

ENGLEWOOD PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT

JOB DESCRIPTION

**POSITION TITLE: SCHOOL PHYSICAL THERAPIST
(Certificated/10-months)**

QUALIFICATIONS:

1. Hold a Master's Degree from an accredited college or university
2. Hold a valid New Jersey educational services certificate with a school physical therapist endorsement
3. Hold a valid license issued by the New Jersey Board of Physical Therapy
4. Hold current CPR/AED certifications and a current Basic First Aid certification.
5. Show evidence of successful physical therapy experience and experience working with children and adolescents, preferably in a school setting
6. Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of child growth and development, wellness education, community health and social service resources, and current health issues
7. Exhibit a personality that demonstrates enthusiasm and the interpersonal skills to relate well with students, staff, administration, parents, the community, and health and social service agencies
8. Demonstrate the ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing, using proper grammar and vocabulary
9. Proficient use of technology for data management, information retrieval, visual and audio presentations, and telecommunications
10. Demonstrate aptitude and competence for assigned responsibilities

REPORTS TO: The School Physical Therapist reports to the Director of Pupil Personnel Services and/or the Building Principal and/or his/her designee.

JOB GOAL: The School Physical Therapist provides a full range of physical therapy services, following established protocols and the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), including identification, diagnosis and treatment plans to promote physical and mental development.

PERFORMANCE RESPONSIBILITIES:

The essential functions and elements of this position include, but, are not limited to, the following:

1. Plans and conducts screening and initial evaluation of students by means of observation and professionally accepted assessments to determine the level of ability and disability relative to the need for physical therapy.
2. Works with building administrators to inform parents and appropriate staff of the need for corrective care.

3. Participates, when requested, on the Child Study Team and the Intervention and Referral Services (I & RS) Team in the identification and placement of students in need of specialized services.
4. Plans and implements habilitative/rehabilitative programs of therapy following established physical therapy protocols in accordance with the student's Individualized Education Program ("IEP") that will develop, improve, sustain, or restore skills in academic, daily living, school, and leisure activities.
5. Observes students in the school setting and advises the Child Study Team and instructional personnel when the need to make adjustments in the instructional program is needed.
6. Recommends and trains students in the use of assistive technology or orthotic devices, including the use of prosthetic devices.
7. Evaluates student to ascertain type of physical therapy treatment required.
8. Performs appropriate physical treatment procedures.
9. Observes and accurately records student's reactions and progress.
10. Recognizes potential hazards and dangerous situations and takes those measures required to ensure their removal and/or connection.
11. Works harmoniously and cooperatively with colleagues.
12. Prepares reports and maintains records and files.
13. Reads and interprets the NJ Physical Therapy Practice Act and the legal aspects of the practice of physical therapy in New Jersey.
14. Applies the Code of Ethics, Guide for Professional Conduct, and Standards for Physical Therapy Services of the American Physical Therapy Association to daily practice.
15. Keeps the professional staff, health care providers, and parents informed with treatment objectives and student progress. Provides instruction so that parents and others may reinforce and assist with the treatment.
16. Maintains and ensures an accurate student therapy record system.
17. Recommends a budget to the Director of Pupil Personnel Services to support the program.
18. Maintains in safe, working condition for all physical therapy equipment.
19. Visits student home to assess family needs related to a child's functioning independently, or upon the request of the Director of Pupil Personnel Services or supervisor.
20. Consults with the Child Study Team and other school personnel regarding the health of a child and the home situation, recognizing that the total family health and home status is important to the welfare of the child.
21. Notifies immediately appropriate personnel of any evidence of substance abuse, child abuse, child neglect, severe medical conditions, potential suicide, or individuals appearing to be under the influence of alcohol, controlled substances, or anabolic steroids.
22. Understands and communicates current developments in the physical therapy field through reading of professional journals, participation in professional development, and involvement in professional organizations.
23. Recommends policies and procedures that promote a healthy school environment and a clean, safe facility. Identifies and communicate to the building principal any unsafe practices or conditions.
24. Attends required staff meetings and serves, as appropriate, on staff committees.

25. Maintains a safe working condition and operates electronic and other equipment needed to carry out job functions and responsibilities.
26. Displays the highest ethical and professional behavior and standards when working with students, parents, school personnel, and other agencies associated with the District.
27. Protects confidentiality of records and information gained as part of exercising professional duties and uses discretion in sharing such information within legal confines.
28. Adheres to New Jersey school law, State Board of Education rules and regulations, Board of Education policies and regulations, school regulations and procedures, and contractual obligations.
29. Performs such other appropriate duties as required under law or as may be assigned by the Director of Pupil Personnel Services and/or the Building Principal and/or his/her designee.

APPOINTMENT: Appointment shall be made by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and/or his/her designee.

TERMS OF

EMPLOYMENT: Ten (10) month employee. Salary to be established by the Board of Education upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools and/or his/her designee and according to collective negotiations agreement (if applicable).

EVALUATION: Performance of this position will be evaluated annually in accordance with the law and the provisions of the Board's policy on evaluation of certificated personnel and the administrative procedures on certificated staff evaluation.

BOE APPROVAL:

RESOLUTION: