



# **HS Intro to Public Services: School Psychologist**

**Tuesday, May 5, 2020**



## HS Intro to Public Services

Lesson for Tuesday, May 5, 2020: Social Service Pathway -  
School Psychologist

### **Learning Target:**

Students will understand what a School Psychologist does and identify the direct impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the field.



# Opening Exercise

Before getting into the lesson, answer the following questions on a sheet of paper:

1. Did you know that each building in the ISD has a School Psychologist?
2. Have you ever used the services of a School Psychologist in your building?
3. What are some of the things you think a School Psychologist does?
4. How many School Psychologists does the ISD employ?



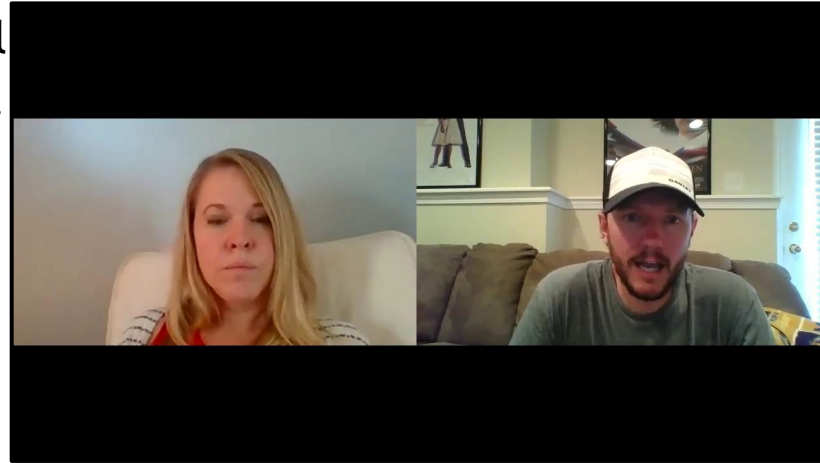
# What is a School Psychologist?

**School Psychologists** are people “engaged in the delivery of comprehensive psychological services to children, adolescents and families in schools and other applied settings. They assess and counsel students, consult with parents and school staff, and conduct behavioral interventions when appropriate. Most school districts employ psychologists full time.” (American Psychological Association)

# Activity #1

Watch this interview with Amanda Witting, School Psychologist for the Independence School District. As the video is playing, answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper.

1. Which two colleges did Mrs. Witting attend to become a School Psychologist?
2. What was the biggest reason for Mrs. Witting choosing School Psych over Clinical Psych?
3. Create a T-chart listing 2 Pros and 2 Cons of being a School Psychologist.
4. Identify 3 ways that COVID-19 has impacted the work that Mrs. Witting is able to do.
5. How many School Psychologists work for the ISD?





# Activity #1 - ANSWERS

1. Which two colleges did Mrs. Witting attend to become a School Psychologist? - University of Central Missouri (UCM) & University of Missouri - St. Louis (UMSL)
2. What was the biggest reason for Mrs. Witting choosing School Psych over Clinical Psych? - Not everybody can afford Psychologist services, but kids have access and no cost to a School Psychologist so it's a way to help kids.
3. Create a T-chart listing 2 Pros and 2 Cons of being a School Psychologist. - Pros: Help people, Work with data, Every day is different. Cons: Hard conversations, Uncomfortable feedback, Lots of public speaking if that bothers you.
4. Identify 3 ways that COVID-19 has impacted the work that Mrs. Witting is able to do. - Still working w/ other School Psychologist, work on distance learning lessons over social/emotional needs & skills, continue working on PBIS program, reduced contact w/ students but has talked to a few parent.
5. How many School Psychologists work for the ISD? - 6



## Activity #2

Follow [this](#) link to the website for the National Association of School Psychologists. Using the information from the link and the interview from Amanda Witting, do the following activity:

You are going to create a “Want-Ad” for School Psychology. You need to summarize what the job is and what duties are needed to do the job. While researching, look for the following information that should be included in the finished product.

- Things to include:

1. Job description - What do they do?
2. Educational requirements - What school is required for the job?
3. Non-educational requirements - Other than schooling, what are some things they should like/be able to do?
4. Salary - How much do they make?

You can do this on Google Docs, Microsoft Word, or use a web-based program like Canva. Remember, this is a “want ad” so you’re going to want to build it up to get the best people to join. Make it look good and make it right! (*Example from another psychology field on next slide.*)

# Activity #2 - Example

Psychologist

## WE ARE HIRING!

Counseling Psychologist

**What We Do:**

Offer individual consultations when someone is in need of talking because they're stressed, have anxiety, going through an emotional crisis, and has a behavioral disorder.

**Education Requirements:**

We require at least a bachelor's degree in psychology, but we encourage people to further their education.

**Extra Requirements:**

Good listener and loves to talk to people!

**Salary:**

Around \$72,540

Send in your resume  
and apply at,

[www.reallygreatpsychology.com](http://www.reallygreatpsychology.com)







# Additional Resources/Information

For more information about School Psychology, check out the following resources:

- ARTICLE: [All Psychology Schools - School Psychology Job Description](#)
- ARTICLE: [Careers in Psychology - School Psychology](#)
- ARTICLE: [Very Well Mind - Psychology Careers in Schools](#)
- ARTICLE/VIDEO: [Four Reasons to Pursue a Career in School Psychology](#)