Position Description

Position:  Physical Therapist  
Board Approved:  for Board approval 3/11/2020

Salary Grade:  Core Certificated Salary Schedule 5  
FLSA:  Exempt

Summary

Under the direction of the Special Education Department and an assigned Administrator, the Physical Therapist Educator serves inside and outside the classroom setting for assignments as determined by the needs of the District. A physical therapist evaluates students with motor and/or sensory disabilities in addition to planning and implementing interventions so that these students may access the educational curriculum in the least restrictive environment.

Distinguishing Career Features

The Physical Therapist will evaluate and plan for physical therapy intervention required in the school setting. Their primary function will be to assist students in gaining functional independence to more completely benefit from the educational environment. In addition, this individual will need to work effectively with community organizations, communicate effectively with District personnel, families and the community. The Physical Therapist will need to support the value of education and the mission and philosophy of the school District and comply with all District policies, rules and regulations.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Assess identified students to determine whether there is an educationally significant need for physical therapy.
- Participate on the Individual Education Plan (IEP) team to establish present levels, goals, objectives and the length of time required to achieve the goals.
- Schedule and deliver the physical therapy interventions with students as determined in the IEP.
- Consult with special education teachers, general education teachers, paraprofessionals, speech language specialists and occupational therapists, physical education teachers, nurses, school administrators, bus drivers and other school personnel as well as parents to provide information and recommendations regarding students with physical disabilities.
- Communicate with physicians, and service agencies regarding orthotics and adaptive equipment needs for the student.
- Instruct classroom personnel (teachers/paraprofessionals) in safe transfer techniques.
- Instruct and supervise classroom personnel in carrying out specific programs for individual students.
- Monitor the students' progress toward goals and objectives and provide written reviews at designated reporting times.
- Assist students in developing feelings of self-worth and in making social adjustments that permit them to cope with disabilities.
- Maintain appropriate, confidential records and provide timely reports.
- In coordination with the SPED departments, order and maintain an adequate inventory of materials and supplies.
- Assist with public awareness activities that lead to a better understanding of the needs of exceptional children.
- Keep abreast of new information, ideas and techniques in pediatric physical therapy and
dropact in educational environments.
- Obtain prior approval for all special activities and expenditures.
- Ensure that school District policies are observed during all activities.
- Adhere to all District health and safety policies.
- Other duties as assigned by the Director of Special Services and building administrator,
which are consistent with the general requirements and qualifications for the position.

Qualifications

- Knowledge and Skills
  - Graduate of an accredited physical therapy program with entry-level credentials in physical
  therapy.
  - Current licensure to practice physical therapy issued by the CA State Board.
  - Knowledge of pediatric conditions and pediatric physical therapy.
  - Knowledge of and compliance with CA special education regulations.

- Abilities
  - Ability to share examples of successfully affecting student achievement in the curriculum
  area of focus.
  - Proven ability to utilize data to inform instruction towards IEP goals.
  - Record of modeling interactive, ongoing collaborative learning.
  - Demonstrated experience in reflective practice and cycle of continuous improvement.

- Physical Abilities
  - Requires ability to lift, carry, push and/or pull items with a strength factor of light work.
  - Hear and speak to exchange information in person and on the telephone.
  - Possess dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard and adjust computer
  equipment.
  - Bend at the waist, kneel, or crouch. Sit or stand for extended periods of time. Climb a stool
  or ladder and reach above shoulders.

- Education and Experience
  - Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT) degree.

- Licenses and Certificates
  - A current California driver’s license and proof of insurance are required.

- Working Conditions
  Work is performed indoors/outdoors where minimal safety considerations exist.

This job/class description describes the general nature of the work performed, representative duties
as well as the typical qualifications needed for acceptable performance. It is not intended to be a
complete list of all responsibilities, duties, work steps and skills required of the job.