

MERCED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

CLASS TITLE: COUNSELOR – SOCIAL WORKER

BASIC FUNCTIONS:

Under the direct supervision of the Director of Pupil Services or other assigned district supervisor and within the scope of their credential or license, assist students with personal and mental health related concerns that affect school performance and addresses the behavioral health needs of students and families. Coordinate school and community supports, case management, crisis intervention, counseling support, consult with administrators, teachers, and support staff, support multi-disciplinary student support structures with mental and behavioral health perspective and expertise, and act as a liaison with community-based agencies and support services.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Provide outreach casework and support services including home visits, crisis intervention, individual and group counseling, and family interventions to promote school success.

Consult and collaborate with school personnel and support staff to promote a school environment responsive to the needs of student. Provide consultation and training on evidenced-based interventions, crisis response, trauma, emotional regulation, coping strategies, other best practices.

Identify, develop, and support programs and activities to address situations adversely affecting the personal, social-emotional, mental and behavioral health, and academic development of students.

Participate in multi-disciplinary student support structures in providing social emotional and mental and behavioral health services to student for the purpose of ensuring that students can access services at school and within the community.

Work as part of a team to lead school personnel in organizing, adopting, and implementing evidenced-based behavioral, social emotional, or mental health interventions as part of a Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS) continuum that improves academic, social, and behavioral outcomes for students.

Collaborate with district behavior and mental health providers to include district psychologists, counselors, and behavior analyst on student cases and participate in the crisis management team.

Provide case management such as organizing, coordinating, and sustaining activities, supporting programs and services designed to address a student's social-emotional, mental health, or behavioral needs that negatively affect a student's progress in school.

Travel from site to site, perform home visits, and attend school, district, or community based meetings for the purpose of providing consultation, supports and services, and collaboration for students and families.

Serve as a liaison between the school district and community-based agencies to strengthen and sustain school supports for students and families.

Identify problems contributing to a student's chronic absenteeism and provide supports and services to assist the student and family in improving school attendance.

Prepare and maintain records, reports, documents, and other written materials for the purpose of documenting activities, providing written references, and/or conveying information.

Maintain confidentiality of information and records for the purpose of meeting privacy requirements.

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Principals and current trends of counseling and accepted techniques of assessing psycho-social behavior, laws, and regulations as they pertain to the student's legal rights.

Biological, behavioral, and environmental aspects of emotional disturbance, substance abuse, trauma, mental health disorders, threat assessments, and crisis prevention.

The scope and practices of public and private health agencies and other available mental health resources, principals and techniques of mental health consultation, education, and prevention within the community.

Federal and state laws concerning family rights

Laws regarding minors and child abuse reporting

ABILITY TO:

Develop and maintain cooperative and constructive relationships with students, staff, families, members of other professional disciplines, and other agencies.

Effectively communicate with students, staff, families, and members of other professional disciplines.

Effectively manage a caseload of students, prepare and maintain clear, concise, and comprehensive casework records, and make sound recommendations on the basis of such information.

Work as part of multidisciplinary educational team to provide essential supports to students and families.

Exercise sound judgement during crisis situations and be able to respond appropriately to address tense and stressful situations.

Maintain current knowledge of program rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

Work independently with limited supervision

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

California Pupil Personnel Services Credential with authorization to work in Social Work.
Master's Degree in Social Work, Counseling, or related field.
Experience as a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in a school environment is preferred

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid California Driver's License. Employees in this position will be required to travel to assigned district sites and must maintain insurability at the District's standard limits during the term of employment.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Read printed materials
Move around a classroom or office
Use a computer
Exert physical and emotional stamina
Sit or stand for extended periods of time
Prepare and compile reports
Write and take notes
Conduct conversations in person, over the phone, or by email

ENVIRONMENT:

Office and classroom environment
Travel in personal vehicle