

## Consent for School-Based Mental Health Therapy Services

Student		Date	
School		Grade	

Jordan School District is dedicated to ensuring that students with mental health needs have access to mental health therapy services. The school extends an offer for mental health therapy services to be provided to your student. Under the law, your child cannot receive individualized mental health therapy services as described below until signed permission is received. Your consent will remain in effect until the end of the current school year or until you revoke your consent in writing delivered to the school principal.

The following individual(s) are authorized to provide mental health therapy to your student, and may have access to protected student information in their educational record:

Provider Name	Title	Contact Information

Unless you opt out, authorized personnel will provide you with notification about each session's topic within one business day after each meeting. Please initial below to indicate your preference. You will continue to receive communication about your student's progress no matter which option you choose.

- I want to receive notification after each session.  
 I do not want to receive notification after each session.

During the course of our discussion(s) students may share their personal views and experiences as appropriate. Meetings with mental health staff will take place at an appropriate time during the school day and will provide time for your student to confidentially discuss feelings about many things, possibly including personal difficulties. Every effort will be made to respect family privacy, and there is no intent to discuss sensitive issues; however, the law requests that we remind you that unexpected subjects may arise as students express their feelings. Authorized personnel are required to have your consent as a parent or legal guardian if information is sought from your child concerning the following issues:

1. political affiliations or, except as provided under Utah Code § 53G-10-202 or rules of the State Board of Education, political philosophies;
2. mental or psychological problems;
3. sexual behavior, orientation, gender identity, or attitudes;
4. illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. critical appraisals of individuals with whom the student or family member has close family relationships;
6. religious affiliations or beliefs;
7. legally recognized privileged and analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, medical personnel, or ministers;
8. income, except as required by law.

Depending on the nature of the presenting problem and concerns shared during an initial interview or counseling sessions by the student or parent(s), some of the issues listed above may be discussed.

You have the right to identify topics or issues that may not be addressed during therapy sessions. Please list any topics below that you would not like the authorized personnel to address during therapy sessions:

An initial mental health assessment will be conducted to gather information that will be used to formulate treatment goals and a treatment plan. Information gathered during the course of sessions may also be integrated into the treatment plan. State law requires a two-week waiting period prior to your student receiving services unless a parent waives the notification period (Utah Code Section 53G-9-209). Your signature will allow us to waive the waiting period and provide services to your child immediately.

**REQUIRED DISCLOSURES:** Service providers have a responsibility to ensure that an appropriate administrator is informed of any information that concerns potential problems or at-risk situations that might occur. If a school employee or agent believes that a situation exists which presents a serious threat to the well-being of a student, that employee or agent shall notify the student's parent or guardian without delay. Information gathered from an interview or counseling sessions may be shared with the administrator or other school personnel only on a need-to-know basis. Information regarding a student's drug or alcohol use will be reported to the parent(s). State law requires that information suggestive of child abuse must be reported to the appropriate governmental agency (Utah Code §53G-9-209).

**REMOTE DELIVERY OF SERVICES:** Certain circumstances may require services to be provided remotely. Services delivered remotely are inherently less secure and less confidential than in-person services. Other individuals in your household may be able to see or hear information about your student that is meant to be confidential. Parents who would like additional information on remote delivery of service may contact the school administrator either prior to or subsequent to the service being provided.

I give permission for my student to participate in mental health therapy as described above and waive the two-week waiting period so that services may begin immediately. If the need arises, my student may discuss the issues identified above during the course of receiving mental health therapy services.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name		Date	
Parent/Guardian Signature		Relationship to Student	