Lied MS

Request for Information Response

Nevada Department of Education as Provided by

SB 515, Section 23

Social worker or other licensed mental health professional

December 14, 2015

To:

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SECTION II
NARRATIVE

Lied Middle School

Lied Middle School has seen dramatic demographic (socio/economic) changes over the last several years. With a fairly consistent staff since the opening of the school in 1997, this change has resulted in many challenges to a staff not accustomed to culture and climate differences. Due to various reasons, the student enrollment has been on a decline, as well - dropping almost a 100 students each year. The current enrollment is 1043 (including self-contained) with 32.5% Hispanic, < 1.0% American Indian/Alaskan Native, 4.4% Asian, 19.5% Black/African American, 2.5% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, 32.1% White/Caucasian, and 8.6% Multi-Racial. Additionally, Lied qualified for Title 1 funding with 53% of our students receiving Free/Reduced Lunch (FRL) and 11.1% have an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Due to a decrease in student population, Lied Middle School only qualifies for one dean of students and two school counselors. However, with a combination of a change in demographics (and teachers who are working on cultural competency strategies) and more stringent bullying policies, we do not have the personnel to adequately mentor and work with students who are challenged with coping skills and anger management strategies.

We would hope the social worker/other mental health work would assist the administration and school counselors in developing professional development workshops for teachers to align with the district culture competency initiatives, assist with counseling students who may be involved in bullying incidents, set up a school-wide mentoring program (involvement of school staff) and train staff in effective mentoring strategies, and assist to coordinate parenting classes or community resources.