

### **364-RULE PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES REFERRALS**

The following method shall be used in making referrals for psychological services:

1. The teacher will discuss with the principal the need for referral.
2. The principal determines that a child should be referred.
3. The principal then contacts the parent(s) or guardian, informing them that such referral is being considered. Such contact can be made by letter, phone, or home visit, although personal contact is preferable.
  - a. If the problem is one of school achievement, the psychologist may be used as an adjunct to school testing and evaluation without prior approval of the parent.
4. If objection is raised by the parent(s) or guardian, then the principal or guidance worker tries to arrange for a joint interview involving the parent(s) or guardian, teacher, principal and/or guidance worker, and psychologist.
5. If the problem is primarily one of emotional disturbance, the parents'/guardian's readiness to accept or not accept referral will be the determining factor.
  - a. If the nature of the emotional disturbance is of a kind which disrupts school procedures, a parent/guardian's refusal to accept psychological service should not preclude a principal's recourse to dealing with the problem on a straight disciplinary basis, in accordance with applicable district policies and rules and legal requirements."
6. When it is necessary to recommend further treatment for a psychological problem diagnosed at school, parents/ guardians will be encouraged to seek such service from among those private clinics, psychologists or psychiatrists available in the area.

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