DEFINITION:
Under the direction of the Assistant Superintendent, the Mental Health Counselor provides mental health services to district students referred for assessment and assistance with the goal of facilitating and promoting appropriate behavioral health and personal growth. The Mental Health Counselor identifies the behavioral and mental health needs of students and develops therapy goals and objectives for implementation through an individual therapy plan.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS AND JOB DUTIES:

Any one position may not include all of the listed duties, nor do all of the listed examples include all tasks that may be found in positions within this classification.

- Provides services with children and adult students through individual, group, and family therapy services
- Completes required documentation for students including records, reports, and case histories
- Develops and maintains behavioral health programs including therapy goals to meet student needs
- Conducts interviews, assessments, and observations
- Participates in special assessments, individual therapy plans, and other meetings
- Refers students to other public/private community agencies
- Directs and provides oversight of mental health therapy services provided by other staff members
- Makes recommendations to LEA’s for mental therapy services
- Performs related duties as required

QUALIFICATIONS:

Any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform the duties and responsibilities as described, including experience working with groups of children.

Knowledge of:
- Therapy methods appropriate to meeting the needs of students and their families; agencies and resources available to assist children; federal and
state laws concerning family rights and behavioral and mental health services.

Ability to:
Identify the behavioral and mental health needs of students; work as part of a multidisciplinary educational support team, develop and implement appropriate behavioral and mental health services; work independently; communicate effectively in oral and written form; maintain accurate records; meet established time frames; establish and maintain effective relationships with those contacted in the course of work. Provide behavioral and mental health services to students and their families; conduct individual, group, and family therapy sessions.

Experience and Education:

- Pupil Personnel Services (PPS) Credential
- Experience in Medi-Cal Charting desired
- Experience in the behavioral health plan process desired
- Valid Board of Behavioral Sciences Examiners (BBSE) desired
- Marriage and Family Therapist or Licensed Clinical Social Worker desired
- Experience working with a Special Education Local Plan Area or school district operations desired

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid California driver’s license
- Own reliable transportation and verification of insurance coverage

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Physical abilities include sitting for extended periods. Talking/hearing, and near and far visual acuity/depth perception/color vision/field of vision. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable a person with a disability to perform the essential functions of the job.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Salary and work schedule to be established by County Superintendent.