CLASS TITLE: SCHOOL THERAPIST

General Description
Under the direct supervision of the Principal-Special Education, develops and provides therapeutic services which assist teachers, administrators, and parents in understanding and working with each student and family's unique needs; recommends, provides or arranges services to families which will empower them and provides favorable conditions for children to be effective in the least restrictive school environment.

Certification and Education
Master's degree from an accredited college or university; a valid California Pupil Personnel Services credential with a credential as a school psychologist or School Social Worker OR a LMFT OR a LCSW.

Knowledge, Abilities and Experience
Knowledge of principles and practices of therapeutic and behavioral interventions; knowledge of federal, state, and local laws, codes, and ordinances related to child welfare and special education; ability to assist parents and students in developing and using resources to resolve problems; ability to assist school personnel in creating an environment that encourages effective learning and relationships; ability to develop functional plans and reports; proof of training and experience in individual, group, and family therapy required; and knowledge of Medi-Cal billing process.

Duties and Responsibilities
ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
Identifies behavior and/or developmental problems that affect a student's ability to benefit from a regular school environment; assists in the program intake screening process; provides consultation, plans activities; develops in-service, and counseling for students regarding mental health; conducts individual and small group meetings for students and works directly with families; provides student counseling on a scheduled basis as well as crisis interventions; acts as a resource to parents regarding available community resources; facilitates the development of parenting skills and empowerment; provides or refers for drug abuse treatment and follow-up; assists in the development of formal behavior plans; coordinates along with teacher and monitors mainstreaming opportunities; interfaces with other agencies, districts, physicians, and family and student therapists when developing and implementing treatment plans; works as a member of a school treatment team and assists in its ongoing professional development; Medi-Cal billing.

Working Conditions
Working conditions described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Variations in conditions may occur under certain circumstances.

Physical Demands
Incumbents regularly stand and sit for long periods of time; walk short distances on a regular basis; use hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard or other office equipment; reach with hands and
arms; stoop, kneel, or crouch; speak clearly and distinctly to answer telephones and to provide information; see to read fine print and operate computer; hear and understand voice over telephone and in person; and move and transport materials weighing up to 20 pounds.

Environment
Duties are performed in a specialized classroom or office environment.

Approved: Anisha Munshi, Ed.D.  Date
Assistant Superintendent-Personnel Services

Revised: September 2001
Revised: 5/3/11, 6/14/2011 (Updated Working Conditions and Physical Demands)
Revised: 9/16/11 Added to credentials: either the Social Worker or School Psychologist endorsement in combination with a MFT or MFCC license
Revised: 7/20/18 Certification updated
Revised: 4/1/19 Added Medi-Cal billing
Revised: 9/11/20 Certification and Education updated