

Broere Counseling

Kathleen Black Broere

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Dear Honorable School Board Member and Superintendent Ms. Guardipee-Hall:

It has been a rewarding and impactful nine months serving our students as their Tele-Health Therapist.

After serving our students at the school for twenty-three years, I was eager to see how the transition to being there for them via tele-health would work. I am pleased to report that, in many ways, it has provided even more benefit and access than in person counseling.

As we all know, our students have grown up with cell phones. For many their cell phones are their primary form of communication and the form of communication with which they are most comfortable.

I was able to use this form of communication as a therapeutic tool in the following ways:

- To find and connect with students through text, messenger or email when most needed or if they have missed their appointment and/or needed to reschedule.

- To provide the flexibility to schedule their appointments at time that works best for them and to accommodate test, finals, recruiters, sports and demands on their time. This has led to a higher rate of connections and positive communication and a lower rate of missed appointments.

- To provide therapy after normal school day hours and be available on weekends and holidays if needed and/or for emergencies.

- To improve our ability to better serve our students in outlying communities and virtual learners.

It has also improved my ability to connect with those that do, and can play, a critical role in the life of our students:

- Parents and Guardians.

- Staff in need of support.

- Coordinate with and provide guidance, resources and supervision to others in the mental health care community.

It would be privilege to continue working with all of you that serve on the Board, staff of the Browning school district and our community to support and improve the lives of our students. With that goal, I would request that you renew my contract for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss expanding my contract if you would like to increase access to more students or other schools.

Please contact me if you have any questions or would like any additional information.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Black Broere M.Ed., LMFT, LCPC