Dr. William H. Bailey 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

Dr. William H. Bailey Middle School

Bailey Middle School houses approximately 1255 students and is located on the Northeast side of the Las Vegas Valley, overlooking Nellis Air Force base. It is not uncommon for the noise from the jet engines to interrupt instruction and disrupt classes. The neighborhood is a mix of residential, commercial, and industrial use. Many students enrolled at Bailey reside in low income housing, apartments, and trailers. The average student at Bailey is from low socioeconomic status. As of 12/10/2015, 70% of students were Hispanic, 14.3% Black/African American, 9.6% Caucasian, 3.9% Multiracial, and 1.7% Asian. 29.8% of students are Limited English Proficient (LEP) and an additional 4.6% are former LEP students who are still being monitored. Sixty students, or 4.7%, receive supports through Title I Hope. The percentage of students who are service with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) is 12.9%.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide additional supports to students, staff, parents, and the Bailey community. Specific services for students include assisting students in understanding and accepting self 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 parents/families include alleviating family stress to enable their 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 children with special needs, and working with parents to facilitate their support in their child's adjustment to school. 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 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; developing and training on

alternative programs and strategies for drop-outs, truants, delinquents, and excessively disruptive students; identification and monitoring 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 related Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS), mental health standards, and district/school policies and procedures.

These services are needed at Bailey. In the 2014-15 school year, 15 students needed to have Signs of Suicide (SOS) protocols to ensure they were mentally safe. For the current school year, 5 students have been evaluated with the SOS protocols. Bailey is provided with wrap-around services through Communities in Schools (CIS). CIS provides 130 students with basic needs for school such as supplies, clothing, and food. CIS also assisted Bailey MS by taking care of the logistics behind Eye Care for Kids and Future Smiles. Eye Care for Kids Provide Bailey students with free eye exams and glasses while Future Smiles provided dental exams and sealants to prevent cavities. Despite the fact that CIS assists the administration and provides services to over 10% of our population, there is still a waiting list for families to receive help. The Bailey's Nest is a food bank operated by Grace Baptist Church and located on the Bailey campus. With the help of Four Square and other charitable organizations, "The Nest", provides over 2 million tons of food to community members on an annual basis. Bailey incorporates instructional programming and activities to its students by participating in Operation Respect/Welcoming Schools (OARS). OARS is designed to help students think about and make healthy, responsible choices in regards to human interaction and communication. Behavioral supports to reduce out of school suspensions and expulsions are being implemented at Bailey. It is hoped that this "restorative justice" approach and embedding character education in instruction will reduce disciplinary consequences at school and increase student achievement levels.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Bailey Middle School will become an integral part of the Bailey Staff and the Bailey Community. This person will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work alongside the counselor(s), attend and participate in staff meetings, professional development sessions and trainings. The expertise of this person will also be utilized to help develop, secure, and implement any new programming or needs that they may recommend. The person selected for this position will help 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 this person will develop and facilitate weekly support groups and provide students with strategies to cope with and overcome difficulties impacting school performance, academic and behavioral. This person will develop and implement parent support groups and activities that promote parent involvement/engagement. 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 will be identified. This person will help reach out to various community agencies that can provide support and assistance to the students and families at Bailey. As a member of the Bailey team, this person will help teachers who are struggling with certain students develop an understanding of where their students are coming from so that positive relationships can be developed. This person will help plan, conduct, and participate in educational workshops and presentations to provide information related to planning for the educational needs of children.