

HOLMES DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARD

MENTAL HEALTH ALLOCATION PLAN

2018-2019

Delivery of evidenced-based mental health services:

Holmes District School Board will use the Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) model to implement Mental Health Services in our District Schools. Students will participate in awareness and prevention efforts at each school. Faculty and staff will participate in evidenced based professional development to better integrate mental health awareness and identify early warning signs for our students. Programs designed to increase positive behavior and extinguish negative behaviors that decrease opportunities for success, will be used at each school. Holmes District Schools will use the early warning system in focus to identify at risk students that may need intervention on Tier II. Administrative walkthroughs, teacher reports, community referrals, crisis intervention episodes, along with parent requests will also be used to identify students at risk for mental health and/or substance abuse services at Tier II or III.

School guidance, district mental health staff, and community agencies (multiagency agreement) will provide tier II services. Guidance counselors will conduct small groups designed to address the following issues as needed: grief, anger management, substance abuse, family/relationship issues, social skills, character education and de-escalation strategies. Progress monitoring will be completed by pre and post assessment and utilizing data from the early warning system and service plans. District mental health staff will assist in triage for services and assessment along with monitoring of effectiveness of services and outcomes. Outside agencies for Tier II services will provide small groups for awareness, prevention, and specific subject matter, such as: substance abuse (Chemical Addictions Recovery Effort), violence prevention (Green Dot), tobacco use prevention (Students Working Against Tobacco).

Students identified as needing Tier III services will be referred for mental health and substance abuse evaluation to contract agencies (Canopy Behavioral Services) and Agencies that are involved within the multiagency agreement (Big Bend Community Based Care). The referral process will be conducted via the One Referral Form established by Big Bend Community Based Care and the multi-agency meeting. Referrals at the school level will be sent to the district mental health department for allocation to the appropriate provider. Students will be identified for Tier II services by utilizing data from the early warning system, Tier II post assessment, a history of crisis intervention to include Mental Health hospitalization, violent or self-injurious behavior. Students will receive a diagnostic assessment through the interagency agreements and service contracts. Students that are determined to be at need for mental health or substance abuse treatment will receive individual counseling, crisis intervention services and wraparound case management services by those agencies. The District will provide coordination of care services implemented by the school guidance department and the District mental health staff to provide continuity of care for students in Tier III services.

Supports that address mental health needs:

Using the MTSS model for interventions, Holmes District schools will identify students at need for services and aid in the development of a service plan. The guidance department at each school will facilitate a meeting to discuss the needs of the student, to determine level of care. Members at the meeting should include, the family, teachers, administration, care providers, and student where appropriate. Mental health diagnosis will be determined by referral to the contracting agency or community mental health provider, using the “one referral” form created by the multi-agency mental health team. Intervention and treatment will be monitored by the service team, including the district mental health staff and school guidance. Each child referred will be monitored by the early warning system and service team to determine progress and recovery goals are being met.

Services for students with one or more co-occurring mental health or substance abuse diagnosis and students at risk of such diagnosis:

Holmes District Schools will use the early warning system in focus to identify at risk students that may need intervention on Tier II. Administrative walkthroughs, teacher reports, community referrals, crisis intervention episodes, along with parent requests will also be used to identify students at risk for mental health and/or substance abuse services at Tier II or III. Students at need for treatment for mental health or substance abuse treatment will be referred to the contracted agency or community agencies for assessment, diagnosis, and treatment. The district mental health staff and school guidance counselors will monitor services and communicate with service providers. All students will receive prevention and awareness services to address co-occurring disorders.

Collaboration with partners and community agencies:

District Staff will meet with the Community Based Care Team quarterly to improve service delivery and continuity of care. With the addition of the Crisis Action Team and the Mobile Crisis Team, Holmes District Schools will collaborate and develop referral processes to expedite urgent mental health needs. The Community Based Care Team has developed a “one referral” form to expedite the referral process. District staff and school-based counselors will complete releases of information and communicate with care providers to improve efficacy of treatment and coordination of care. District staff will collaborate with community agencies to help provide the least restrictive level of care.

Coordination of care with other providers:

District and school counselors will complete releases of information for all care providers involved with a student’s care. (primary care, mental health, substance abuse, and other specialties) Communication with care providers will be completed prior to service team meetings and educational team meetings. Each school will have access to the releases of information of the providers utilized by the district referral process. District staff will also share information after completing the necessary release of information. Consolidating information to present to other providers will be completed by the student’s care manager.

Data of students served:

The district will compile data for the current year to identify the number of students identified, assessed and referred for services.

Number and credentials of mental health providers employed by the district:

Service providers employed by the district: The district currently employs seven certified guidance counselors. Additionally, the School Safety Specialist Administrator will supervise the delivery of mental health services, along with assessment and consultation services. (masters level counselor) The District will employ a school social worker to coordinate care for students. The social worker will be credentialed at a bachelor's level or higher.

Number and credentials of mental health providers contracted by the district:

The district has contracted with Canopy Behavior Solutions to provide mental health services to students with Disabilities and general education students. The provider will be at a master's level or higher. Holmes District Schools has a multi-agency agreement with service providers of mental health and substance abuse. Providers attend a quarterly meeting to address service provision, access and referral issues.

Expenditures:

The District added 1 school safety specialist/ mental health administrator and 1 school social worker for the 2018-2019 school year. Ten percent of the allocation will be used for administrative expenses. The remaining 90% will be allocated for direct services contract, and provide for newly added mental health positions. The School safety specialist is a master's level counselor and will supervise and provide coordination of services, assessment, and participate in needs assessment/ re-entry team meetings. The duties of this position will account for 15% of the mental health allocation. The district will employ a school social worker, at a bachelor's level or higher. This position will coordinate services for students within the district. The position will account for approximately 45% of the mental health allocation. The remaining allocation will be used for direct mental health and substance abuse treatment with contracted agencies and training for faculty and staff. Contract providers will utilize third party insurance prior to using district mental health funding.