YOLO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

CLASS TITLE: SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SPECIALIST

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of an assigned Principal, provide speech and language assessments and therapy to students who have a variety of handicapping conditions including developmental, neurological, orthopedic and behavioral dysfunction/disorders; determine eligibility for services and therapy; provide therapy in the areas of receptive and expressive language, articulation, stuttering and voice; support the transition of students through the education system.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:
Provide speech and language assessments and therapy to students who have a variety of handicapping conditions including developmental, neurological, orthopedic and behavioral dysfunction/disorders; determine eligibility for services and therapy; provide therapy in the areas of receptive and expressive language, articulation, stuttering and voice.

Accept and process referrals; administer and interpret diagnostic tests to identify the language, speech and hearing needs of referred students; evaluate results and determine primary handicapping condition; communicate related information to the IEP/IFSP Team.

Consult with parents, teachers, and Principals regarding the language, speech, and hearing needs of students; serve as a member of the IEP Team and IFSP Team or other teams as appropriate.

Prepare appropriate IEP/IFSP for students who meet criteria for speech and language services; prepare diagnostic reports; provide recommendations to the IEP/IFSP Team members; facilitate referrals to other agencies, clinics or resources when necessary.

Collaborate and prepare modifications and recommendations for students who have not qualified for service; monitor, facilitate and re-evaluate student progress.

Implement effective remediation strategies and behavioral management techniques to individuals enrolled in therapy; collaborate with regular and special education teachers and provide classroom intervention.

Design augmentative communication systems and train students, staff and parents in related systems; design speech and language home programs and train parents in their use; provide speech and language screening as necessary.

Drive a vehicle to make regular home visits for infants, preschoolers and students as needed to assess and implement speech and language therapy plans.

Coordinate therapy programs for swallowing and feeding disorders.

Provide training to instructional assistants to expand language and speech development in the classroom setting.

Assist in the evaluation of overall program effectiveness; communicate program needs to immediate supervisor and district administrators as appropriate.

Organize and maintain records as required by law and County Office policy.

Establish and maintain positive relationships with district and county personnel, parents, students and community members.

OTHER DUTIES:
Attend and participate in professional group meetings; attend workshops, conferences and classes to increase professional knowledge; update knowledge of current trends and developments in the area of assignments.

Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:
Remediation strategies and behavior management techniques.
Instructional terminology, program philosophies, concepts, materials, methods and procedures.
Proper administration, evaluation and interpretation of diagnostic test and measurements.
Techniques and methods of speech and language assessment, diagnosis, evaluation and planning.
Principals of child development.
Community agencies and referral sources.
Laws, rules and regulations related to assigned activities.
Record keeping and report writing techniques.
District organization, operations, policies and objectives.
Technical aspects of field of specialty.
Interpersonal skills including tact, patience and courtesy.

ABILITY TO:
Provide speech and language assessments and therapy to students who have a variety of handicapping conditions.
Determine eligibility for services and therapy.
Provide therapy in the areas of receptive and expressive language, articulation, stuttering and voice.
Learn various District and County Office level special education services and programs.
Recognize problems which may interfere with students' learning or the physical/emotional welfare of students and implement appropriate solutions in the learning environment.
Make generalizations, evaluations or decisions without immediate supervision.
Develop and implement activities for the remediation of language, speech and hearing disorders.
Interpret and apply policies, procedures, laws, codes, and regulations pertaining to assigned programs

and functions including mandates affecting special education programs.
Maintain records and prepare reports.
Operate a computer terminal and related software.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Maintain current knowledge of program rules, regulations, requirements and restrictions.
Maintain current knowledge of technical advances in the field.
Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
Interact effectively and sensitively with individuals form diverse backgrounds and demonstrate an understanding, patient and receptive attitude toward children.
Meet schedules and time lines.
Maintain confidentiality of student information.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: bachelor's degree in speech pathology or related field.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid appropriate California State Teaching Credential or License Option.
Valid California driver's license.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:
Indoor and outdoor work environment.
Driving a vehicle to conduct work.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:
Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard.
Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching to assist children.
Seeing to read a variety of materials.
Hearing and speaking to exchange information.