

The Howard County Public School System

Job Analysis

JOB TITLE: School Psychologist, Middle School

DOT/O*NET Code: 045.107-034/19-3031.01

POSITION INFORMATION

Summary of Duties: The School Psychologist at the middle school level provides services to students in grades 6 through 8, and may also serve participants in a regional program, such as the program for students with emotional disabilities or the Academic Life Skills program. The School Psychologist assesses students, consults with teachers, administrators, and parents, and provides counseling and psychological services for students individually and in groups. The psychological services provided are based upon identified needs and/or services outlined in Individualized Education Programs (I.E.P.s). This is an 11-month position.

Essential Job Functions:

- Prepare/set-up office prior to the first day of school.
- Provide an atmosphere and environment conducive to the intellectual, physical, social, and emotional development of students.
- Develop a plan each year to address the academic, social/personal, and psychological needs of students; the plan must support and be consistent with the school improvement plan, which in turn supports system-wide goals.
- Serve on a variety of committees or teams, such as the School Improvement Team, Kid Talk, Student Services Team, Instructional Intervention Team, Crisis Intervention Team, Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports Team, grade level teams, and teams related to regional programs that may be housed in the school.
- Conduct needs assessments to determine problem areas requiring intervention develop and implement interventions, monitor effectiveness of interventions, and adjust as necessary.
- Attend monthly meetings of school psychologists.
- Attend I.E.P. meetings for new referrals for whom a disability is in question and for students on caseload; additional I.E.P. meetings may be attended as determined appropriate.
- Attend 504 meetings; may serve as a facilitator for those meetings.
- Observe students in a variety of settings in the school, such as in the classroom, in outdoor activities, and during lunch period.
- Collect and assess behavioral data.
- Consult with teachers regarding classroom management, behavioral, emotional, and academic issues.
- Consult with administrators regarding school-wide issues.
- Consult with parents regarding issues concerning their children, and to obtain information required for evaluations.

- Consult with professionals outside of the school system who are providing services to students.
- Develop and implement training sessions for teachers, covering such topics as student learning, alternative instructional methods, behavior, abuse, bullying, suicide prevention, crisis prevention, conflict resolution, and issues related to special education, Section 504, and diversity.
- May develop training sessions for groups of parents.
- Administer cognitive, social-emotional, and behavioral assessments to students; prepare reports analyzing test results in conjunction with educational performance, classroom observation, medical history, and educational programming.
- Provide assistance in the application and monitoring process for students receiving home/hospital education due to emotional or psychological problems.
- May conduct home visits.
- Provide crisis intervention services for students, teachers, and the school community.
- Participate in the determination of referrals to alternative education programs within the school system; update psychological evaluations if alternative services are being considered.
- If providing services in a school with a regional program, participate in visits to other schools to assess students for participation in the regional program.
- Develop behavioral plans with teachers and/or behavioral specialists.
- May refer students to outside resources.
- May need to use Crisis Prevention Intervention or Life Space Crisis Intervention with students.
- May work with students during the summer to complete an evaluation.
- May work with summer school students.
- Maintain regular, on time attendance.
- Knowledge of emergency plans for the school, such as lockdown procedures.
- Participate in fire drills, as required.
- May participate in intern or practicum student program.

Machinery, Tools, Equipment, Work Aids Used:

- Computer
- Printer
- Photocopier
- Facsimile machine
- Projector
- Screen
- Document camera
- Telephone
- Files
- File Cabinets/Storage Cabinets
- Desk
- Chair
- Table and chairs

- Chalkboard; white board
- Chalk and/or dry erase markers
- Test kits
- Stopwatch
- Games, cards
- Books
- Posters
- Office supplies (paper, pens, pencils, paperclips, staplers, etc.)
- Cart to transport materials
- Seclusion room/timeout area
- Scrantron

Products/Materials Handled:

- All items listed above under machinery, tools, equipment, work aids used.

EDUCATIONAL/VOCATIONAL PREPARATION

- Master's degree or doctoral degree from an approved program in school psychology.
- Complete Crisis Prevention Intervention Training every two years, or as determined appropriate.
- May be required to complete Life Space Crisis Intervention Training, or a similar alternative training.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATES/LICENSES

- Maryland State Department of Education certificate in school psychology.
- Fulfill requirements to maintain certification.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

- Knowledge of human behavior and performance, learning and motivation, instructional methods, and behavioral and emotional disorders.
- Knowledge of principles, methods, and procedures for diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of physical, cognitive, behavioral and social-emotional problems.
- Understanding of differences in ability, learning styles, and personality.
- Knowledge of resources available in the community.
- Skill in behavior management.
- Skill in crisis intervention.
- Ability to use counseling and/or therapeutic methods/strategies to appropriately handle problems that arise.
- Ability to have a positive impact on students' academic, social, emotional, and behavioral functioning.
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, to students, parents, and staff members.
- Ability to maintain a positive attitude and calm manner.
- Ability to remain flexible with changes in routine or plans.
- Knowledge of computers and software programs.

JOB SITE ENVIRONMENT

Work Site

- Inside: 95%
- Outside: 5%

Temperature Factors

- Exposed to weather conditions when outside of the school building.

Noise Factors

- Occasional noise from large groups of students, bells, or alarm systems.

Vibrations

- N/A

Air Quality Factors

- May be exposed to fumes from laminating machine.

Working Surface

- Flat, tile or carpeted floors
- Stairs
- Ground, cement and paved surfaces outside

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS –School Psychologist – Middle School

Non-Material Handling:							
Not Required		Rarely <1%	Infrequently <8%	Occasionally <33%	Frequently <66%	Constantly >67%	<i>Description of Requirements at one time and throughout the shift</i>
N	R	I	O	F	C		
		X					Partial bending may be used intermittently throughout the day to reach folders or supplies, or when instructing students -rarely repetitive. Alternatives to bending may include squatting or kneeling.
		X					As above. Alternatives may include bending, or kneeling.
		X ¹					Not likely needed. Alternatives may include bending, or squatting. ¹ Possibly for CPI.
		X ¹					Not likely needed. ¹ CPI may require getting on hands and knees.
		X					Most surfaces are level and even. Needed to negotiate congested hallways and classrooms. Balance skills are challenged during inclement weather conditions.
		X					May be needed to retrieve test kits and supplies from a shelf.
					X		Needed throughout the day (about 50-66%) for both brief and sustained periods (up to 60 – 90 minutes at a time) for activities such as meetings, conducting testing and counseling sessions, computer and telephone work, and driving.
			X				May be used at meetings and during observation, usually not more than 15 minutes at a time.
				X			Usually throughout the day for 2 to 5 minutes at a time. May be used rarely for up to 30+ minutes at a time while engaged in dialog with a student.
		X					May be needed in an emergency.
				X			Usually needed throughout the day.
					X		Needed to manipulate pen and paper, finger through records, using keyboard and mouse, telephone; and other varied tasks such as testing kits, score sheets, puzzles, and board games throughout the day.
			X				Arm movements are associated with performing varied hand tasks usually close to the body for brief periods throughout the day.
		X					Not usually required.
		X		X ²			Some schools are on one level. ² Stair climbing is needed regularly at some locations. May be needed to access portable classrooms.
	X						Usually not required.
		X					May be needed daily with some assignments when the day is split between two locations or for meetings.

Material Handling:							
Not Required		Rarely <1%	Infrequently <8%	Occasionally <33%	Frequently <66%	Constantly >67%	<i>In pounds</i>
Repetitions per day		1-10	<25	<100	100-500	500+ per day	
N	R	I	O	F	C		
		<50 ¹	--	--	--	--	Usually negligible – needed for handling folders, test kits, games, puzzles, and laptop. ¹ May be required with CPI training and interventions –rarely.
		<50 ¹	10	--	1	--	
		<40 ¹	10	--	1	--	
		<10 ¹	5	--	--	--	Usually needed to open and close doors, or drawers. ¹ CPI training and preparedness.
		<50 ¹	--	15	5	--	
		<50 ¹	--	15	5	--	
		--	20	10	3	--	Usually negligible - for handling folders, test kits and laptop.

¹CPI training and physical restraint interventions capability are needed in some locations. Must be prepared to participate in the restraint of a student exhibiting threatening or combative behavior unresponsive to other interventions. Some students weigh 200 lbs. Physical restraint is a last resort and seldom needed.

JOB ANALYSIS REVIEW

Printed Name

Signature

Title

Howard County Public School System

Date

JOB ANALYSIS PREPARATION

Nancy Forest, M.A., CRC, CCM, CDMS, CLCP
Printed Name

Signature

Senior Rehabilitation Case Manager
Title

First Rehabilitation Resources, Inc.
Company

Date

Michael Caruso, PT, OCS, FAAOMPT
Printed Name

Signature

Industrial Physical Therapist
Title

Occupational Rehabilitation Associates
Company

Date