

VOL. 45 ISSUE 1 · SEPTEMBER 2022

OSPA BULLETIN

Newsletter of the Oregon School Psychologists Association

President's Message

BY KARLEY STROUSE, OSPA PRESIDENT

Hello amazing school psychologists and welcome to the 2022-23 school year! I hope you all had time to recharge and relax this summer before getting back into the swing of the school routine. I am so excited to serve as President this year and amplify the collective voice of school psychologists throughout Oregon. A central goal for the OSPA leadership board this year is to increase engagement of our membership, so watch your email for information on upcoming OSPA-sponsored events!

We are excited for the presentations and topics that will be addressed at our annual OSPA Fall Conference. The conference will be held virtually on October 13-14, 2022, and is a great opportunity to earn NASP CEUs, meet your OSPA leaders, and hear (continued page 2)



This issue:

President's Message
PAGE 01-02

OSPA Fall Conference 2022
PAGE 03

Shortage Pipeline Update-
Oregon Universities
PAGE 04

NASP Delegate Report
PAGE 05

Announcements, Events,
and Updates
PAGE 06



OSPA

Oregon School
Psychologists Association

President's Message Continued

BY KARLEY STROUSE

from the current NASP President, Celeste Malone, during her keynote presentation. OSPA members receive a discounted rate for the conference! Registration is now open on the OSPA website.

OSPA is looking forward to highlighting the significant work and expertise of school psychologists during National School Psychology Week, November 7-11, 2022. The theme this year is "Together We Shine" to remind us that after several challenging years, filled with feelings of isolation, social injustice and inequity, economic stress, and challenges to mental and physical health; we are stronger together. Reconnecting with others and reestablishing a sense of community empowers students and adults to find purpose and possibility.

As we begin another school year, please remember to take care of yourself and prioritize your mental health. The cliché "you can't pour from an empty cup" rings true for all of us. Take your vacation days, set healthy work boundaries, and learn to say no to more things! Lastly, please reach out to OSPA if you need resources, advice, or recommendations. Thank you for all the work you do for your schools and supporting students and families!

Karley Strouse,
OSPA President

"You can't
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National
School
Psychology
Week is
November 7-
11, 2022



2022 OSPFA FALL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 13-14TH

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ON THE WHOVA PLATFORM

- KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY CELESTE MALONE, NASP PRESIDENT
- TOPICS TO INCLUDE: ADI'S ACT UPDATES, CREATING SAFE AND AFFIRMING SCHOOL ENVIRONMENTS FOR LGBTQIA+ YOUTH, USING THE WIAT-4, ETHICAL DECISION MAKING IN CONTEMPORARY PRACTICE
- DISCOUNTS FOR VOLUNTEERS! WE NEED VOLUNTEERS TO INTRODUCE SPEAKERS AND MONITOR CHAT SESSIONS. EMAIL DANEADGLEE@GMAIL.COM IF INTERESTED

WWW.OREGONSCHOOLPSYCHOLOGISTS.COM > EVENTS

Shortage Pipeline Update- Oregon Universities

BY DANIELLE PAPPAS

Most of the school psychologist working in the field are acutely aware of the shortage of school psychologist in the state of Oregon. Many school districts are starting the school year with at least one school psychologist position unfilled. This is a hardship on all practicing school psychologists who have to fill in the gaps in the districts. This is particularly problematic in the rural and southern parts of our state.

Exacerbating this shortage problem, one of Oregon's university training programs is shutting its doors. George Fox University is terminating the school psychology program. The current students will be allowed to finish their EdS degree but no new students are being admitted. The last graduate from George Fox University will walk across the stage in the spring of 2025.

The remaining university training programs, University of Oregon and Lewis & Clark College, have been actively planning and seeking solutions to the shortages in the field and the loss of one training program. Specifically, the University of Oregon is expanding to offer specialist-level coursework at the UO Portland campus. With this expansion, they will be able to admit and prepare larger cohorts of students to address the shortages of school psychologists in the field. This year, a cohort of 8 students will be based in Portland, in addition to the continuing specialist-level and doctoral programs housed at the UO Eugene campus. Dr. Leah Benazzi has joined the UO School Psychology Program faculty as a Senior Lecturer, and will be teaching primarily at the UO Portland campus. Dr. Benazzi was previously a Behavior Consultant and School Psychologist in the Beaverton School District. Feel free to reach out to Angie Whalen, SPSY Program Director, at awhalen@uoregon.edu if you are interested in future opportunities for adjunct teaching or providing clinical supervision to practicum students and interns!

Lewis & Clark College is currently under interim directorship by Jen Twyford and Peter Mortola. The university's high- quality training program continues.

Because of the closing of one training program, there is a grassroots effort, using NASP advocacy skills, by a couple of school psychologist to encourage other universities in Oregon to start a new training program. There have been personnel in the school districts also encouraging universities to consider starting a school psychology training program.

Working with higher education institutions is a slow process but the efforts toward expanding our training options in Oregon has begun. Of particular interest is a new training program with greater accessibility for the rural districts in Oregon, meaning a low cost online/hybrid type of training to encourage school personnel that already live in the rural areas to consider training to become a school psychologist.

News from our State Delegate

BY MASON RIVERS, ED.S NCSP

I hope your school year is off to a great start. I know that the first weeks can be at once exciting and a tad overwhelming. It's a time of responding to needs in the moment while putting in place the systems and strategies important to a successful year to come.

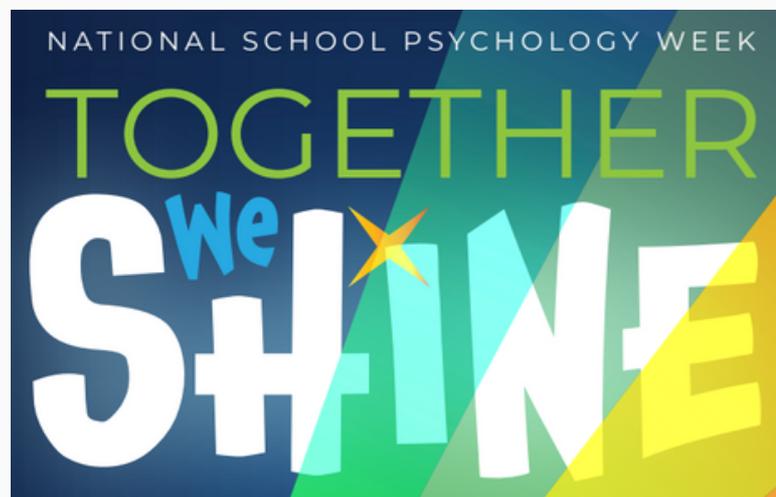
If your schools are like many others across the country, you are still seeing increased levels of behavior issues with some students as they return to school, particularly among students dealing with loss or trauma and younger children who missed out on opportunities to learn early social skills due to the pandemic. Meeting needs without over-identifying students for special education is critical. Our COVID-19 Return to School webinar and handout series on social, emotional, and behavioral supports provides helpful guidance on addressing these needs at Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3.

I also encourage you to check out NASP's new series of brief handouts for families and educators on key special education topics. The first four topics in the series include Individualized Education Programs, IDEA Transition Services, IDEA Reevaluation, and Manifestation Determination Reviews. Handouts are available in English and Spanish. NASP will be adding new topics over the course of the year so look for more resources ahead.

I know for graduate students, it's especially important to start building positive, supportive relationships early to help sustain your work and professional growth throughout the year. This handout on Developing and Maintaining Professional Relationships offers helpful guidance. Equally important is quality supervision during practicum and internships. These tips on advocating for and making the most of supervision can be helpful, as well understanding best practice guidelines for intern supervisors.

Of course, the beginning of the school year is also a great time to start planning for National School Psychology Week, November 7-11, 2022. This year's theme, "Together We SHINE", provides a positive framework for highlighting the importance of reestablishing a sense of being valued parts of a greater whole and empowering students and staff to find purpose and possibility in the coming year. You can begin planning for or even implementing the suggested activities.

Sincerely,
Mason Rivers, EdS NASP Delegate - OR



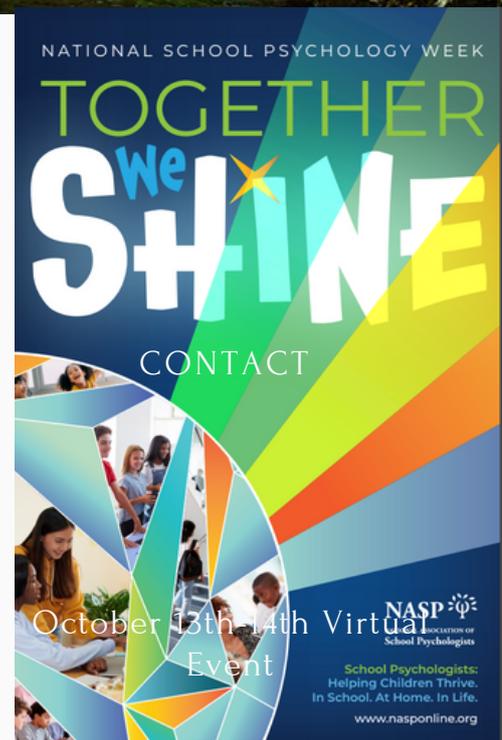
UPCOMING EVENTS

NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WEEK NOVEMBER 7-11, 2022

FREE, VIRTUAL HALF DAY EVENT
MORE INFO TO COME AT OREGONRTI.ORG

SECOND ANNUAL OREGON RTII READING SYMPOSIUM - DECEMBER 8, 2022

FREE, VIRTUAL HALF DAY EVENT
MORE INFO TO COME AT OREGONRTI.ORG



GET A DISCOUNT BY VOLUNTEERING AT THE OSPA CONFERENCE!

Email daneadeglee@gmail.com
if interested

REGISTER [HERE!](#)

JOIN OSPA!!!

WE WANT YOU!
CONTACT PRESIDENT.OSPA@GMAIL.COM

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