

BUENA PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

DEFINITION

Under general direction of the Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services, to diagnose the needs of gifted and learning handicapped children and children experiencing emotionally related problems; to aid in the development of an individual education plan which will enable students with diagnosed educational needs to attain maximum achievement and adjustment; to occasionally counsel students, individually and in groups, using a variety of techniques to aid in the achievement of personal, social, and emotional adjustments; to provide counsel and support pertaining to the delivery of psychological services; and to do other related functions as required.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Administers individual pupil intelligence, achievement, motor perceptual, and personality assessment tests designed to assess pre-academic and academic achievement levels, social-adaptive behaviors, language/speech development, and cognitive development; evaluates and interprets tests and diagnoses individual learning and behavior management problems; prepares student assessment reports and recommends class placement in programs to remediate diagnoses educational and behavioral problems; counsels and confers with parents and interprets test findings and educational recommendations; confers with teachers, administrators, and other professional personnel in developing student educational plans which will maximize educational development; counsels, advises, and assists students referred for psychological or health-related services; confers with and prepares informational reports for public and private youth serving agencies concerning students in need of services beyond those available in a public school setting; serves as a member of the child study team, assisting in determining learning and behavior interventions; makes educational placement and program revision recommendations based on psychological findings; conducts diagnostic studies to identify pupil needs, limitations, and potential utilizing observations, record review, and through consultation techniques; participates in staff development and inservice training programs; serves as the resource to instructional administrative personnel and the general school community concerning the services of community and youth serving groups; performs follow-up appraisals of students placed in special learning and behavior management programs; may perform action research pertaining to psychological services and program trends; may interpret school programs and psychological services to individuals and community groups.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Principles, methods, strategies, and techniques related to a comprehensive guidance and psychological service program;
Legal mandates, policies, regulations, and guidelines pertaining to pupil guidance and psychological service functions and activities;
Mental health and youth service agencies in the local and greater metropolitan area;
Counseling, guidance, and special program trends within a least restrictive environment;
Problem solving and conflict resolution strategies and intervention processes.

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Ability to:

Effectively and efficiently provide specialized pupil guidance and psychological support services;

Diagnose and interpret pupils' social, emotional, and personal dysfunctions and needs and provide recommendations to remediate and manage educational and behavioral handicapping conditions;

Serves as a resource to site and district personnel, students, and parents concerning education and behavior management intervention strategies and techniques;

Communicate effectively in oral and written form;

Establish and maintain effective organizational and community relationships;

Understand and carry out oral and written directions with minimal accountability controls;

Ability to perform essential functions of the job with or without reasonable accommodation.

EXPERIENCE

Two years of experience as a school psychologist, including one year of service as a school psychologist dealing with elementary age children.

EDUCATION

Possession of an earned baccalaureate or higher degree from an accredited college or university in educational psychology, counseling and guidance, instructional technology, or closely related educational or mental health fields.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid California credential authorizing service as a school psychologist.

LICENSE REQUIREMENT

Possession of a valid California driver license.

CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT

Insurability by the district's liability insurance carrier.