Marion B. Earl 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

Marion B. Earl Elementary School

Marion Earl ES has a transient population that is predominately of low socioeconomic status. The school's count day enrollment for 2015-2016 was 693 students with 0% American Indian/ Alaska Native, 11% Asian, 37% Hispanic, 17% Black, 23.6% Caucasian, 31.5% Native American/Pacific Islander, 13% Multi-racial, 11.5% with an IEP, 23% ELL, 68% Free and Reduced Lunch, and 2 % homeless students.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, staff, parents, and community members at Marion Earl ES. 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 with access to programs available to children with special needs, and working with parents to facilitate their support in their child's adjustment to school. This year our school counselor has helped families connect with social workers, and she signed students up for Operation School Bell to assist with clothing. She has a relationship with Christ the King Catholic Community food pantry where families are sent for additional food. Marion Earl ES holds an annual food drive and donates the food to this church. If families are seeking outside counseling, our counselor helps link them to agencies that accept their insurance. Students that need immediate mental health care are referred to local treatment centers. She also works closely with Title I in assisting homeless families from Marion Earl ES. Marion Earl's staff has provided emergency food, clothing, health care products, and money to some of our families.

A social worker would provide specific services for school personnel to 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; 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.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Marion Earl ES will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work alongside the counselor/school psychologist, attend and participate in staff meetings, professional development sessions and trainings. 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. The counselor/psychologist has accessed DCSF's Mobile Crisis Team for assistance. 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. Currently the counselor provides many lessons on coping and the difference between tattling and reporting. It will be expected that the social worker 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 will develop and implement parent support groups and activities that promote parent involvement/engagement. The social worker will 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. The social worker will identify, mobilize, and coordinate school and community resources to enable students to learn as effectively as possible in the educational setting. The social worker will plan, conduct, and participate in educational workshops and presentations while serving as a member of school team and provide information related to planning for the educational needs of children.