

# Raleigh County School Social Workers

RCS School Social Workers act as liaisons between home, school, and community providers to access, mobilize, and coordinate services. The individual social worker will work in collaboration with the school counselor and school administration. The School Social Workers work to create plans to support students who are in crisis or having academic, attendance, social and emotional, and/or behavior issues.

Our RCS School Social Workers also work to increase parental involvement through parent workshops, home visits, mentoring, and working with outside agencies to improve student/family environment. Please contact the school to speak with a School Social Worker. (See list below).

*\*\*As the need arises during the COVID-19 pandemic, online SW support may be offered through TEAMS and Seesaw or Schoology. Parents may opt out of this support by signing an OPT OUT form located on the RCS home page—under FAMILIES. Please return this OPT OUT form to your child's school, if you wish to discontinue online services.*

## **Some of their responsibilities may include:**

- working in collaboration with school administration, counseling staff, nurse, psychologist, specialists, truancy interventionists, and instructional staff to identify at-risk students.
- working alongside the school counselors, instructional staff, and a range of specialists to create individualized plans that meet the special needs of all students.
- assisting students, individually and/or in groups, with developing academic, social, emotional, and mental health skills.
- participating in the evaluation and assessment process by conducting the student social/developmental history and parent interviews, use of the DSM-5 and other resources in order to complete assessments of diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of mental, emotional, and behavioral concerns (with administrator approval).
- acting as advocates and help students and families gain access to resources while confronting their personal issues, such as mental illnesses, addiction, abuse, etc.
- engaging students to ensure that their academic, social, emotional, and psychological needs are effectively met by conducting individual/group counseling
- seeking solutions to barriers that inhibit effective familial and community involvement in the education of students.
- utilizing skills such as advocacy, assessment, consultation, counseling, and collaboration to create and implement developmentally appropriate and targeted interventions to meet the identified needs of students, families, schools, and communities.

- providing professional, evidence-based, counseling support to identified families/students in crisis.
- working with truancy interventionists, teachers, counselors, and administration to improve student attendance and decrease tardiness by assisting with home visits, regular, documented contacts with students and families, and acting as a broker to obtain the services needed by these families to improve student attendance.
- working with school-based personnel and outside agencies to decrease discipline referrals and infractions; increase family involvement activities' and increase involvement and community members.
- working with teachers to establish relationships with community and business leaders to become mentors and tutors to students.
- incorporating a variety of strategies to ensure on-going family and community involvement that ensures sustainability and maintaining documentation and data evidence of activities through logs
- upon principal request, utilizing assessments to create a plan of intervention and treatment strategies, such as, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Strengthening Families Approach, Social-Emotional Supports, etc.
- maintaining accurate, complete, and correct records as required by law, county policy and administrative regulations and maintaining professional competence through continuing education activities provided by Raleigh County Schools and/or self-selected professional growth activities.

## **RCS School Social Workers**

**Ashley Hawkins- Stanaford Elementary and Beckley Stratton Middle School**

**Casey Yoder- Coal City Elementary**

**Erin Tolliver- Ridgeview Elementary**

**Jennifer Law- Mabscott Elementary Schools**

**Katie Ratcliffe- Clear Fork and Marsh Fork Elementary Schools**

**Patrick Williams- Beckley Elementary**