

## **Minidoka School District 2018-19 Behavior Supports Report**

The Minidoka County School District is developing a District wide **Behavior Support Plan** to document the ongoing support we provide our students and staff. These supports can help teachers capitalize on instructional time and decrease disruptions, which are crucial as our schools hold academic and social accountability measures for all students. The following resources have been provided this year to implement the behavior plan.

**Medicaid** is a jointly funded, Federal-State health insurance program which covers low income groups including children, the aged, blind, and/or disabled. Accessing and providing Medicaid billable services is an onerous task which some districts in Idaho decline to take advantage of. The Minidoka County School District desires to support students to the highest level possible in facilitating access to the educational curriculum, therefore we choose to do the added paperwork necessary to provide this level of service to students. *Our District bills \$750,000 yearly in Medicaid services.*

**Community Based Rehabilitation Services (CBRS)** are Medicaid billable services implemented by a qualified CBRS provider as behavioral support for students who qualify for special education services. The students must have a substantial functional impairment, Medicaid eligibility, a medical mental health diagnosis and the need to learn replacement behaviors. *Our District has provided 5,428 hours of CBRS services to 32 students so far this school year.*

**Behavior Intervention (BI)** is a special education service that is used to promote a student's ability to participate in the student's specific educational services through a consistent, assertive, and continuous intervention process addressing behavior goals identified on the IEP. Students qualifying to receive these services must have an intellectual disability, Medicaid eligibility and have maladaptive behaviors that interfere with the student's ability to access an education. *So far this school year we have provided 4,478 hours of BI services and 68 hours of BI consultation for 17 students.*

Minidoka County School District has four **Behavior Technicians** on staff. Two of these technicians provide services at the Total Learning Center / Mt. Harrison Jr. High School. The other two positions provide behavior support as needed in the District under the supervision of the Special Services Director and the school psychologists. *Together these four behavior technicians will provide 4,420 hours of services.*

In the identification of students with severe behaviors, we employ two **School Psychologists**. There are 102 students who have Behavior Intervention Plans (BIP) on their IEPs. Their behavior support may come from a variety of resources including CBRS and BI contracted providers, District behavior techs, special education teachers and special education paraprofessionals. Our school psychologists use assessments specific to behavior including the Behavior Assessment Screening for Children (BASC) and the Conners Comprehensive Behavior Rating Scales. *The district has spent \$3,482 on these testing instruments this school year.*

The District uses the **Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI)** model to train our staff on how to work with children in crisis. The model trains staff on how to deescalate situations and also safely deal with students who are striking out physically so as to minimize harm or injury to both student and /or staff. TL Lowder has trained 68 staff members. *Training material costs were \$3,122 with a training expense of \$4,400.*

Concern over the increased awareness of **mental health needs** in the District we have chosen to support students with mental health challenges which impact both behaviors and academics. The District is providing social support groups in the elementary schools at a cost of \$9,000. The district has also implemented mental health counseling services for individual students with a budget of \$10,000. *Thus far we have served 83 students at \$4,500 with these resources in addition to \$32,150 in billable Medicaid mental health services.*

To assist teachers with **individual student behaviors**, the district has contracted with TL Lowder to provide behavior support as needed to all staff with *285 hours spread across all 9 schools* in the district throughout the year. Some of these hours are still available to staff as requested.

**Behavior professional development** has been presented to the staff at Acequia, Rupert, Paul and Heyburn Elementary Schools. *So far this year, Ms. Lowder has provided 12 hours of PD at the District elementary schools to assist in strengthening behavior foundations.*

In implementing the **District Behavior Support Plan** the District is also providing unlimited hours with Ms. Lowder to new teachers to assist in setting up their classrooms. In addition, she helps new teachers with individual student behavior management. *At this time, the district has spent \$400 for these services.*

**Teaching with Love and Logic**, which is a nationwide program that helps establish boundaries and procedures for students, has also been provided to all second year teachers in the District. Second year teachers meet with the Love and Logic instructor where they learn together. Applying the skills they acquire, the teachers then bring scenarios from their classroom experience to the next meeting and discuss how to fine tune their classroom systems and trouble shoot problem behaviors.

As you can see the Minidoka County School District has placed a high priority on supporting students and staff in addressing behavior and mental health. We feel it is vitally important to prioritize and put the time and resources in supporting students and staff in these areas which are critical for student success.