Psychological Services

I. Purpose

To implement Board of Education of Baltimore County (Board) Policy 5430 by establishing guidelines for the school system’s psychological services program.

II. Statement of Intent

A. The coordinator of the Office of Psychological Services will establish procedures for the psychological services program for all Baltimore County public schools.

B. The school psychology program will ensure that all students, including students with targeted and intensive needs, have equitable access to a comprehensive continuum of psychological consultation, assessment, and intervention services to address learning, behavioral, and mental health needs in accordance with applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

III. Applicable Standards

School psychologists will adhere to the professional and ethical standards of the National Association of School Psychologists and the American Psychological Association.

IV. Guidelines

A. Highly qualified, certified, and licensed school psychologists within the Office of Psychological Services will provide consultation services to school staff and parent, and consultation, assessment, and intervention services to students.

B. Psychological consultation, assessment, and intervention services may include:
   1. Developing schoolwide positive behavior interventions and supports through school-based problem-solving teams, including behavior teams and student support teams.
   2. Developing academic and behavioral interventions for students with
3. targeted and intensive needs through student support teams.
4. Determining student eligibility for disabilities under Section 504 and developing 504 plans through student support teams.
5. Conducting functional behavioral assessments and developing behavior intervention plans for students with targeted and intensive needs through student support teams and Individual Education Program teams (IEP).
6. Conducting psychological assessments of cognitive, behavioral, adaptive, social, emotional, and academic functioning for students suspected of disabilities and in need of accommodations and services under Section 504 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), as amended.
7. Determining student eligibility for disabilities and services under the IDEA and developing goals, objectives, and services through the IEP teams.
8. Planning for students with special needs involving cultural and linguistic diversity, sensory deficits, neuropsychological issues, communication, social skills, and emotional conditions.
9. Providing behavioral and mental health services for students with educational needs, including psychological counseling, crisis response, threat assessments, traumatic loss support, and consultation with school staff, parents, independent providers, and community agencies.
10. Providing professional development and training to school staff and parents to support high academic achievement and positive behavior in schools.


Related Policy: Board of Education Policy 5470, Wellness

Rule: Superintendent of Schools
Approved: 09/7/10

Copyright © 2015 Baltimore County Public Schools. All rights reserved.