Sue H. Morrow ES

Request for Information Response

Nevada Department of Education as Provided by

SB 515, Section 23

Social worker or other licensed mental health professional

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To:

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SECTION II
NARRATIVE

Sue H. Morrow Elementary School

Sue H. Morrow Elementary School in the Clark County School District serves over 800 students in grades Pre K through fifth grade in Henderson, Nevada. Currently our student population is comprised of 64% Caucasian, 23% Hispanic, 2% African-American, 2% Pacific Islander and 7% Asian. In addition, 15% of our population consists of students with special needs who have an Individual Education Plan (IEP) and 39% of the students qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL).

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, staff, parents and community members at Sue H. Morrow ES. Specific services for students include, assisting students in understanding and accepting themselves and others, developing intervention strategies to increase academic success, helping students develop appropriate social interaction skills, providing crisis intervention, and teaching conflict resolution and anger management. Specific services for families include alleviating family stress to enable the child to function more effectively in school and community, assisting parents in accessing and utilizing school and community resources, providing parents access to programs available to their child with special needs, and working with parents to facilitate their support in their child's adjustment/transition to school. Our school counselor and teachers have assisted families with access to community resources to obtain mental health services. Additional support from a social worker/mental health professional would allow our students and families to benefit from specialized services not currently available through our school campus.

Specific services for school personnel include assessing students with mental health concerns, assisting teachers with behavior management, developing staff training programs, educating staff with essential information to better understand factors (cultural, societal, economic, familial, health, etc.) affecting a student's performance and behavior, and providing directing support to staff. Specific services to promote community involvement include advocating for new and improved community/school services to meet the needs of students and families. The Pledge of Achievement through Clark County School District promotes this grant as it directly relates to engagement of the community and providing school support for academic excellence. Sue H. Morrow ES was currently recognized for academic excellence through the National Blue Ribbon Award by the US Department of Education by closing the achievement gap. Specific services to promote district initiatives including

assisting in development, implementation, monitoring and defining measurement indicators for identified students with behavioral, social, and/or emotional needs, development and training on alternative programs and strategies for truants, delinquents, and excessively disruptive students; identification, monitoring, and tracking of students who are victims of child abuse and/or neglect, providing case management for students and families requiring multiple resources, and providing consultation regarding Nevada Revised Statues (NRS), mental health standards, and district/school policies and procedures.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Sue H. Morrow ES will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work alongside the counselor, attend and participate in staff meetings, professional development sessions and trainings. The social worker/mental health professional will make a huge impact on our school because one counselor is not sufficient to meet the needs of 800 students. The person selected for this position will conduct home visits and meet with families regularly, contribute knowledge, skills, and techniques in the areas of mental health and human behavior to parents and school team members. This position will provide assistance to school administration with ensuring compliance with Senate Bill 504 by counseling students involved in bullying allegations, both the targets as well as the bullies, as well as providing guidance and training on positive school climate strategies. It will be expected that he/she will develop and facilitate weekly support groups and provide students with strategies to cope with and overcome difficulties impacting school performance, academic and behavioral. The social worker /mental health professional will develop and implement parent support groups and activities that promote parent involvement/engagement. Identify challenges in a child's living situation (home, school, and community) that may affect the child's adjustment, performance, and attendance in the educational setting. Identify, mobilize, and coordinate school and community resources to enable students to learn as effectively as possible in the educational setting. Plan, conduct, and participate in educational workshops and presentations while serving as a member of school teams and provide information related to planning for the educational needs of children.