

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

February 9, 2022

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education

From: Monifa B. McKnight, Interim Superintendent of Schools

Subject: Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SPC-12-16-2021-03-A)

During the Special Populations Committee meeting, Board members requested the following information:

Question A

Ms. Silvestre and Mrs. Smondrowski requested a graphic explaining the role of counselors, psychologists, and social workers.

Question A Response

Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (SISP) are those affiliated with providing school-based physical, social-emotional, and mental health prevention, intervention, transition and follow-up services for all students and families—school counselors, school social workers, and school psychologists. They are available to provide direct services for all school children and youth to help maintain and promote mental and physical health and intervene when related challenges create barriers to learning. Direct services are provided by means such as education, counseling, consultation and individual assessment. In addition, they provide staff training, parent education, community collaboration and engage student service programs. Each of these professional disciplines have specializations indicated on the attached graph—Specialized Instructional Support Personnel (Adapted from American School Counselor Association, National Association of School Psychologists SISP position).

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Ruschelle Reuben, chief of teaching, learning, and schools via email.

MBM:RR:NB:vnr

Attachment

Copy to:
Executive Staff
Ms. Webb



Specialized Instructional Support Personnel

School Counselors	School Psychologists	School Social Workers
Specialized knowledge of curriculum and instruction	Ability to administer, analyze and interpret psychological and psycho-educational assessments.	Understanding of school, family and community systems
Design and implement comprehensive programs to help all students build fundamental academic and social/emotional skills	Select and implement appropriate, evidence-based specialized interventions	Link students and families with appropriate community services
Prepare all students for successful transitions from school to post-secondary	Promote success for targeted students with particular needs	Facilitate services for targeted students with particular needs