

Broere Counseling

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

It has been rewarding and impactful serving our students, for another year, as their Tele-Health Therapist.

As I mentioned last year, I was eager to see how telehealth would work. I am pleased to report that, again, in many ways, it has provided even more benefits and access than in-person counseling.

By continuing to connect with students through their primary form of communication, their phones, I was able to use this 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 the time that works best for them and to accommodate tests, 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.

Because of my commitment and desire to provide quality therapy to the district, I have billed at a flat rate of \$2000 per month and not per session. I am not charging for meetings with families, school counselors, weekends, emergency visits, overhead, travel, or other expenses. In addition, I schedule clients over holidays and summer break to maintain support. This is financially advantageous to the district.

The district now has two Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor Candidates (LCPC-C) that have completed their 3000-hour internship under my supervision. Supervision consisted of two hours of face-to-face consultation every week. The last step for Jason Andreas and Daniella Rinehart Langlois is to sit for their state boards. Congratulations to them for their perseverance and dedication.

Another benefit that I was surprised by is the number of clients I continue to provide services to after graduation, upon their request, billing their insurance or pro bono. This ability to continue therapy after they graduate is because this board and superintendent had the foresight to support telehealth for their students. The telehealth format allows for a seamless transition. Thank you.

It would be a privilege to continue working with all of you that serve on the Board, the Browning School district staff, 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, 2023, through June 30, 2024. 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.

With Gratitude,

Kathleen Black Broere M.Ed., LMFT, LCPC