Vail Pittman 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:

Victoria Blakeney
Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment
Nevada Department of Education
700 E. Fifth St.
Carson City, NV 89701
(775) 687-9130
vblakeney@doe.nv.gov

Dr. Tammy Malich
Assistant Superintendent
Education Services Division

CCSD Contact:
Brian Adams, Coordinator
Office of Student Adjudication
Education Services Division
(702)799-0761

SECTION II
NARRATIVE

Vail Pittman Elementary School

Vail Pittman Elementary is a is a Title I school serving a 681 Pre-K – 5 student population. As a two star rated school, we have many challenges that impact our students' academic performance. One hundred percent of the students who attend Pittman receive free lunch under the provision II status. More than 95% of our students live under the federal poverty line. Also, associated with a student population that is predominately of low socioeconomic status. The school's current enrollment for 2015-16 is 681 students with 71% Hispanic, 10% Black/African American, 12 % Caucasian, and 5% Multi-Racial. Additionally, 95% of these students qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL), 43% have Limited English Proficiency (LEP), and 16% have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Additionally, this school's daily average attendance rate of 94% fell below the state expectation of 95%. In addition our school's transiency rate was 36% in 2014-15. Pittman currently has 37 homeless students enrolled under Title I Hope. In addition, our current behavior status demonstrates that 200 students have been referred to the office to date. Out of the referrals 45 have been placed on RPC and or suspension for unacceptable school behavior.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, staff, parents, and community members at Pittman. The social worker will provide services for students include assisting students with the development of social skills, helping students develop appropriate social interaction skills, providing crisis intervention, and teaching conflict resolution and anger management, developing intervention strategies to increase academic success, and work with teachers on method to support students who are not equipped with school appropriate behaviors. Also the social worker will service parents/families methods to reduce family stress, development of parenting skills to work with difficult children, to assist their child to function more effectively in school and community, support parents in accessing and utilizing school and community resources as well as completing the needed document to have access to the services. In addition, the social worker will provide 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 and data collection 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. The social worker will support the school with home visits as an advocate to increase student daily attendance and decrease discipline referral and students sent home on Required Parent Conferences.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Pittman will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work with the counselor(s), 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, work with students who have a CPS referral, contribute knowledge, skills, and techniques in the areas of mental health and human behavior to parents and school staff. 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 he/she will develop and facilitate weekly support groups and provide students with strategies to cope with and overcome difficulties impacting school performance, academic and behavioral. He/she will develop and implement parent support groups and activities that promote parent involvement/engagement. 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. Identify, mobilize, and coordinate school and community resources to enable students to learn as effectively as possible in the educational setting. Plan, conduct, and participate in educational workshops and presentations for both staff and parents while serving as a member of school teams and provide information related to planning for the educational needs of children.