Liberty HS

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

Liberty High School

Liberty High School is located in a developing community. Each year there is an increase in our student population. Due to this increase there are numerous academic and social challenges the impact the school community. The school's count day enrollment for 2015-2016 was 2552 students with 0.6% American Indian/Alaska Native, 15.2% Asian, 26.7 Hispanic/Latino, 11.2% Black/African American, 30.5% Caucasian, 6.3% Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, and 9.2 Multi-Racial. Additionally, currently 38.17% students qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL), 4.7 %have Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and 10.5% have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The school currently has 55 homeless students enrolled. There has been an increase of students enrolling into Liberty High School from in-patient mental health facilities. Liberty High School has been flagged as at risk for high mental health transitional needs by the CCSD Psychological Services Department.

Based on 2014-2015 re-entry data, Liberty High School was identified as potentially at-risk for high mental health transitional needs by the CCSD Psychological Services Department. Due to the increased volume of re-entry plans and other student mental health needs during the fall of 2015, the CCSD Mental Health Transition Team conducted a School Based Intervention Team training on the Liberty High School campus. Since the beginning of the year Liberty HS has had approximately 30 students hospitalized in an in-patient mental health facility. Additionally, according to Liberty HS's 2014-2015 Accountability Report, the attendance rate of 93.7% is below the local and state average. Liberty HS has 242 special education students whom would benefit from the guidance and referrals offered by a social worker. Currently, only 41% of the seniors are credit sufficient. The graduation rate for 2014-2015 decreased to 77% from 80% the previous year. There are multiple factors that are contributing to the decrease of student achievement.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, parents, and staff members at Liberty High School in a variety of different areas.

Student specific services include providing crisis prevention, truancy diversion, and facilitating student social-emotional well-being to increase student achievement. The school social worker/mental health professional will be an asset in assisting students with re-entering school as well as proactively assisting students with crisis prevention. This can be achieved by teaching

students conflict resolution, anger management, appropriate social interaction skills, and coping skills to alleviate the number of students hospitalized. The social worker/mental health professional services would support our school's mission to increase our average daily attendance rate to 95%. This can be accomplished by identifying and removing barriers to support students who are at risk of failing or dropping out due to truancy and absenteeism.

Specific services for parents/families include support in understanding their child's developmental and educational needs, assistance accessing school and community resources, helping parents effectively participate in their child's education, and assisting parents with students mental health concerns. With the increased number of students with mental health concerns parents will have the support needed to find the community resources available.

The specific services for staff include developing staff trainings in behavior management, assessing student mental health concerns, and direct support to staff. The information the staff gains from the trainings will provide another support for students socially/emotionally to improve overall student achievement.