

Counseling – All children face challenges that can affect their learning and behavior. These can include:

- Stress and anxiety
- Worries about being bullied
- Problems with family or friends
- Loneliness or rejections
- Disabilities
- Depression
- Thoughts of suicide or hurting others
- Concerns about sexuality
- Academic difficulties
- Managing their time poorly
- Responsibility and self-management
- Dropping out
- Alcohol and substance abuse
- Fear of violence, terrorism and war

School psychologists are available to help parents, educators, and the community understand and solve these problems.

Mental Health Care Provision

- Develop and maintain collaborative relationships with community mental health services
- Develop coordinated school/community crisis response
- Consult with policymakers on/and advocate for mental health and education legislation
- Develop partnerships with parent and educators to create healthy school environments
- Provide in-service training for parents, educators, and community members

Research and Planning

- Link research-based practices to mental health policies and programs
- Evaluate the effectiveness of academic programs, behavior management systems, and other services
- Generate new knowledge about learning and behavior
- Contribute to planning and evaluating school-wide reform and restructuring



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**DEPARTMENT OF
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SPECIAL EDUCATION**

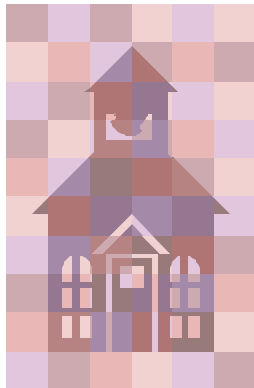
*School
Psychologists
in Naperville
District 203*



Who are School Psychologists

School psychologists have specialized training in both psychology and education. They use their training and skills to team with educators, parents, and other mental health professionals to ensure that every child learns in a safe, healthy, and supportive environment.

In Illinois, School Psychologists hold a Master's Degree or higher in Psychology, Educational Psychology, or School Psychology. They serve a one-year internship under the supervision of an experienced School Psychologist and are then awarded a certificate through the Illinois State Board of Education if they have been successful in completing all requirements.



What do School Psychologists do?

Consultation

- Collaborate with teachers, parents, and administrators about problems in learning and behavior to establish healthy and effective alternatives
- Help others understand child development and how it affects learning and behavior
- Strengthen working relationships between educators, parents, and community services
- Establish and review outcomes of interventions
- Adjust strategies to improve outcomes
- Advocate for the needs of individual students both within and outside of the school setting

Assessment – use a wide variety of techniques at an individual, group, and systems level to evaluate:

- Academic skills and learning aptitudes
- Personality, emotional, and behavioral development
- Social competence
- Adaptive behavior
- Learning environments and school climate
- Effectiveness of intervention strategies
- Eligibility for special education

Academic and Behavior Intervention

- Help families and schools deal with crisis and loss
- Work directly with children and families to address barriers to academic and social success
- Help students develop skills to solve conflicts and problems independently
- Teach students social skills, self-management, and coping strategies
- Provide psychological counseling for children and families
- Consult with teachers on classroom interventions

Prevention

- Design and evaluate educational programs for children
- Provide parents and teachers with the skills to cope with diverse student learners
- Help foster tolerance, understanding, and appreciation of diversity in the school community
- Develop school wide initiatives to make schools safer and more effective

