

Entity:	University Prep Schools
School:	University Preparatory Middle School
Level:	Various
Job Title:	<b>School Social Worker (.5 FTE)</b>
Reports to:	Director of Student Development
Status:	School-year, Non-Exempt

Summary:

The School Social Worker is primarily responsible for supporting the social, psychological, biological, and academic development of the students. The School Social Worker provides biological, psychological, and sociological assessment information for individual students; coordinates with all members of the educational community to develop and implement intervention strategies that address various student needs; and helps promote a healthy, safe, and caring educational environment.

Desired Competencies:

- Friendly, outgoing personality that thrives on relationship building;
- Highly-developed organizational, planning, and time management skills;
- Implements and follows through on simultaneous projects and tasks;
- Displays pleasant, professional demeanor at all times;
- Contributes to the development of a positive, supportive environment; and,
- Maintains knowledge of changing trends and best practices in the field of social work and puts this learning into action in the schools.

Education/Experience:

- Masters' degree required;
- Strong communication skills, verbal and written;
- Cohesive team ethic; ability to work with others to successfully complete multi-faceted projects;

Duties and Responsibilities:

Employee's duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conducts assessments and evaluations in accordance with family and student rights;
- Uses data from many sources to identify needs that affect student learning and develop appropriate intervention for students, families, schools, and communities;
- Develops long-term and short-term intervention plans consistent with curriculum; students' needs, strengths, diversity and life experiences; and social and emotional factors;
- Uses a variety of appropriate formal and informal tools and techniques including observations and interviews to evaluate the progress and performance of students and families;
- Addresses the needs of the school, student, families, and community by collaborating with team members from the Student Development Department and the schools to design a holistic approach to any barriers or problems with the educational process;
- Promotes family support of students' learning experience within the context of multicultural understanding and competencies;
- Provides services to students in ways that build upon individual strengths and offers students maximum opportunities to participate in the planning and direction of their own learning experience;
- Advocates for and facilitates change that effectively responds to the needs of students, families, and school systems using appropriate statutes, case law, policies, and procedures;

- Promotes services to students and their families within the context of multicultural understanding and competence that enhances families' support of students learning experiences;
- Assists students and their families in gaining access to formal and informal community resources;
- Consults with stakeholders to facilitate an understanding of factors in the home, local education agency, and community that affect students' educational experiences;
- Consults on such issues as attendance, diversity, mental health, behavior management, delinquency, crisis intervention, homelessness, child abuse, neglect, and the importance of confidentiality;
- Promotes collaboration among community health and mental health service providers and facilitates student access to these services;
- Conforms to the National Association of Social Work (NASW) Code of Ethics and Standards for School Social Work practice and maintains licensure, certifications, and professional memberships as required;
- Maintains current knowledge of federal and state laws and regulations and abides by said laws and regulations with emphasis on persons with disabilities, child welfare, mental health, confidentiality, and student and parent rights;
- Organizes time, resources, energy, and workload in order to meet responsibilities;
- Evaluates own practice and disseminates the findings to consumers, school districts, the community, and the profession in order to maximize the effectiveness of services and resources provided to students. By reflecting upon and evaluating one's practice, more effective services, and resources will be provided;
- Participates in appropriate professional development activities to improve knowledge and skills; and,
- Performs other duties as assigned.