

Nevada Delegate Candidate--Emma Dickinson

NASP recently adopted its 2010 Model for Comprehensive and Integrated School Psychological Services. What steps would you, as state delegate, take to use the 2010 model to best solidify the professional identity of school psychologists and ensure access to school psychological services by all children, families, and schools?

An important part of my role as state delegate is to promote the NASP practice model. Nevada has had cycles of waxing and waning when it comes to a strong association and affiliation with NASP, similar to the economic patterns which dominate the state. It is important to recognize these patterns and to match the flow as they relate to the climate for change within the association, school psychology profession and introduction of new initiatives.

Using a cautious and practical approach, I will take the following steps to promote the model: I will follow aspects of the model in my own work as a school psychologist. This includes ethical practice, data-based decision making and systems-level support. I will also work with the state association to provide quality professional development aligned with the practice model. We are brainstorming better options for this delivery in the form of roving mini-workshops throughout the state in order to reach a wider audience and to cut down on travel costs. These workshops will cover ethics for members, and other domains, such as systems-wide and individual service delivery options. In addition, I will write a NVASP newsletter article highlighting the practice model and links to professional development opportunities existing online and at the national convention. With information gleaned from attending the National Convention and Western Regional Association Meeting, I will disseminate information on the practice model perspective from other states, to the NVASP board. Finally, I will advocate for the new model by collaborating with our board member who is active with legislative updates and contacts. I believe these strategies will result in positive outcomes and advocacy for the state of School Psychology in Nevada.