Chaparral 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

Chaparral High School

Chaparral HS is one of the most historical high schools in Las Vegas at 43 years old. Chaparral has an active alumni group who proudly assists the school in a variety of ways. Entering the Clark County School District's Turnaround Zone in 2010, Chaparral HS is one of the most, if not the most successful Turnaround schools in the state. Chaparral has made great progress by raising graduation rate from 34 percent in 2010 to nearly 70 percent. However, Chaparral HS is not without its challenges. Approximately 65 percent of the school's enrollment receives free/reduced lunch services. Furthermore, more than 13 percent of Chaparral's students are English Language Learners, many of whom are newcomers to the country and speak very little English. Additionally, approximately 110 students are classified as homeless.

Counselors are used in crisis services and promote psychosocial wellness. Due to current data at Chaparral, students are in high need for mental health and behavior prevention, both short and long term. There is a high need among our students for building coping skills and being proactive in preventing health incidents in teaching health. According to recent research, most students in need do not receive adequate mental health supports (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2013). Research indicates 20 percent of students are in need of mental health services, yet only one out of five, or 20 percent of these students receive the necessary services (Kaffenberger & Seligman, 2007). Since August 24, 2015 through Dec 8, 2015, counselors at Chaparral HS have experienced the incidents listed below:

1. 38 mental health pre-screeners
2. 8 Child Protective Services (CPS) Calls
3. 98 new students estimated, we have a high transient population making transitions for students challenging and need assistance with making sure they are adapting and adjusting.
4. 9 Suicide Protocols

Of Chaparral High School's Title HOPE students, 110 students are identified as homeless, doubled up, hotel motel or unaccompanied/homeless youth. Our student population is in need of a variety of different social related services. The social worker/mental health professional will help meet the students' basic needs before trying to continue with the academic rigor and student achievement. Additionally, the person selected will assist Chaparral students who need assistance with acquiring clothes, shoes and school supplies for

themselves, or younger siblings. They will also help students who need internet access to complete online school assignments. The social worker/mental health professional will assist students who need assistance to pay for credit recovery courses so they can be on-track to graduate. Additionally, this person will provide students who need assistance completing college applications, or submitting scholarships, including the FAFSA, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

In addition to the academic support needed for students at Chaparral HS, there is a need for social assistance. The social worker/mental health professional will work with our students who need guidance to access their birth certificates, state issued identification or social security numbers. They will also offer students have a need for counseling and therapy for the purpose of building relationships both for themselves and their families. The social worker/mental health professional will develop support groups for stress and transition for students who move frequently and/or are in and out of school. In addition, the person selected will assist students at Chaparral HS who need assistance with bullying incidents, safety issues, both at school and in the community, anger management and motivation. Furthermore, the social worker/mental health professional will work with students who need assistance when transitioning back to school after lengthy hospitalizations.

The social worker would work not only with students in the above scenarios, but also in conjunction with the other wrap around services provided to students at Chaparral, but who cannot meet the need of all students.