Marvin M. Sedway MS

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

Marvin M. Sedway Middle School

Marvin M. Sedway Middle School is located in North Las Vegas. The zone for our school causes us to bus in a large amount of our students. Daily we have 15 to 16 buses transporting our students to and from school. This creates a physical barrier when trying to service our families socially or academically; this does not foster a sense of school-community. In addition, to our regular busses we have approximately 7 curb to curb buses that are required for students with specific needs. Our population of students/families lives in one of the most impoverished areas of North Las Vegas. As of November 23, 2015, we had approximately 30 T1 Homeless this year in foster care. For the 2014-2015 school year we had 86.53% of students receiving Free and Reduce Lunch. Although, we do not have the Free and Reduce Lunch data for this year it is likely we will have more students utilizing this program. Our ethnicity data from the 2014-2015 school year was the following: 60.44% Hispanic; 26.35% Black; 5.88% White; 2.77% Asian; 3.5% two or more races. A large number of our parents do not speak English which create a barrier to communicate with school staff and teachers.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, staff, parents, and community members at Sedway Middle School. Unfortunately, this year alone Sedway has had 6 students go through suicide protocol. In addition, 10 referrals have been made to the CCSD social workers and 30 students have been reported cutting themselves. Several grandparents are raising our students and they need additional resources and help. The social worker would continue to assist to refer students to an outside therapist for cutting; Worked with students 1:1 or in small group (especially with family members) on coping skills and anger management. Referred families to outside resources for basic needs (like food pantries and mental health services); and worked with district initiatives: HSGI students on academic goals, Truancy Diversion program, and T1 HOPE. Sedway Middle School administration would like the Social Worker to assist and participate in a restorative justice program to help decrease student behavioral issues that cause students to be placed out of school.

Specific services to parents/families include helping decrease family stress to enable their child to function more effectively in school and the community, assisting parent in accessing and utilizing school and community resources, educate parents about restorative justice program and working with parents to facilitate their support in their child's academics.

Specific services for school personnel include assessing students with mental health concerns, assisting teachers with behavior management, educate staff with essential information to better understand factors (cultural, societal, economic, familial, health, etc.) affecting a student's performance and behavior, and providing direct 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 and assisting schools to receive adequate support from social and mental health agencies, helping the system respond effectively to each student's needs, and obtaining and coordinating community resources to meet students' needs.

Specific services to promote district initiatives include assisting in development and implementation of programs for identified children with behavioral, social, and/or emotional needs; continue to assist with improving truancy court and alternative programs and strategies for truants, and excessively disruptive students; providing case management for students and families requiring multiple resources; and providing consultation regarding related Nevada Revised Statues (NRS), mental health, standards, and district/school policies and procedures.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Sedway Middle School will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work alongside the counselors, attend and participate in monthly staff meetings, provide professional development sessions and trainings for teachers and administrators. The person selected for this position will conduct home visits and meet with identified 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 and CCSD regulation 5137 by counseling students involved in bully allegations, both 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. He/she will develop and implement parent support groups and activities that promote parent involvement/engagement. Identify challenges in a child's living situations (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 need of Sedway Middle School students.