TITLE: **Physical Therapist**

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Must have a Bachelor’s degree and be a graduate of a physical therapy school approved by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association in collaboration with the American Physical Therapy Association
2. Holds a current physical therapy license
3. Knowledge of etiology, characteristics and prognosis of major handicapping conditions
4. Knowledge of a variety of treatment techniques, and their indications and contraindications
5. Ability to interpret physical therapy evaluations
6. Knowledge of normal developmental sequences and learning patterns
7. Ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team, consult with education staff, and direct a licensed physical therapy assistant, if necessary
8. Experience in a pediatric physical therapy setting is desirable
9. Knowledge of the role of physical therapy and the ability to explain that role to others
10. Ability to present in-service training on therapy related topics to parents, teachers and other support personnel
11. Has demonstrated ability to work and communicate effectively with parents, students, and staff

REPORTS TO: Director Special Education Services/Executive Director Student Services

JOB GOAL:

To assist handicapped students to benefit from special education by providing physical therapy services to include:

1. Activities that promote postural and gross motor development; e.g., head control, sitting, and standing balance
2. Gait training and functional mobility for maximum independence in the educational environment
3. Wheelchair mobility, transfer skills, and positioning
4. Activities that improve strength and coordination, prevent deformity or enhance respiratory and cardiovascular function

PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Evaluate adaptive equipment needs, plan and construct adapted equipment particularly for positioning and mobility; e.g. fitting wheelchairs, prone boards. Monitor braces and prosthesis
2. Obtain necessary background information on each student to include referral necessary to fulfill legal and liability requirements; maintain ongoing communication link with other personnel as needs of each student indicates; interpret pertinent information to educational personnel
3. Provide individual assessment of referred students and, where indicated, recommendations for educational personnel
4. Develop short term and long term goals based on evaluation to enhance self-help skills and/or enhance classroom function
5. Interact with teachers, parents and therapists to integrate services, goals and program plan into the Individual Education Program Is a member of the School Based Admissions and Release Committee
6. Assist in the implementation of therapy programs to meet IEP goals
7. Develop a plan to implement individual student goals which may include activities and exercises at school and at home
8. Assist the special education teachers in modifying classroom activities
9. Teach parents, teachers and assistants how to, implement programs
10. Assist the physical education teacher in developing activities to enhance motor development
11. Manage student behavior during therapy
12. Interpret the therapy evaluation, goals and program plan to parents
13. Suggest material needs and designs modification to meet individual needs of the student
14. Document the evaluation and objective recordings of progress on individual students. Maintains data related to services
15. Develop and adhere to a daily schedule
16. Serve on education committees, e.g., Admission and Release Committee as required by the Director Exceptional Children Services
17. Continuously upgrade knowledge of current research of practices
18. Perform other duties consistent with the position assigned as may be requested by the supervisor

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

* Salary-Professional I Salary Schedule
* ~~8 hrs per day~~
* ~~40 hrs per wk.~~
* ~~180 days~~ **187 days per year**
* ~~9 ¼ months~~
* Board approved 3-23-92, Revised 6/9/2016, Revised