



**North Pike School District
Office of Special Services
Responses to Request for Proposal (RFP)
Questions
Psychological Services**

The following questions were submitted to Paige Pigott, Director of Special Services for the North Pike School District (NPSD), for inquiry regarding the Psychological Services Request for Proposals (RFP) advertised in the Enterprise Journal on August 11, 2020 and August 18, 2020 and posted under Special Education on the North Pike School District webpage on August 11, 2020.

- 1. The intended service volume seems to indicate that 1 full time Psychologist will be needed for this program? Can you please confirm if there will be any demand for more than one Psychologist amid any increase in services or workload carryover from the 19-20 SY?**

The North Pike School District (NPSD) currently requires a School Psychologist or Psychiatrist to conduct evaluation components requiring such license to assess social and emotional concerns as determined by the Multidisciplinary Education Team (MET) or Individualized Education Program (IEP) committee. In addition, a School Psychologist or Psychiatrist is required to participate in such meetings to assist the MET or IEP committee with interpreting data when determining whether a student meets requirements of a student with a disability for specified categories noted within the Individuals with Disabilities Policies and Procedures, State Board Policy 74.19. The NPSD only requires these services on a part-time contractual basis, depending on determinations by the MET and IEP committees.

- 2. What is the actual work schedule for the School Psychologist during the 1st year's service period?**

Currently there are approximately four evaluations needing an assessment component conducted by a School Psychologist or Psychiatrist. There is no set schedule, as contractual work will be scheduled as the Multidisciplinary Education Team (MET) or Individualized Education Program (IEP) committee determines appropriate and parental consent for assessment is obtained. It is anticipated the hours of services not to exceed 10-20 hours monthly for assessment or consultative services and/or 1-2 psychological evaluations.



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- 3. What is the actual work schedule for the counselor or counselors during the 1st year's service period on the 2019-2020 school can you please provide the number of students serviced and how many different campuses they are located?**

See response to number two in this document.

There are four schools within the North Pike School District where students receive these services; North Pike Elementary, North Pike Upper Elementary, North Pike Middle School, and North Pike High School. North Pike Elementary, Upper Elementary, and High School are all three located in close proximity. North Pike Middle School is located 7.6 miles from these three schools and the district office. In addition, some preschool aged children are provided services at nearby facilities and mutually agreed upon locations.

- 4. Are teletherapy or telepractice organizations being considered for this bid?**

The North Pike School District (NPSD) is open to any therapy or service an Individualized Education Program Committee (IEP) finds appropriate for a student in order to receive educational benefit, and appropriate evaluation, and/or ensure access to a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) in accordance with State Board Policy 74.19.

- 5. If the services are to be provided in person, is travel between your school locations allowed to be billable as part of the counselor's work day?**

Travel will be reimbursed from the North Pike Special Services office located at 1036 Jaguar Trail, Summit, MS 39666 to school sites or from the school site visited for first session on each day to the above address. All schools with the exception of the North Pike Middle (NPM) are located within walking distance. NPM is located 7.6 miles from the above address. Provider should schedule students at NPM on a day to start first session to limit travel. However, in the



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event that schedules will not permit based on student needs, travel will be reimbursed at the district travel mileage rate.

6. Can you provide the current hourly rate you are being charged for these services for in person and virtual?

In the 2019-2020 school year, services were provided on a salary rate of pay for a provider who performed these services in addition to other services. Therefore, the NPSD currently does not have a contractual provider for these services.

7. Would any assigned Psychologist be provided with a district office space with access to your IEP system and other technology systems, such as a network printer?

The North Pike Special Services office has a space that will be made available for the provider to access the IEP system, communal use of a desktop computer, and office copiers/printers. However, a laptop computer must be provided by the contractor.

8. Will the district be providing the testing and evaluation materials for any assigned Psychologist? Or would they be required to provide their own?

The district will provide evaluation materials for assessments which do not require a School Psychologist or Psychiatrist license. If an assessment requires such license, the School Psychologist or Psychiatrist will need to provide those assessments.

9. From a rates perspective, we find that most Psychologists prefer to bill hourly for their services. Can we submit hourly pricing that would cover all initial and re-evaluations, IEP Meeting attendance, BIPs, and FBAs, to ease any operational or accounting burden for your school and our company?

Yes, an hourly rate is acceptable, please refer to the Budget Form on page 18 of the RFP. If contractor charges per assessment, detail in the Plan of Action the names of the assessments and the maximum number of hours to conduct the assessment and provide the detailed assessment report.



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