost every aspect of school counseling, I do have a favorite. I love being able to work with children from all grades K-6. I get to see their progress through the years and maintain relationships that last way beyond the seven years in my building.

4. Particularly memorable program, intervention, group, lesson you've implemented that you believe made an impact with your students/staff?

Two years ago, I built a Character board game that involved every student in school and lasted for several weeks. The game focused on having good character. Each classroom developed a team name, color, mascot, and board game piece. I build a giant game board around the lunch room and each day, students from each class would get to roll the dice and move their game piece. Each class was then challenged with a task of answering a question about something they had learned in guidance lessons that year, doing kind acts for their classmates, teachers, or other students, or creating positive messages around school. They earned points for the tasks they completed. There was also a daily challenge for the classes to complete that could earn them extra points. At the end of the time period, the points were added up and the top four classes competed in physical and mental challenges at a

school-wide assembly. The winning class received root beer floats. I still have kids asking if we are going to do it again!!

5. Favorite part of the spring/fall conference?

I love connecting with counselors from all around the state. I also love the self-care piece of getting away and spending time refueling my cup.

6. Memorable moments in your career?

One memorable moment I have is advocating for a family who was involved with the Department of Family Services. The students had been trying to get help for years and unfortunately kept running into roadblocks. When they were finally able (with the help of a few school employees) to get out of their horrific situation, it brought tears to my eyes. This example always reminds me why I never give up fighting for kids' rights.

Please email/share a picture to include with the Member Spotlight Write-Up.