Anthony Saville 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

Anthony Saville Middle School

Anthony Saville Middle School is a large middle school facing social and behavioral challenges associated with early teens, their families, cultural, and societal changes. The school's count day enrollment for 2015-16 was 1,532 students with 25.33% Hispanic/Latino, .26% American Indian/Alaska Native, 4.24% Asian, 14.33% Black/African American, 1.96% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, 44.78% White, and 9.4% Multi-Racial. Saville's population is made up of 36.57% of these students qualify for Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL), 3.66% English Language Learners (ELL), and 12.56% have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). It should be noted that Saville Middle School has two very high needs programs; Severe Emotionally Challenged (SEC) and Autism. The schools population is moderately mobile, exhibiting a transiency rate of 13.35% with a homeless population of 27 students. The number of Bullying incidents from August to December 2015 numbers 52 events involving 132 students, which is an increase from 101 events during the 2014-15 school year. Saville MS has made (7) seven Social Work referrals with an additional four (4) being offered, but parents declined for student and family supports from August to December of 2015, which is double number of referrals compared to 2014-2015. Additionally, nine (9) suicide protocols have been completed from August to December 2015.

The social worker/mental health professional will provide support to students, staff, parents, and community members at Saville Middle School. Specific services for students include: assisting students in understanding and accepting self and others; developing interventions/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 the 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.) impacting 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; assisting schools to receive adequate support from social and mental health agencies in order to aid the system respond effectively to each student's needs; and obtaining and coordinating community resources to meet the student's needs. Specific services promote district initiatives include: assisting in development and implementation of programs for identified children with behavioral, social, and/or emotional needs; developing and training related to 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.

The proposed social worker/mental health professional at Saville Middle School will assist with all aforementioned initiatives, as well as work along-side the counselors; 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; 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 and 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 both academically and behaviorally. He/she will identify challenges in a child's living situation (home, school, community) that may impact 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 while serving as a member of school teams and provide information related to planning for the educational needs of children.