

EL CAMINO REAL ALLIANCE

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECOMMENDATION

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 17, 2019

AGENDA ITEM:

Increasing schedule of the Psychiatric Social Worker (PSW) for the spring semester.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ISSUE:

Currently ECR has a PSW at the school for three days a week. There is a need to have the PSW for all five days a week. The PSW supports the school climate and safety through interventions, lunch groups, and presentations to prevent social isolation. The PSW implements school-wide positive behaviors and interventions to create a more nurturing environment for students to learn. The PSW has been a vital component of the multidisciplinary team that has cut down on suspensions and has met students for individual counseling sessions. The PSW was also part of the team to create a referral form, giving teachers and staff the opportunity to refer students for additional services. The PSW provides mental health services to 80+ students on a weekly, bi-weekly, and as-needed basis. The PSW has provided Crisis Support Services (includes self-injury, suicide, threat assessments, and a variety of other topics) 108 times to date. The PSW has provided group sessions and visited a variety of classrooms to speak on Mindfulness, Stress Management, Coping Strategies, Teen Dating Violence, and Internet Safety. The PSW has also provided parent trainings throughout the school year. Having a PSW at ECR all five days a week will support our students and respond effectively to the unique needs of the individual student.

PERSONNEL INVOLVED:

AP Counseling, AP Student Support Services, Counselors, and the Executive Director.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS (IF ANY):

The total cost to have the PSW on campus the additional two days a week would be \$27,000 for the spring semester.

IMPACT ON SCHOOL MISSION, VISION OR GOALS (IF ANY):

Having a PSW at ECR all five days a week would enhance the support ECR could provide its students on a daily basis.

OPTIONS OR SOLUTIONS:

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the motion to increase the PSW's schedule to five days a week from the current three days a week, for the spring semester. The additional two days a week will allow ECR students access to a PSW on a daily basis. As we move to have additional resources at the school to take a more proactive stance against the difficulties our students face, the PSW will help greatly in this area.

PROPOSED MOTION:

Motion to approve increasing the schedule of the Psychiatric Social Worker an additional two days a week for the spring semester.