



WELLESLEY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Wellesley, MA
Job Description

Title: School Psychologist

Job Summary:

- School psychologists are responsible for psychological services in the schools to which they are assigned.
- The position provides identification, evaluation, and placement of students with social, emotional and learning difficulties. Students and their families are assisted in transitions between educational placements. In conjunction with school counselors, developmental and preventative programs are provided directly in classrooms or through consultation with teachers.
- All students are screened directly or through teacher consultation. Students who are referred for psychological assessment are evaluated by the school psychologist. Diagnostic work is provided in cooperation with other Evaluation Team members. Direct service is provided to students with social, emotional, and learning needs, and to their parents and teachers.
- School Psychologists are responsible for providing these services in a manner consistent with existing legislation and School Committee policy.

Performance Responsibilities:

- Screen students whose performance in school is of concern to teachers, administrators or parents, through observation, consultation, review of student's history and administration of screening instruments.
- Evaluates and re-evaluates the functioning of students who are referred under Ch. 766 by administration of diagnostic tests and other clinical procedures.
- Writes psychological reports including diagnostic summaries of evaluations and consults with parents and teachers so that diagnostic information can facilitate appropriate remediation and management of disabilities at school and at home.
- Intervenes in school adjustment needs of students through provision of short term individual therapy, parent counseling, teacher and staff consultation, and leading student groups and parent groups.
- Participates as leader or as a member of Evaluation Teams, including the writing of Individual Education Plans for students who will receive psychological services under Ch. 766.
- Acts as liaison and referral agent for students whose educational needs require special curriculum or teacher selection or placement in Ch. 766 approved day and residential schools.
- With permission from parents, works with private medical, mental health and social services workers so that services to a student and family are mutually supportive and most effective.

- Works with students in classrooms and/or with teachers to facilitate inclusion of students, including an understanding and appreciation of students' strengths and needs.
- Selects or develops screening, diagnostic and curriculum materials, as needed for accountabilities of position.
- Provides teacher support and develops relationships with teachers that facilitate high morale in relation to their work with students who have social and emotional needs.
- Assumes responsibility for professional growth through participation in staff and program development procedures and attendance at courses and/or professional meetings.
- Participates in job-related activities and departmental meetings and provides information regarding accountability of work time as requested by the Assistant Superintendent for Student Services.

Qualifications:

- Must possess or be eligible for a MA DESE license as a School Psychologist
- Must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Diversity is a core value of WPS. We are committed to building and sustaining an inclusive school environment for all and seek to hire team members who will enrich our diversity.

Evaluated by: Assistant Director of Special Education or Department Head of Student Services (depending on school assignment)

Work Year: In accordance with the terms of the WEA Unit A collective bargaining agreement

Salary/Benefits: In accordance with the terms of the WEA Unit A collective bargaining agreement

Physical Demands:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations will be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit, talk, and/or hear. The employee is occasionally required to move throughout a building; use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands or arms, climb or balance and stoop.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision and the ability to adjust focus. The employee is required to have the cognitive ability and focus to manage multiple detailed tasks at once with frequent interruptions.

Work Environment:

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations will be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed in an educational environment. Majority of the work is performed in a moderately noisy environment with frequent interruptions.

Non-Discrimination Statement:

Applicants for employment are considered without regard to age, physical, mental or psychiatric disability, genetics, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, national origin, or military status.

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