

District Psychologist Parent Information

The district psychologist is engaged to assist the students of Canadian Rockies Public Schools when significant needs are identified. At times, the district psychologist may be asked to respond to needs for information from parents, school personnel, medical consultants, and other helping professionals. A district psychologist can provide a trained perspective which contributes to a better understanding of children.

The district psychologist provides reports and recommendations to inform the creation of a unique individualized program plan to meet the needs of, and draw on the strengths of, your child.

The Role:

District psychologists have a variety of responsibilities:

<p>A) <u>Student Psychoeducational Assessment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intellectual assessment • Behavioural assessment • Data collection on background information and observations • Agency contacts • Oral and written reports including recommendations • Conferencing with appropriate personnel and parents 	<p>B) <u>Consultation with the following school team members:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers • Parents and Guardians • School Administration • Relevant Educational Personnel • Other School Systems • Community Agencies • Private Professionals • Indigenous Liaison Teachers <p>As part of the consultation process, the psychologist addresses the identified needs of the student through providing suggested strategies to meet these needs.</p>
<p>C) <u>Other Tasks including:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making recommendations for additional service providers such as a social worker, occupational therapist, speech pathologist, psychiatrist, ophthalmologist, audiologist or paediatrician. • Recommending long-term counselling such as family therapy or private counselling. • Providing guidance in establishing preventative mental health programs. • Assisting others to understand the range of children’s development. 	

How to Access:

- School learning teams usually refer children for whom they have learning, behavioural, emotional and/or social concerns.
- Outside agencies may suggest a district psychologist’s involvement.
- Parents must be informed regarding the reasons for a referral to a school psychologist and written permission from the parent must be obtained.