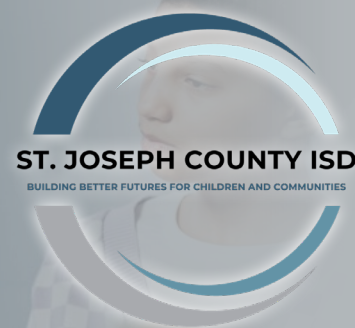




School Social Worker

How do School Social Workers assist students?

School Social Workers provide a comprehensive approach to ensuring student success. They assist children and families by examining factors in the home, school, and/or community that are impacting a student's educational success and then assist in reducing those barriers to learning.

These barriers may include but are not limited to: school attendance, basic health and mental health needs, safety including risk for abuse or neglect, basic family needs, social/emotional and behavioral needs and learning factors such as special education needs.

What else do School Social Workers do?

School Social Workers support parents to understand their child's developmental and educational needs, to effectively advocate for their child in the school, and to understand special education services.

School Social Workers assist teachers and other staff in understanding a student's cultural and familial factors and help staff to meet the desired educational outcomes of diverse learners. They assist teachers by providing or directing educators to appropriate resources and by ensuring that they understand their role in the special education process.

School Social Workers assist in the draft and implementation of prevention programs and policies with administrators in an effort to address external and internal needs that impact school climate and student learning and success.

School Social Workers serve as a connection to the home and community, as well as coordinate community agency/school collaborations in areas such as mental health, behavioral programs, and student re-entry into school after institutional experiences/living.



St. Joseph County ISD

School Social Workers are hired by the ISD and are assigned positions in local school districts throughout the county. They work collaboratively with local districts staff as well as other ISD staff to provide special education services for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs).



Service

School Social Workers are a part of the Multidisciplinary Evaluation Team when there are social, emotional, or behavioral concerns for a student. They may also provide direct or consult services to students with an Individualized Education Plan who have needs in these areas that impact the student's education.



Tier 1 & Tier 2 Supports

School Social Workers are able to participate in student-focused meetings. They are able to offer suggestions and strategies for general education teachers to use in their classrooms to support social, emotional and/or behavioral needs.

Resources

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports



St. Joseph County Resource Guide



Contact Us



(269) 467-5400



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