



OSPA TODAY

THE NEWSLETTER FOR OKLAHOMA SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

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OSPA Is Giving Back to the Community

OSPA's mission is to advocate for the rights and needs of children and to provide services that accommodate children's mental health and educational needs. Our members carry out this mission everyday within their scope of school practice, private practice, and educational training. In addition to the needs we provide within our professional capacities, the current Executive Board believes that it is equally important to support the basic needs of children in times of hardship, crisis, and economic uncertainty *outside the school setting*. Therefore, the Board has decided to sponsor a deserving charity for each of our conferences this year to allow our members and our organization the opportunity to give back to our community and further support the needs of children and families.

For the Fall Conference, OSPA has chosen to contribute to the **Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma, and specifically to support their Food For Kids Backpack Program and School Pantry Program**. These programs provide chronically hungry children, identified by school personnel, with backpacks filled with non-perishable, kid-friendly food to eat on weekends and school holidays. (For more information, please visit <http://www.regionalfoodbank.org/Programs/Childhood-Hunger/Food-for-Kids>)

We know our members will want to help support this deserving cause. Please bring cash donations to the Fall Conference to support the Regional Food Bank of Oklahoma. Additionally, if you know of a charity or cause that would benefit from OSPA's generosity, please contact Erika Olinger at Erika.stevens-olinger@edmondschools.net or Nicole Farnell at nicolemchristopher@yahoo.com.

Quote of the Month

"One looks back with appreciation to the brilliant teachers, but with gratitude to those who touched our human feelings. The curriculum is so much necessary material, but warmth is the vital element for the growing plant and for the soul of the child." -- Carl Jung

Join us for the OSPA Fall Conference-"Break Away and Take Away"

-Erika Olinger, OSPA President

Please join us on November 18 at the Frances Tuttle Technology Center in OKC for OSPA's Fall Conference. This year, the conference theme is "Break Away and Take Away!" The goal for this conference is to host several **break away** sessions that will allow for small group interaction and meaningful dialogue between our members and our presenters. These small-group sessions are intended to provide tangible tools and models of practice that our members can **take away** and implement into practice immediately.

Dr. Rhonda Armistead who is the current NASP Program Manager for Professional Standards (and former NASP president), will host a session to introduce the *NASP Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services*, aka the *NASP Practice Model*. NASP's new model of school psychological services defines the services of school psychologists in a manner that meets the needs of 21st century schools. Participants will understand the benefits of having a national model and learn practical strategies for promoting the model within your district. In addition, you will learn how to assess your personal professional strengths, your professional development needs, as well as how to use the Model as an advocacy tool.

Dr. Amy McCart is back by overwhelming request, to follow-up from her presentation to OSPA in the Spring on Positive Behavioral Supports at All 3 Tiers. Dr. McCart will present her *Tier 3 Simplified FBA*, and will provide tools and examples for how to best utilize this tool.

Brian Mangus, a school psychologist employed at Anselm Center for Consultation and Evaluation, will host a session to discuss models of practice for *Implementing Response to Intervention in Early Childhood*. The session will focus on ways to utilize and expand common data collection practices already in place at many early childhood centers, and ways to share said data with program staff for individualized interventions. Additionally, the session will help with the translation process between the two fields by identifying parallel terminology. The session will conclude with an open forum discussion on progress monitoring in early childhood.

Jessica Riediger (school psychologist) and Desarae Witmer (middle school principal) for the Edmond Public Schools, will be presenting how their school has successfully implemented *Response to Intervention at the Secondary Level*. They will provide concrete examples for how they have effectively provided 3 tiers of support to their students, including specific interventions, how secondary implementation differs from elementary, and share data for how RTI has provided positive outcomes for their students.

Please save the date of November 18 to join us for this valuable opportunity. Please visit our website at www.ospaweb.org for further details and registration information.

NASP News

-Candis Hogan, NASP Delegate

Member benefits are better than ever, with new NASP Communities, Continuing Professional Development webinars (some free with membership, some fee-based), podcasts, blogs, Facebook, LinkedIn, beautiful new quality NCSP Certificate w/frame (for purchase), etc.

Celebrate **School Psychology Awareness Week**: "Every Link Matters Make the Connection" November 14-18, 2011 by reaching out to fellow educators, parents, and/or students who help students feel connected, supported, and ready to achieve their goals, with NASP's Gratitude Works Program, Possibilities in Action Partner Program, and Student POWER Awards (Order book-marks online).

Save the date for the **NASP 2012 Annual Convention** February 21-24 in Philadelphia, PA. This year's theme="Advocating for the Emotional Well-Being of Our Nation's Youth." Register by Nov 16, 2011, to get the lowest possible rate, and by October 26 to be entered to win one of six Early Bird Registration prizes. Remember you **MUST** register for the convention before reserving your room at one of three convention hotels at the NASP rate. Looking forward to seeing you at the NASP Booth at **OSPA Fall Conference Nov 18 and at NASP 2012** in Philadelphia!