

**SECTION      TEACHING/EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PERSONNEL**

**AREA            EDUCATIONAL SERVICES PERSONNEL**

**TITLE:          School Psychologist**

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

1.      New Jersey certification as a School Psychologist.
2.      Such additional qualifications as the Board of Education may deem appropriate.

**REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY:**

The School Psychologist is directly responsible to the Supervisor of Pupil Services and the building principals(s) and through them to the Director of Student Personnel Services.

**JOB GOAL:**

The School Psychologist provides an understanding of the student in terms of intellectual functioning and personality dynamics, and contributes to the promotion of good mental health practices which affect the students in school, family and community.

**TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:**

Ten month contract consistent with the agreement negotiated with the applicable bargaining unit.

**PERSONAL EVALUATION:**

Based on the performance of responsibilities identified in this position description and the criteria and procedures of the applicable evaluation policy. See Policy 4118, Evaluation of Tenured Teaching Staff Members and 4119, Evaluation of Non-Tenured Teaching Staff Members.

**PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:**

**A.      Responsibilities to the Student**

1.      Provides individual and group counseling relative to the student's personal adjustment and emotional health.
2.      Assesses the educational and psychological strengths and needs of the individual child.

**B.      Responsibilities to the School**

1.      Consults with administration and staff regarding the development of appropriate programs for the prevention and early discovery of learning problems and the utilization of approaches and materials which assist children to learn more effectively.

2. Consults with school administration concerning management and personnel policies related to mental health.
3. Works with classroom teachers and special education teachers in the solution of management problems of children with learning or adjustment disabilities.

**C. Responsibility to the Department of Student Personnel Services**

1. Prepares reports of psychological evaluation and educational plans consistent with the policies and procedures of the Department of Student Personnel Services and legal requirements.
2. As a member of the child study team, interprets the implications of intellectual and personality findings and participates in the educational planning for exceptional children.
3. Works cooperatively with other child study team personnel, teachers, counselors, speech therapists, nurses, physicians, supplemental teachers and staff to expedite referrals to other specialists and agencies when appropriate.
4. Carries out other duties consistent with periodic changes in state and local regulations pertaining to pupils with educational disabilities.

**D. Responsibilities to Parents/Guardians**

1. Provides information about the educational and psychological strengths and needs of their child.
2. Works cooperatively with parents/guardians to expedite referrals within and outside the district.

**E. General Professional Responsibilities**

1. Demonstrates proficiency in the use of English by communicating with reasonable clarity, conciseness, and precision in both speaking and writing.
2. Participates in solving classroom and school problems and seeks resolutions through appropriate channels.
3. Cooperates in the total school program by:
  - a. Sharing responsibility for care of materials, equipment and facilities;
  - b. Sharing responsibility for students' behavior throughout the building;
  - c. Working with colleagues to improve the effectiveness of the total school program;
  - d. Participating in school activities.
4. Cooperates in curriculum development and evaluation activities by participating in the planning and implementation of programs.

5. Establishes and follows an individual program of professional renewal in such areas as:
  - a. How children learn;
  - b. Current approaches to discipline;
  - c. Alternative instructional strategies;
  - d. Updated curriculum materials;
  - e. Current theory and practice in his/her field.

**F. Other Duties and Responsibilities**

1. Performs other duties and responsibilities incidental to the office or as assigned by the Supervisor of Pupil Services and/or the building principal(s).