

## ABSTRACT

### THE ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS: PRINCIPALS' PREFERENCES

The field of school psychology is proposed to shift from an assessment-based model to a problem-solving model. The limited research examining school principals' perceptions of the roles of school psychologists indicates that elementary principals tend to prefer school psychologists perform traditional psychological testing services, while secondary principals tend to prefer nonassessment-related services. This study examined 183 school principals' current perceptions of school psychologists' roles by having them rate various services provided by school psychologists. It was hypothesized that secondary principals would prefer traditional school psychological services, while elementary principals would prefer an expanded role. Results indicated both elementary and secondary school principals were found to prefer traditional school psychological services. Additionally, results indicated principals tended to prefer traditional school psychological services, followed by counseling services, problem-solving/Response to Intervention (RTI) services, and other services.

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