Kay Carl ES

Request for Information Response

Nevada Department of Education as Provided by

SB 515, Section 23

Social worker or other licensed mental health professional

December 14, 2015

To:

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SECTION II
NARRATIVE

Kay Carl Elementary School

Kay Carl Elementary School is a Title 1 turnaround school with a population of 760 Pre-K thru fifth grade students. One of our classrooms is intermediate autism. We are a unique school that is ethnically diverse with a student population that currently includes: .6% American Indian or Alaskan Native, 3.8% Asian, 25.3% Hispanic or Latino, 19.7% Black or African American, 20.2% White, 2.2 % Native Hawaiian or Pacific, and 8.4% Two or More Races. There are 64 students with Residential Affidavits, 11 multifamily and 1 unsheltered student. 54.1% of our students are Free/Reduced Lunch, 15.4% students have an Individualized Education Plans, 6% students are English Language Learners.

There is a great concern for student/family dynamics in our community. Approximately 60% of our students live in a one parent home, 20% are being raised by grandparents, 10% of students live with other family members, 10% of our students live in a two-parent home. We also currently have 5 students living in foster homes. A high number of students have one or more parents who either have been or currently are incarcerated. In addition, numerous students have family members who have been involved in violent crimes. This includes numerous families who have children, or a spouse who have been murdered. We have students who exhibit gender identity confusion. These extreme living conditions have created a need for additional family support and our school would greatly benefit from a social worker.

Based on our school statistics and the make-up of our student population we are in need of additional support to implement preventative initiatives. We are working toward improving student attendance and tardies. Improving attendance would greatly affect student achievement and support district regulations for excessive absences and truancy.

The school social worker would assist through counseling, crisis response intervention and preventative initiatives. The Kay Carl staff is continually working on improving student behaviors. We are currently implementing behavior plans with our school counselor and classroom teachers but additional support would enable students to participate in individual or group counseling sessions. Ideally, it is important to devise plans and strategies for reducing and preventing the cycle of violence. A social worker would help us implement counseling to meet the needs of our students which would reduce Required Parent Conferences (RPC), suspensions, and student expulsions. We

are also in the beginning stages of tracking student behaviors, locations of incidents, and time of events. Having additional assistance would help support our preventative initiatives within our school. In addition, they could help support the counselor and special education needs.

A social worker/mental health professional will assist in our school implementing cultural competency related to social awareness and acceptance of all students. We are looking to promote a school climate and culture that is conducive to student learning and teacher success. Some of the social worker responsibilities may include, but not limited to: assisting students, families, staff and students with social or emotional needs, support and educate cultural awareness, counseling students and their families, connect families, students, and community members with opportunities and services according to needs, work directly with school counselor to support students and families, provide individual and/or group counseling as needed, analyze student data and information, serve on support teams and special education committees, conduct family interviews to attain socio-developmental information as needed, and develop and implement professional development training for staff and families.

The social worker would work directly with students, families, staff, and community members. This would help the families, school and community collaborate in working toward improved student success. They would help create and support school initiatives to improve student behaviors and social awareness. Our community would also greatly benefit from family trainings which may include: parenting skills, behavior management support, educational strategies, crisis, etc.