

Nassau County School Board
Therapeutic / Mental Health Services
Effective October 1, 2017

Addendum #1 – Questions and Answers (Released August 30, 2017)

Acknowledgment of Receipt of Addendum:

Signature of Company Representative. *(Please return this signed form with the RFP Response)*

1. How many students are currently enrolled in the STARRS program?

There are currently thirty-one students enrolled in our STARRS program. This number is subject to change throughout the school year.

2. How many are actively participating in the program?

Currently, all thirty-one students are actively participating in the STARRS program.

3. How many students per grade level?

As of 8/30/17, there are sixteen students in 9th-12th grades, eleven students in 6th-8th, and 4 students in K-5th.

4. How many separate classes are at each school?

We have two classes at each of our three schools. This is subject to change.

5. How many children have Medicaid? Commercial Insurance? No insurance?

Currently, our Medicaid files are kept confidential and only reported directly to the state through one biller who works for the school district. This file is broken down by school, but not the specific program the student is in at the school. Therefore, we do not have this information for you at this time. As of May 2017, 681 students were considered Medicaid eligible out of our approximately 1,700 ESE students. However, we would not be able to identify which of these students were in the STARRS program at this time. The Nassau County School District does not collect information on commercial insurance, private insurance, or no insurance. So, we would not have this information available for you. In addition, it would not be appropriate for services delivered under this contract to be charged to a student's personal insurance provider.

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6. Please explain the difference between Psychological Assessments and Psychological Evaluation and Testing. The term most commonly used to describe a comprehensive assessment is "Biopsychosocial," is this what you expect?

We would expect all assessments necessary to meet the individual needs of each student. Based on the individual needs of each student, assessing the student as a whole will be required, which will include psychological assessments which are outside of the realm of the psychological comprehensive assessment/evaluation.

7. What Psychological testing are you specifically requesting? Do the school psychologists perform these tests?

We are requesting that all necessary testing is completed to meet the needs of our students. Some of the psychological testing is completed by our school psychologists. However, if there is a need for more data of a psychosocial nature, that is expected to be provided by our vendor. Usually, we would be requesting the following components within the psychological testing process:

- ***interview***
- ***demographic information***
- ***medical information***
- ***personal history***
- ***observations***
- ***intelligence testing***
- ***Social Emotional Evaluation***
- ***Behavioral Assessments/FBA***
- ***Cognitive Processing Evaluation***
- ***Academic Evaluations***

8. The list includes services that appear duplicative i.e. targeted case management vs. case management; individual and group intervention vs. individual and group outpatient. Is this an error? If not, please explain the difference in your understanding of these services.

This is not an error. We were trying to be thorough with our list of deliverables to make sure we captured as many of the scenarios, as possible. For example, some of our case management must be targeted to meet the individual needs of our students.

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9. HIV & communicable disease education is listed. What is the current school board policy on providing sex education and STD information to students? This service does not seem appropriate for the elementary school STARRS participants. Will this age group be eliminated from that requirement?

The elementary age student would not necessarily be eliminated from this requirement. Of course, if it is determined that an elementary aged child needs education on these topics, the information provided would be presented at an age-appropriate level, and as always, would meet any and all current policy or requirements set forth by our school district.

10. What is the reasoning behind the use of tele-health psychiatric evaluation? Our preference is to provide psychiatric services face-to-face.

Our reasoning is for continuity of care with the least interruption possible to the student's academic progress.

11. Aftercare services by definition are provided to clients who have successfully completed an outpatient substance abuse program. I do not see how aftercare will fit into the STARRS program curriculum as these students are all actively involved in mental health treatment. Is this an error?

This is not an error. Some of our students will have successfully completed an outpatient substance abuse program.

12. Who currently runs and operates the extended school year summer camp? What is the location of these camps? What weeks during the summer are they scheduled for?

The Nassau County School District currently runs this program. The exact details of next summer's program are yet to be determined.

13. Is the "summer group series" the same as summer camp? If not, please explain what this is.

In addition to our summer camp, we have a summer group series, which are other group activities which may be needed to meet the individual needs of our students.

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14. Will each therapist have their own confidential office space to utilize during the entire school year, at each school?

No, there is not a guarantee for each therapist to have their own confidential office space to utilize during the entire school year. However, if a private meeting space is needed, one could be temporarily made available to the therapists.

15. Is there a confidential office space for the on-site medication management services?

Yes, as space is available at each school site. All of our schools do have a health clinic. However, there would need to be communication with the school staff to determine how to best administer the on-site medication management services to each individual student.

16. Best practice guidelines require parents to be present when providing medical/psychiatric services, is this a requirement of the program currently.

No, this is not currently a requirement of the program.

17. SPBH documents all services through an electronic medical record; we will require a secure access to the internet in all locations, and must be able to bypass your firewall. Can you guarantee this connectivity?

Yes