

## North Fork Local School District Consent for School Social Work Services 2023-2024

North Fork Local School District has School Based Social Work Services available to any student that may be experiencing social emotional issues that may be negatively impacting their academic achievement. This service is currently funded by the Licking Regional Educational Services Center.

### ***Who are School Social Workers and what do they do?***

School Social Workers can assist students who exhibit behaviors that interfere with their academic growth and social development. They serve as liaisons between the home, school and community.

- School Social Workers help **students** develop positive coping skills, resolve conflicts with others, improve social skills, build self-confidence, manage anxiety, and cope with crisis situations. School Social Workers see students individually, in small groups, or in larger settings, such as the classroom.
- School Social Workers help **families** access additional support, both within the school system and the greater community. They work with parents to identify areas of concern and help link families to community resources, as needed.
- School Social Workers, help **educators** better understand how factors such as family, culture, socioeconomic status, physical, and mental health can affect a student's performance. They work as part of the student services team to develop and implement plans to enhance student success in school, specifically in the areas of social, emotional and behavioral support.

### ***Information about Confidentiality:***

The School Social Worker recognizes the importance of maintaining regular communication with parents regarding student progress and well-being. Parents are an important part of the process and are encouraged to work actively with the School Social Worker to find and implement solutions.

In order to develop a positive and trusting relationship, it is recommended that conversations between the student and the School Social Worker be kept confidential. *However*, there are exceptions to this confidentiality. First, all professionals working with children in the school setting are mandated by law to report instances of suspected child abuse and neglect. Second, if there is reason to believe that a student is in danger of harming him or herself or someone else, active steps must be taken to ensure the safety of all those involved. This will include contacting parents to develop a safety plan and might include referral to crisis intervention or other helping agencies.

***I agree/ do not agree (circle one) to allow my student to meet with the Licking Regional ESC Social Worker. I understand that conversations between my student and the School Social Worker will be confidential except under the circumstances listed above, in which case I will be contacted immediately. I further understand that I may withdraw my consent at any time***

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*Parent Signature, Date, and preferred method of contact*

If you have any questions regarding these services please call, Amber Mallory, MSW, LISW; Licking Regional ESC School Social Worker. (740) 409-6010

