

The Role Of School Social Workers



Brought to you by:

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True or False!?

Why do schools need social workers?

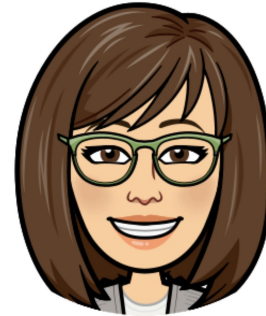
Children today are increasingly victims of many social forces that negatively affect their role as students. The family is in a state of change and until it becomes stabilized, in whatever form, children's unmet physical and emotional needs will continue to interfere with their ability to learn and adjust in school/society.

A school social worker employed in North Carolina must adhere to the School Social Work Professional Standards outlined by the NCDPI and to the professional National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics demonstrating core values of **service, social justice, dignity & the worth of the person, importance of human relationships, integrity, and competence.**

Who are school social workers?

School Social Workers are uniquely trained mental health professionals with a degree in social work who provide services related to a person's social, emotional and life adjustment to school and/or society.

School Social Workers are the link between the home, school and community in providing direct as well as indirect services to students, families and school personnel to promote and support students' academic and social success.





School social workers wear many hats including truancy officer, case manager, student and parent advocate, student mediator, counselor, distributor of resources and more.

Social Work Services

Schools social workers help students

- increase academic success,
- improve interpersonal relationships
- cope with crisis situations,
- learn self regulation & problem-solving skills
- improve attendance
- build self-esteem.
- Access services & resources

- School social work promotes the academic mission of schools by fostering educational environments that are safe; have supportive, fair, and responsive policies; and emphasize early intervention and positive, trauma sensitive behavioral interventions.

Social Work Services

School Social Work services include, but are not limited to:

- **Conducting reliable and trauma sensitive assessments of students and organizations to inform the design of interventions to remove barriers to learning & well-being.**
- **Remaining current with school-based intervention research and using evidence-informed practices in service delivery. Interventions shall be designed to enhance positive educational experiences and involve the student, the family, other team members, school personnel, and community resources as needed.**
- **Providing support & crisis intervention services related to family violence, substance abuse, trauma and behavioral disorders.**
- **Engaging in advocacy that seeks to ensure that all students have equal access to education and services to enhance their academic progress.**

Social Work Services Continued

- **Serving as leaders and consultants in promoting positive school climate and to facilitate understanding of factors in the home, school, and community that affect students' educational experiences.**
- **Providing training and engaging parents, school personnel, other professionals and community members in the removal of barriers to learning & student success.**
- **Supporting and facilitating educational reforms and initiatives including those that emphasize multitier prevention, early intervention, parent education and involvement, service integration, partnerships, and support for student transitions.**

LAST YEAR STATS

- Assisted 139 homeless families
 - Coordinated services for 52 students in foster care
 - Filed 68 truancy charges
 - Had 560 contacts w/DSS regarding student safety or child welfare concerns
 - Made 175 home visits
 - Provided support to and/or communicated with over 2,000 families
- Provided support to teachers & school staff over 7,000 times
 - Made over 900 referrals for services to students & their families.
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Questions?

