Palm Springs Unified School District   *Revised – 11/14/11*
Palm Springs, California

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGIST

PRIMARY FUNCTION:

The Speech-Language Pathologist, under the direction of the Director of Special Education, assesses to determine eligibility for and provides speech and language therapy to identified students; works closely with parents, general education and special education staff to provide support and services to identified students through collaboration and consultation models; may also instruct and/or oversee clinical students in speech/language pathology; understand and expedite Federal Law 94-142 as it pertains to speech, language, and hearing services.

DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO: Director of Special Education

ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Serves as a resource to school staff members in the development of a balanced program for language, oral communication and speech improvement.

2. Provides a therapeutic program to meet individual needs of students with speech, language and hearing disabilities.

3. Assists and guides teachers in observing, describing, and referring suspected and identified speech and language impairments.

4. Provides a thorough assessment and diagnosis of speech, voice, fluency and language impairments.

5. Writes comprehensive interdisciplinary evaluation and follow-up reports to include information about current levels of ability and recommendations for intervention.

6. Reviews and discusses medical and developmental case histories with interdisciplinary team to determine individual client evaluation needs and strategies.

7. Assists in proper referrals of individuals to agencies and specialists in the community as appropriate.

8. Provides appropriate individualized programs of therapy to meet individual students' needs and correct existing speech or language challenges.

9. Collaborates with classroom teachers and other school staff members to implement therapy by suggestions for the student's daily activities.

10. Provides information, support, and counseling to parents and families when appropriate.

11. Provides in-service education and serves as a consultant to teachers and school staff members on topics concerning speech improvement.

12. Keeps thorough and ongoing records for the individual student receiving therapy or other school-provided speech services.

13. Maintains lists of referred, assessed, and eligible students, as well as a directory of outside agencies, consultants, specialists, and related services.

14. Compiles case history data on those cases where additional family history, health history, early developmental history, and/or environmental history are deemed appropriate.

15. Assumes primary responsibility for requisitioning and maintaining needed equipment and supplies.

16. Other related duties as assigned.

ESSENTIAL JOB REQUIREMENTS-QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Knowledge of:**

a. Speech and language disabilities.

b. Skill in communicating effectively with a variety of people of various socio-economic and educational backgrounds.

c. Skill in establishing and maintaining effective relationship with disabled individuals.

d. Knowledge of developmental screening and assessment tools and procedures.

- **Ability to:**

a. Work independently with little direction

b. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing

c. Work effectively in the absence of supervision

d. Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others

e. Work in a diverse socio-economic and multicultural community

f. Maintain consistent, punctual and regular attendance

g. Train and evaluate the performance of assigned staff

h. Interpret, apply and explain rules, regulations, policies and procedures

i. Operate a computer and job-related equipment

j. Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action

k. Meet schedules and time lines

l. Plan and organize work

- Incorporated within one or more of the previously mentioned performance responsibilities, which are essential functions of this job description, are the following essential physical, mental and environmental requirements *(reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential job functions)*:

- **<u>Physical:</u>**

a. Ability to push, pull, and transport instructional and/or presentation materials.

b. Ability to communicate so others will be able to clearly understand a normal conversation.

c. Ability to understand speech at normal levels.

d. Ability to bend, twist, stoop and reach.

e. Ability to drive a personal vehicle to conduct business.

- **<u>Mental:</u>**

a. Ability to organize and coordinate schedules

b. Ability to analyze and interpret data

c. Problem solving

d. Ability to communicate with the public

e. Ability to read, analyze and interpret printed matter and computer screens

f. Ability to create written communication so others will be able to clearly understand the written communication

g. Ability to communicate so others will be able to clearly understand a normal conversation.

h. Ability to understand speech at normal levels.

- **Environment:**

a. Indoor – frequently

b. Outdoor – occasionally

c. Ability to work at a desk and in meetings of various configurations.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor's Degree or higher

- Varied experience in working with language, speech and hearing disorders with preschool and school age students.

CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENT:

- Valid Rehabilitative Services credential or equivalent

- CLAD Certification

- Must possess a valid California driver's license.

OVERTIME STATUS: Eligible

BARGAINING UNIT STATUS: Palm Springs Teachers Association

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT: Salary and work year governed by the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Palm Springs Teachers Association.

EVALUATION: Performance of this job will be evaluated in accordance with the provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Palm Springs Teachers Association and the Palm Springs Unified School District and the Board Policy on Evaluation of Certificated Personnel.

**Regulation
Approved:**