

SECTION: OPERATIONS

TITLE PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

ADOPTED: AUGUST 18, 2014

REVISED:

FORMERLY 7300

# TURKEYFOOT VALLEY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## 809.5 PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

1. The psychological services of the Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District are designed to provide testing, consultation and psycho-educational programming. The emphasis of the program is to provide assistance to classroom teachers so that they might provide the best classroom instruction possible. These services will operate through a clinical team approach which requires the coordination of the professional services of guidance counselors, psychologist, nurses and other District and county specialists, such as speech and hearing specialists.
2. A detailed referral system will be utilized for the purpose of calling to the attention of the District psychologist the needs of the students who are having difficulty. Referral forms will be completed and submitted by teachers, guidance counselors and nurses. These forms will be collected by the school counselor and presented to the District psychologist who will review the information and discuss in-school treatment or recommend further evaluation. If further evaluation is needed, the guidance counselor must contact the parents and secure permission for a psychological evaluation before this can take place. The parents will be asked to sign a form signifying their approval.
3. The following procedures for the Turkeyfoot Valley Area School District are as follows:
  - a. Any teacher may request that a pupil be tested by submitting to the Building Principal the form provided. The Principal will approve or reject the request. All requests must come via the Principal's office.
  - b. All such tests are to be administered by the school psychologist.
  - c. A written report of each individual examination will be sent to the Principal after the completion of the testing. Such reports are always confidential in nature.
  - d. The psychologist will interpret the results of tests with all necessary professional personnel of every pupil examined. Quite frequently, parents will be called for a conference. Teachers can adjust instructions to individual needs and capacities only when test results are known. A test program that falls down at this point falls far short of its possibilities.
  - e. No professional personnel will ever send a pupil directly to any clinic. Each pupil must first be referred to the school psychologist who will make further recommendation.
  - f. After the teacher has read the psychological report, it should be returned to the Principal.
4. As recently mandated by the Handicapped Act, our District has now formulated a "Child Study Team" which must meet before a youngster is referred for

psychological testing. The purpose is to attempt to make provisions in the regular classroom which will enable the student to experience success rather than rely strictly upon having the student tested. The team will be comprised of the Principal, guidance counselor, teacher and **PARENT**. Other staff members will be consulted as the need arises.

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