

## **TUSTIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

### **EDUCATION RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST**

#### **DEFINITION:**

Under the direction of the Coordinator of Psychological Services and as a member of the District's Special Education support services, the Educationally Related Mental Health Specialist will provide counseling and consultation for students and parents who are referred for service through their IEP team. This counseling is expected to supplement the regular counseling and guidance program.

#### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES:**

- Provide educationally related individual and/or group counseling as described in student's IEP.
- Provide parent with educationally related counseling and training to assist parents in understanding the special needs of their child, provide information about child development and assist parents in the acquisition of necessary skills to support implementation of the IEP. Provide family counseling as determined by IEP team.
- Collect, organize and analyze student information through the use of educational historical data, test results, questionnaires, and interview techniques.
- Assist IEP teams in developing strategies to address social, emotional, and behavioral problems.
- Assist in the development of measurable social, emotional and behavioral goals and report periodic progress on those goals.
- Assist students and staff with behavior management programs and welfare and attendance concerns.
- Maintain a liaison with social and youth service agencies in pursuing referral follow-up activities.
- Assist parents in accessing and utilizing community resources.
- Establish, maintain and monitor a variety of files and records pertaining to student counseling.
- Participate in Medi-Cal billing program.
- Participate in professional activities, conferences and research to maintain knowledge of counseling best practices.
- Develop and provide ongoing professional training, consultation and assistance to staff.
- Understand and adhere to IDEA regulations.
- Attend and participate in IEP meetings.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

##### **Knowledge of:**

- Principles, strategies, techniques and trends in evidence-based counseling practices such as Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Solution Focused Brief Therapy, and Collaborative Problem-Solving.

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### **EDUCATIONALLY RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST (cont'd)**

#### **Knowledge of (cont'd):**

- Therapeutic methodologies and family systems theories.
- Conflict resolution and group dynamics.
- Basic computer operation to collect and monitor data.
- Effective counseling strategies and child growth and developmental issues for parents and families.
- Laws and regulations related to child welfare, reporting and referral; school instructional and curriculum programs.
- Needs of students with emotional difficulties.

#### **Ability to:**

- Assist students in effectively analyzing and developing alternative solutions to educational, behavioral, social and emotional problems.
- Communicate effectively in oral and written formats with a variety of stakeholders, including school staff, students and parents.
- Develop effective professional relationships with other school departments and community agencies.
- Conduct bilingual conversation in English and Spanish preferred.

#### **Education/Training/Required Certification:**

- Equivalent to the completion of an earned Master of Arts or higher degree in psychology, counseling, or guidance.
- Licensed by the State of California as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW), Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT), Licensed Clinical Psychologist, and/or PPS credential School Psychologist Credential Marriage and Family Therapist (MFT).
- Possess a minimum of 3 years of successful counseling experience working with children and parents.
- Experience with providing conflict resolution and group counseling.
- Possess a valid California Driver's License.

#### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of the job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle or feel objects, tools, or controls and talk and/or hear. The employee frequently is

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**EDUCATIONALLY RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST (cont'd)**

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS (cont'd):**

required to walk or sit. The employee is occasionally required to stand, reach with hands and arms, climb or balance, and stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl.

The employee may occasionally lift and or move up to 50 pounds. Work conditions may include exposure to fumes, dust, odors, cleaning agents and chemicals. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.