

# **Rich Township School District 227**

## **POSITION DESCRIPTION**

### **TITLE:**

School Psychologist

### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

The school psychologist shall hold a master's degree (or doctorate) in psychology or educational psychology with a specialization in school psychology. They must have obtained a Type 73 school service personnel certificate endorsed for school psychology.

### **REPORTS TO:**

Building special education administrator; Building Principal

### **DEFINITION:**

The school psychologist:

- Will engage in effective, data-based decision making and problem solving processes.
- Will demonstrate an understanding of behavioral, mental health, collaborative and other consultative approaches and their application to various situations.
- Will demonstrate understanding of theories of cognitive development, learning and teaching and their application to the development of instructional strategies.

### **PERFORMANCE EVALUATION:**

The school psychologist shall be evaluated consistent with evaluation procedures collectively bargained between the Board of Education of School District 227 and Rich Township High School Education Association.

### **KEY FUNCTIONS:**

#### **A. Teaching and Learning**

##### Representative Activities

1. The psychologist assists school staff in developing intervention strategies for students referred for academic, social, emotional or behavioral difficulties.
2. The psychologist designs and implements psychological services that address the educational, social, and emotional needs of the students.
3. The psychologist participates in the identification of students with special needs and refers them for case study evaluation when appropriate.
4. The psychologist assists the team in the development of appropriate goals and objectives for the Individual Education Plan, as necessary.
5. The psychologist consults and/or participates in curriculum and program development.
6. The psychologist helps develop behavior intervention plans and conducts behavior manifestation determinations.
7. The psychologist organizes and summarizes evaluative data which provide for meaningful interpretation and facilitate educational planning. He/she provides formal psychological reports which include results and recommendations based on the assessment.
8. The psychologist provides information to testing agencies, as necessary, to facilitate the provision of accommodations on standardized assessments.

## **B. Communication**

### Representative Activities

1. The psychologist uses knowledge of effective written, verbal, nonverbal, and visual communications techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration and supportive interaction with all stakeholders.
2. The psychologist communicates clearly the findings and recommendations through the sharing of student data with school personnel and provides professional expertise for adequate interpretation of psychological information as deemed appropriate.
3. The psychologist provides consultation to parents, school agencies, hospitals and other professionals dealing with District 227 students.
4. The psychologist serves as a liaison with community agencies, hospitals and other professionals dealing with District 227 students.

## **C. Professional Responsibilities**

### Representative Activities

1. The psychologist participates and supports the total school program, extracurricular activities, committee work, and campus goals. In addition, the psychologist continues a program of professional growth to include being a reflective practitioner.
2. The psychologist provides professional expertise in crisis situations both as an individual and as a member of the Pupil Personnel Services, and delivers therapeutic services to students and consultative services to parents and families when appropriate.
3. The psychologist selects, administers, and interprets assessment techniques relevant to identifying strengths and weaknesses of students in intelligence, adaptive behavior, perception, social/emotional functioning and academic performance.
4. The psychologist participates in the screening committee helping to determine appropriate interventions or case study evaluation. The psychologist also coordinates re-evaluation case studies, securing signatures and completing most case study components including assessment.
5. The psychologist will carry out other representative duties as assigned by the designated administrator or building principal.

## **D. Human Relations**

### Representative Activities

1. The psychologist understands the role of the community in education and develops and maintains collaborative relationships with colleagues, parents/guardians, and the community to support student learning and well-being.
2. The psychologist demonstrates an understanding of and promotes respect of cultural and individual diversity.
3. The psychologist treats all stakeholders with fairness and respect and encourages their cooperation and involvement in the learning process.
4. The psychologist displays openness towards student ideas and opinions in an atmosphere which develops individual responsibility and mutual respect.

Updated 2007