

Arlington Community Services Board (CSB)
Children and Youth Committee
4/17/17– Carlin Springs Elementary

Committee Present: Asha Patton-Smith, Frank Haltiwanger

Child and Family Services Division (CFSD) Staff: Sharon Lawrence, Jana Lee, Sandra Triveri

Called to Order: 6:35pm

Minutes review/approval: Postponed until the next meeting.

Presentation: Corina Caronel, principal of Carlin Springs

Carlin Springs has the highest number of non-English speaking families.

The school has experienced significant truancy issues, students leave half way through the year and come back.

86% of students enrolled are free and reduced meals eligible, across the county, the average is 33% of students receiving free and reduced meals.

Carlin Springs operates under a Community School model: the school building is a hub for resources of the community. Mental Health, basic needs, extended learning, parent workshops are all offered through the school and available to the parents. The goal is to increase achievement by making sure tertiary needs are met so youth are able to learn.

Family nights are offered to build parent skill and parent/child relationships.

Many children arrive at school in a survival state due to trauma experienced in the past. Carlin Springs makes a concerted effort to help children reach an executive state so that they can properly attend and learn.

Conscious discipline training is administered here, only school in Arlington currently using this training.

Q: Why are you the only school offering these services.

A: Due to the need of the population served at this school. The students experience many outward expressions of their feelings due to being non English speaking. Carlin Springs tries to offer a different set of strategies so that students and teachers are best prepared.

Frank: There are other schools who are doing some community based work in the school, but this is the only extensive community school. They don't have a community health nurse (FULL TIME), or a mental health therapist (3 1/2 DAYS A WEEK).

Sandra completes consultation, intake, and becomes the therapist for the children who meet criteria for intake. There are differences in care offered in DHS vs. Carlin springs. Early intervention is a strong focus and is continuously addressed within the school, lots of on -going assessments. Family therapy is completed by school psychologists as well, the goal is to improve function and stability. Behavior management and parenting techniques are taught. Many children exhibiting issues of adjusting to the environment are seen without a formal diagnosis especially at the beginning of the year, they can be seen

multiple times before they need to be escalated to a formal client with a treatment plan. Support groups are offered, topics include reunified families, recently immigrated youth, middle school transition, etc.

15-16 school year data: 22 clients and families, 13 attended Carlin Springs. Some leave Carlin Springs and still are seen here. Most frequent diagnosis Mood D/O, Adjustment, ODD, Anxiety.

Youth Mental Health First Aid presentations are done here as well.

Q: Where does school counselor's involvement come in?

A: The school counselor is very busy. There is just one in Elementary schools for 550 students, preschoolers are not counted in the planning factor although they are served. The school counselor is there 2 days a week. Once a month on Friday, counseling support staff meets to work together. The Guidance Counselor sits in on all of the IEP/planning meetings to do behavior observation. Social worker is here one ½ day. This is the highest need school in the county.

Q: Does anyone come to say they would like to learn to implement this model at their school?

A: You have to have a clearly laid out structure of a community school. There has to be cohesiveness and strategic planning, and it can be overwhelming at times. You need a lot of buy in from the staff at the office.

Monthly Stats/Outreach Updates/Upcoming: Postponed until the next meeting.

New Business: Postponed until the next meeting.

Old Business: Postponed until the next meeting.

Announcements: Postponed until the next meeting.

Next Meeting: May 1, 2017– Arlington County DHS, Lower Level Room A