TIPS FOR SUPPORTING & ENCOURAGING STUDENTS

* Request to see the student in private.
* Briefly acknowledge your observations and perceptions of the student’s situation and express your concerns directly and honestly.
* Listen carefully to what the student is troubled about and try to see the issue from his or her point of view without agreeing or disagreeing.
* Follow up with the student to see how he or she is doing.
* Strange and inappropriate behavior should not be ignored. The student can be informed that such behavior is distracting and inappropriate.
* Your ability to connect with an alienated student will allow him or her to respond more effectively to your concerns.
* Help the student identify options for action and explore possible consequences. If possible offer to phone or accompany the student to the appropriate resources.
* Avoid labeling the student’s behavior or the issues presented.
* Inform the student about what can be gained by meeting with a counselor or other professional to talk about his or her problems.
* Be open about the limits on your ability to help the student.
* If the student appears to be in imminent danger of hurting self or others, call MCC Police immediately (531-622-2222).
* Do not promise to keep threats to self or others a secret.

\*\*When in doubt, if any personal information the student tells you raises red flags, consult with the Student Advocacy and Accountability team. <https://webapps.mccneb.edu/bcat/>