



Proposal for Dayton/Bellevue School Psychologist

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Why does Dayton/Bellevue need a local school psychologist?

School psychologists are uniquely qualified members of school teams that support students' ability to learn and teachers' ability to teach. They apply expertise in mental health, learning, and behavior, to help children and youth succeed academically, socially, behaviorally, and emotionally. School psychologists partner with families, teachers, school administrators, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community.

What would a school psychologist do for the Dayton/Bellevue Schools?

School psychologists can provide direct support and interventions to students, consult with teachers, families, and other school-employed mental health professionals (i.e., school counselors, school social workers) to improve support strategies, work with school administrators to improve school-wide practices and policies, and collaborate with community providers to coordinate needed services.

The goal for our school psychologist would be to help:

Improve Academic Achievement <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conduct psychological and academic assessments• Advise on the construction of individualized instruction and interventions• Consult with teachers to manage student and classroom behavior• Monitor student progress• Collect and interpret student and classroom data• Reduce inappropriate referrals to special education• Help improve school level Child-Find obligations	Create Safe, Positive School Climates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prevent bullying and other forms of violence• Support social-emotional learning• Implement and promote positive discipline• Implement school-wide positive behavioral supports (PBIS)• Identify at risk students and school vulnerabilities• Provide crisis prevention and intervention services
Promote Positive Behavior and Mental Health <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improve students communication and social skills• Assess student emotional and behavioral needs• Provide individual and group counseling• Promote problem solving, anger management and conflict resolution• Reinforce positive coping skills and resilience• Promote positive peer relationships and social problem solving• Make referrals to and help coordinate community services provided in schools	Strengthen Family-School Partnerships <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Help families understand their child's learning and mental health needs• Assist in navigating special education processes• Connect families with community service providers when necessary• Help effectively engage families with teachers and other school staff• Enhance staff understanding and responsiveness to diverse cultures and backgrounds• Help students transition between school and community learning environments, such as residential treatment or juvenile justice programs
Support Diverse Learners <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assess diverse learning needs• Provide culturally responsive services to students and families from diverse backgrounds• Plan appropriate Individualized Education Programs for students with disabilities• Modify and adapt curricula and instruction• Adjust classroom facilities and routines to improve student engagement and learning• Monitor and effectively communicate with parents about student progress	Improve School-Wide Assessment and Accountability <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Generate and interpret useful student and school outcome data• Collect and analyze data on risk and protective factors related to student outcomes• Plan services at the district, building, classroom, and individual levels• Monitor individual student progress in academics and behavior

Why do our schools need a School Psychologist?

All children and youth can face problems from time to time related to learning; social relationships; making difficult decisions; or managing emotions such as feeling depressed, anxious, worried, or isolated. School psychologists help students, families, educators, and members of the community understand and resolve both long-term, chronic problems and short-term issues that students may face. They are a highly skilled and ready resource in the effort to ensure that all children and youth thrive in school, at home, and in life.

Cost Breakdown 2017-2018 School Year

Salary (196 day contract)	\$43,221.92
Fringe	~\$2,162 (General Funds)
Supervisor Stipend	\$7,500
Total Cost	\$52,884
<i>Bellevue \$26,442</i>	<i>Dayton \$26,442</i>

How this fits into the Dayton Independent Schools

Our Current Costs

Service	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017	Anticipated 2017-2018
Life Pointe Solutions (Mental Health Counseling)	\$21,600	\$21,600 (J. Mueller)	\$11,100 (anticipated)	\$0
Counseling and Diagnostic Centers (YTD/Averages)	\$4,500	\$8407.50	\$8500 (anticipated)	0\$
Elementary Assessment Stipend	\$1,300	\$0	\$10,000 (DACC)	\$10,000 (DACC)
School Psychologist				\$26,442
Total	\$27,400	\$30,007.50	\$29,600 (anticipated)	\$36,442
Medicaid Money (+\$)	+\$11,000	+\$25,000	As of 2/13 +\$26,000	Goal \$35,000

Other Benefits

- Currently we are under a Corrective Action Plan for Indicator 11 (60 day timelines). By hiring a school psychologist, it will help our district establish efficient and effective evaluation procedures that will meet federally established timelines.
- Currently our special education numbers exceed the district and national averages. A school psychologist would be a crucial part in determining over-identification or ratio appropriateness.