

Mental Health Coordinator

Loudonville-Perrysville EVSD

Loudonville, OH Ashland County

Initiative Type(s):

Mental health services

Community Partner(s):

Board of alcohol drug and mental health services

Description of Initiative:

The mental health coordinator will oversee all mental health, PBIS, social-emotional learning and associated trainings. The district also has school-based liaisons provided by the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Ashland County. This coordinator will align counseling and liaison services to our students most in need. This position will help train staff in mindfulness activities and interventions, which then will be used with students.

Initiative Benefits:

There is no data yet. The program begins March 2, 2020.

Essential Staff and Partners:

The essential staff and partners include the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Ashland County and Tri-County Educational Service Center. The partnership with the Mental Health and Recovery Board of Ashland County was critical in determining the proper qualifications for this position and the Board has been supportive in developing this role. The position will be hired through the educational service center. The person in this position will need access to programs and support through the board as the district continues to become a trauma-informed district. The current status of the district is "trauma aware, not trauma informed." The main goal of this position is to get the district and community past trauma informed to trauma preventing (more action-based, not knowledge-based).

Action Steps to Get Started:

This role is only one component of the larger wellness plan. The entire plan was developed through collaboration with our school liaisons, curriculum director, special education director and building administration. The team conducted a SWAT analysis, which led to the development of an overarching goal to improve and address the mental health issues that staff and students overcome every day to get to school. The team had several meetings and brainstorming sessions to develop a list of ideas that would fit into the plan. The team prioritized the ideas based on need and impact. The effort and impact analysis were helpful for prioritizing ideas. This coordinator position will have high impact with little effort. As the coordinator must be the right fit for the district and position, it took the team three months to find and hire the right person.

For More Information:**Catherine Puster**capuster@lpschools.net**NOTE: Student Wellness and Success Funds were used for this initiative.**