

# School Psychologist Awareness

## Prince George's County Public Schools

### Did you know that school psychologists are trained for more than just testing?

#### School psychologists also receive training in...

- Child and adolescent development
- Learning and behavior
- Mental health and counseling
- Prevention and intervention
- Diversity in development and learning
- Consultation and collaboration
- Data collection and analysis
- Research and program evaluation

**School psychologists are capable of providing** direct and indirect academic, behavioral, and mental health supports that address the needs of ALL students, including struggling and diverse learners. School psychologists are also capable of using their training to help schools and school systems develop, implement, and evaluate programs that...

- Promote student achievement and well-being
- Foster safe and supportive learning environments
- Strengthen school-family-community partnerships
- Enhance school-wide data-based decision making

**In order to provide comprehensive services**, the National Association of School Psychologists recommends a ratio of 1:500-700, or 1 school psychologist per 500-700 students. Prince George's County Public Schools has an average ratio of 1:1,423, which is more than double the recommendation.

### The average ratio is 1 : 1,423, or 1 school psychologist per 1,423 students!

If you would like students in Prince George's County Public Schools to have access to school psychologists who are staffed to provide comprehensive supports and services, I encourage you to contact the following individuals, express concern over current school psychologist ratios, and ask for an increase in the number of school psychologist positions included in the next budget.

- **Prince George's County Public Schools**
  - Chief Executive Officer ([ceo@pgcps.org](mailto:ceo@pgcps.org))
  - Board of Education (<https://www.pgcps.org/board/#boe-members>)
- **Prince George's County Government**
  - County Executive ([countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us](mailto:countyexecutive@co.pg.md.us))
  - Council Members (<https://pgccouncil.us/27/The-Council>)

National Association of School Psychologists (2014). *Who are school psychologists?*. Retrieved from <http://www.nasponline.org/about-school-psychology/who-are-school-psychologists>.