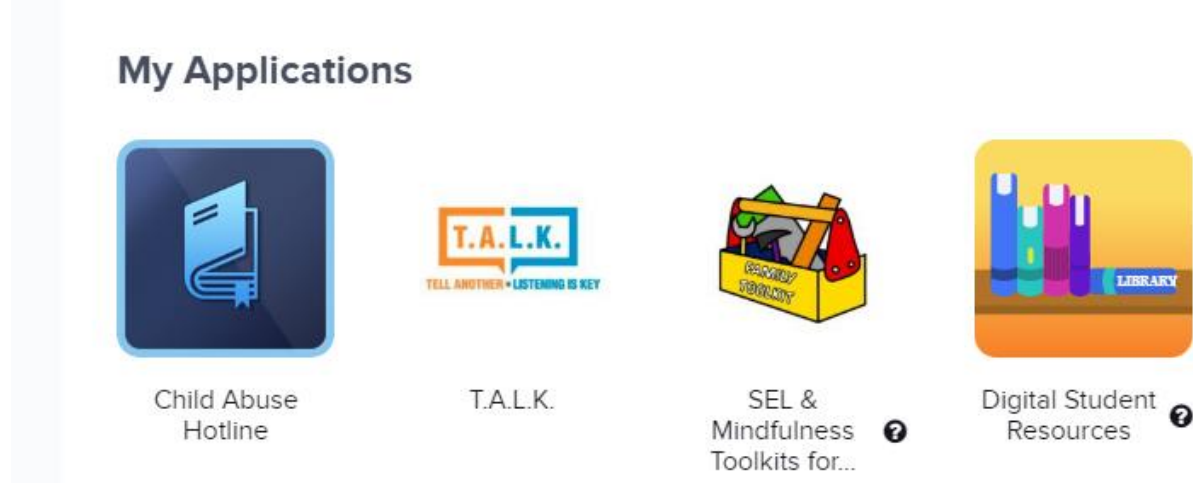


## Empowering Students to Confidentially Request Assistance

As a collaborative effort, and an outshoot of our work around planning for school reopening, the Student Services Department is very excited to share a project we have been working on with the department's grant facilitators, a group of students, and the IT Department.

School Social Work, Child Abuse Prevention and the Family Counseling Program have made it possible for students to report they are being abused and/or request to speak with a mental health professional via an app which now appears on every student's Clever Portal page (see below).



Students can select the "T.A.L.K." icon to request to speak to a mental health professional or report they are being abused. The child abuse inquiries are routed to the Child Abuse and Neglect program. Requests to speak with a mental health professional will be forwarded to the School Social Work and/or Family Counseling Program on a rotating basis. The app went live this afternoon and within one hour, we had 5 requests to report child abuse. At the end of the day, 7 students submitted a request to report abuse, and 3 requested to speak with a mental health professional. This response was generated without marketing the app. We are working with the Communications Office to market the availability and use of this app.

We are very proud to be part of an initiative that has given our students a voice to seek out such crucial services while we are in this eLearning space!