Providing Vital Support to Students and Staff

State Awards Grant to WCSD to Fund Social Workers and Counselors in Schools

Reno, NV (July 5, 2017) – The Nevada Department of Education (NDE) has awarded a grant to the Washoe County School District (WCSD) to fund 37 positions for social workers and other mental health professionals in the coming school year.

“This is wonderful news for our students and school families, and we are grateful to the Nevada Department of Education for its support,” said WCSD Superintendent Traci Davis. “These vital resources will be directed to schools with identified needs, and we are eager to work with the state to get this process underway.”

“This type of support is crucial for our students and staff,” said Deputy Superintendent Dr. Kristen McNeill. “The positions will be funded for the 2017-18 school year, so we will have these social workers and counselors working in our schools beginning in the fall. We are thankful the state has directed these funds to WCSD.”
The Social Workers in Schools Grant Awards are administered by the Office for a Safe and Respectful Learning Environment within the NDE. These Safe School Professionals will begin working in the District when school starts August 7.

“Social workers and mental health professionals work closely with students to provide support, referrals, resources, and interventions to ensure that all students in WCSD remain on the pathway to graduation and are college- and career ready,” said Katherine Loudon, counseling coordinator for WCSD. “Our students face so many challenges along that pathway, and access to these resources does help them find success.”

Counseling Services trains, supports, and provides leadership to the district's K-12 school counselors. Counseling works with educational partners and stakeholders to increase resources and options to provide academic and other opportunities for students. The department also provides direct service to families and schools, assists with resources and ensures supports.

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