



# The Division of Special Education



## Psychological Services

### How a School Psychologist Can Support the Instructional Program

#### Working with Students

- Observes students in the classroom and other settings to determine how they function in multiple settings
- Provides formal and informal assessments of students' abilities that include psychological competencies, social/emotional development, academic achievement, behavioral functioning, response to intervention, communication skills, fine and gross motor development, and learning aptitudes and interests
- Enables students to increase positive social skills
- Assists students in developing appropriate problem-solving skills through individual and small-group counseling
- Assists in the design and development of intervention programs
- Evaluates the effectiveness of intervention programs
- Assists in intervention program maintenance
- Counseling students (DIS and Non-DIS) individually or in groups for the following reasons
  - Academic problems
  - Underachievement of goals
  - Potential dropouts
  - Bilingual/bicultural adjustment problems
  - Behavior and social skills, bullying
  - Problem-solving and decision making

#### Collaborating with Teachers, Staff and Administrators

- Collaborates with community agencies to provide services for students and families
- Serves as a member of the School Resource Coordinating Team
- Serves as a member of the Healthy Start planning committee
- Helps teachers clarify a student's learning and behavior problems
- Consults with teachers regarding classroom management and discipline strategies
- Interprets individual and group evaluation results for appropriate school personnel to make data-based decisions
- Increases a better understanding of student growth and development
- Participates as a team member of Student Success Team or other teams that provide intervention management, such as Coordination of Services Team, intervention team, department meetings and Small Learning Communities' meetings
- Serves as a member of the Individualized Education Program (IEP) team
- Provides professional development for teachers and other staff
- Serves as a resource to school personnel regarding mental health resources within the school and community
- Serves as a member of the School Crisis Intervention Team

**Consulting with Parents**

- Assists parents in understanding a student's special needs
- Facilitates communication between home, school and community agencies
- Assists in identifying students with special needs and monitors their progress
- Provides appropriate referrals to District and community resources
- Provides parenting skills training, interventions and family counseling related to a student's educational, emotional and behavioral concerns
- Works to correct problematic learning and adjustment difficulties to prevent more serious and permanent outcomes

**Providing Professional Development**

- In all matters regarding impediments to students accessing the curriculum
- On Behavior, Classroom Management, Emotional Development, Bullying
- On Intervention activities
- On Special Education topics and Mental Health topics