

**MURRIETA VALLEY UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
JOB DESCRIPTION**

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TITLE: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH THERAPIST

JOB GOAL: Under the general supervision of the Executive Director of Special Education or designee, is responsible for the implementation and supervision of Educationally Related Mental Health Services (ERMHS) and programs.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of

1. Psychotherapy principles and practices, including treatment of individuals, families and groups.
2. Characteristics of mental health disorders.
3. Behavior management strategies and techniques appropriate for students who demonstrate social, emotional and/or behavioral difficulties in school.
4. District protocols for crisis intervention, including procedures for initiating an assessment for involuntary treatment hold and requirements for mandated child abuse reporting.
5. Current research methodologies, interventions and treatment related to mental health disorders.

Ability to

1. Maintain a cooperative working relationship with parents, teachers, staff and the general public.
2. Implement therapeutic interventions for students and families consistent with evidence-based modalities, including but not limited to, cognitive behavioral therapy, solution focused therapy and dialectical behavior therapy.
3. Assist in deescalating of students who are exhibiting heightened or out of control behavior in order to maintain safety for the student and others.
4. Demonstrate understanding and a receptive attitude toward students of varied age groups, particularly those exhibiting special needs.
5. Assist with supervising and mentoring staff.
6. Maintain strict confidentiality of student information and district business.
7. Establish and maintain records consistent with department standards.
8. Work independently and make decisions within the framework of established guidelines.
9. Analyze and determine appropriate methods and interpret and apply guidelines to accomplish goals.
10. Establish priorities and deadlines.
11. Speak effectively in public.
12. Communicate with administrators, personnel and outside organizations to coordinate activities, address and exchange information, utilize data tracking, medical billing and other systems necessary to operate behavioral services.
13. Hear and speak to exchange information and make presentations.
14. Follow oral and written instruction with minimal direction.

Training, Education and Experience (required)

1. Master's degree or higher in counseling, psychology, clinical social work, or a closely related field required.

Training, Education and Experience (required) (continued)

2. Valid license to practice mental health therapy in California (i.e., Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, or Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor) required.
3. Possession and maintenance of a valid California Driver's License required and maintain insurability to drive a motorized vehicle.

Training, Education and Experience (desired)

1. Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA) desired.
2. Experience providing counseling to students in a school setting desired.

REPORTS TO: Assigned Administrator

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Provides direct mental health services including counseling, consultation, mental health evaluations, treatment, coordination, individual/group therapy, collateral services, rehabilitation services, behavior intervention and case management/brokerage for individuals and families.
2. Provides consultative support and training to teachers, administrators, and parents regarding mental health or behavioral issues and understanding cultural diversity.
3. Attends IEPs for students receiving mental health services for the purpose of reporting on progress and making recommendations for goals and services.
4. Assists with gathering data and/or completing behavioral observations and/or conducting interviews to assist with special education assessments.
5. Provides supervision to unlicensed and licensed therapists as assigned.
6. Plans, conducts and participates in meetings, trainings and workshops for staff and parents.
7. Participates in school meetings related to discussion and planning for improvement of individual student's progress as well as the development and implementation of the IEPs to meet the needs for students with various disabilities.
8. Acts as a liaison between client, families, school personnel and community agencies.
9. Provides information and support to teachers and administrators regarding classroom environment and school climate responsive to needs of students.
10. Communicates with administrators, personnel and outside organizations to coordinate activities, address and exchange information, utilize data tracking, medical billing and other systems necessary to operate behavioral services.
11. Assists in supervising assigned staff under the general direction of assigned designee.
12. Attends and participates in a variety of meetings, workshops and conferences.
13. Supervises and adjusts the maintenance of a variety of records and logs to monitor student progress.
14. Provides case management and site supervision.
15. Provides referrals to appropriate in-district and community resources.
16. Reads, understands and communicates policies, programs and reports.
17. Performs other related duties as assigned.

PHYSICAL ABILITIES

1. Able to handle hostile or abusive individuals with unpredictable behaviors, both students and adults.
2. Visual ability to read handwritten or typed documents and the display screen of various office equipment and machines.
3. Able to conduct verbal conversation in English or other designated language.
4. Able to hear normal range verbal conversation (approximately 60 decibels.)
5. Able to sit, stand, stoop, kneel, bend, and walk.
6. Able to sit for sustained periods of time.
7. Able to climb slopes, stairs, steps, ramps, and ladders.
8. Able to lift up to ten (10) pounds frequently, and twenty (20) pounds occasionally.
9. Able to carry up to ten (10) pounds frequently, and twenty (20) pounds occasionally.
10. Able to push and pull objects weighing up to forty (40) pounds.
11. Able to exhibit full range of motion for shoulder external rotation, internal rotation, shoulder abduction and adduction, elbow flexion and extension, shoulder extension and flexion, back lateral flexion, hip flexion and extension and knee flexion.
12. Able to operate a motor vehicle in a safe and effective manner.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT: Twelve-month work year
205-day work year
Classified Management

EVALUATION: Performance of this job will be evaluated in accordance with Board of Education policy on Evaluation of Professional Personnel. The Assigned Administrator will give the evaluation.

Approved by: Board of Education

Date: June 20, 2019

Murrieta Valley Unified School District is a drug-free & tobacco-free workplace and equal opportunity employer.

The District does not discriminate against employees or job applicants on the basis of gender, race, color, religious creed, national origin, ancestry, age of 40, marital status, physical or mental disability, or Vietnam Era veteran status. Equal opportunity shall be provided to all employees and applicants in every aspect of personnel policy and practice. The District does not discriminate against person with disabilities who, with reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job in question.