

DISTRICT MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST- CERTIFIED

TITLE: District Mental Health Specialist- Certified

REPORTS TO: Director of Student Support or Designee

SUPERVISES: N/A

JOB FUNCTION: Provides a functional, comprehensive program of direct services for all children utilizing the expertise gained through professional training in the areas of school counseling and mental health. These services will emphasize counseling children; consultation with teachers, parents and other significant adults; and coordinating a variety of activities and functions related to the mental health, academic, social, emotional and physical needs of students.

MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- Increase in student social emotional well-being and awareness as evidenced by student and family surveys
- Increase students' abilities to succeed in school by working in collaboration with other student support professionals, school administrators and staff as evidenced by minutes, sign in sheets and student plans within the PBIS Tier Two teams.
- Increase in successful grade level transitions of students as evidenced by student support professional IC Log
- Increase in culturally responsive and evidence based practices as evidenced by professional development logs/certificates
- Successfully implement the FCPS Mental Health Referral Pathway as evidenced by monthly, quarterly and yearly reports

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Provides individual and groups counseling for students to address specific social emotional needs and monitor progress
- Provides evidence based and culturally responsive best practices when working with youth
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- Consults with teachers and parents about children's needs, social emotional well-being, concerns and academic issues
- Collaborates with school staff and community representatives in assessing student needs and utilizes the data to develop prevention and intervention plans
- Provides home visits as needed to assess family circumstances and make needed referrals to community resources for problems interfering with the child's academic progress, social, emotional or physical development
- Works with parents and staff to help increase their understanding and constructive participation in appropriate efforts to help alleviate barriers to students social emotional well being
- Serves as a resource person on the Special Education Admissions and Release Committee when appropriate
- Works in collaboration with other student support professionals to conduct social emotional screenings
- Contacts parents to obtain signed permission to work with the student and further assess student needs
- Maintains documentation in the IC Student Support Professional program
- Refers students to the proper authorities for child abuse or neglect when suspicion exists and provides support services to those children as needed
- Selects and attends professional development as required by the State and District
- Maintains all professional certifications and Licensure requirements
- Willingness to provide clinical supervision to peers
- Skills and knowledge in dealing with multicultural populations
- Maintains a clean, welcoming and child centered counseling area
- Demonstrates the ability to communicate in more than one language or the willingness to learn to communicate in more than one language at the novice level of proficiency.
- Maintains regular attendance
- Performs other duties as assigned

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PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

- Work is performed while standing, sitting and/or walking
- Requires the ability to communicate effectively using speech, vision and hearing
- Requires the use of hands for simple grasping and fine manipulations
- Requires bending, squatting, crawling, climbing, reaching
- Requires the ability to lift, carry, push or pull light weights

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Masters' Degree in either School Counseling, Social Work or School Psychology
- Three years of professional clinical experience and licensure is preferred.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- School Counseling Certification, School Social Work Certification or School Psychology Certification is required.

Original Date: 9/2018

Revision Date: