

Support group is an ideal place for students to discuss the issues that are occurring in their lives.

- Katherine Wolfe, 11

WORKING IN HIS OFFICE, DR. Gene Donatell, school psychologist, creates a new achievement test for a student. Donatell's position was similar to that of a guidance counselor, but his job went one step beyond. He could give and interpret achievement tests that would help determine student pathway placement. His job was an integral part of the school system.

MR. ROBERT Mierenfeld consults with **Megan Johnson, 11**. The guidance department helped students with scheduling issues and any other problems they might have had. They also assisted seniors with their college and career plans.

SUPPORT GROUP members eat pizza and talk during a fifth bell meeting. In support group, students could confidentially talk about issues that were affecting their lives. Various topics discussed included: divorce, stress, relationships, body image, and self-esteem.

"Because of the wide variety of groups available, anyone can get help if they need it," said **Katherine Stone, 12**.

A signed confidentiality agreement was required for everyone involved in a group to ensure the privacy of the members.

"Because of the confidentiality requirement, I feel like I can trust that the people in my group won't talk about my problems out in the halls," said **Ruth Ann Chernauek, 11**.

Groups were led by **Mrs. Susan Warm** and **Mrs. Sue Koehler**, the student assistance counselors, and also by interns from the University of Cincinnati and Xavier University.

"Having leaders that I don't see outside of group allows me to be more honest because I don't have to worry about encountering them in my daily life," said **Abigail Harris, 11**.

The support groups were specifically designed to help students with their problems and to give them feedback from their peers.

MRS. SUE SCHMIDLIN works at her computer. Schmidlin headed the speech and hearing services for students who needed a little extra help. "Communication is one of the most important skills a person can possess, so I feel grateful to be able to help students improve their ability to listen and to express themselves," said Schmidlin.

MR. TOM VILLANI fixes a networking problem in one of the computer labs. Villani was the media specialist, and he specialized in fixing computer problems. "Mr. Villani is really nice and he helps out when you're in a nudge," said **Katy Popplewell, 10**.

THE HELP CENTER FILLS WITH STUDENTS DURING A STUDY HALL. This area of the IMC was open to students needing extra help in any subject. Each bell, one teacher was available to help with each subject. "It's nice to know that if you don't understand something you can get help from teachers," said **Christy Miller, 10**.