

Positive School Climate, Student Wellness, and Improved Academic
Achievement:
Bringing out the Best in Schools and Students

Speaker Bios

Ms. Susan Gorin, MA, CAE

Ms. Susan Gorin is the Executive Director of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) in Bethesda, MD. NASP represents school psychology and supports school psychologists to enhance the learning and mental health of all children and youth. Prior to her NASP position in 1993, Susan served as Assistant Executive Director for Member and Unit Services and Coordinator of Student Leadership at the Council for Exceptional Children for over 18 years. Her BS and MA are in Education. Ms. Gorin is a Certified Association Executive and has been since earning it in 1991.

Anastasia (Stacy) Kalamaros Skalski, PhD

Dr. Stacy Skalski is the Director of Public Policy for the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Dr. Skalski works collaboratively with national policy makers, state leaders, educational and health professionals, and elected officials to advocate for expanding school-based mental health services for children and youth. She has more than twenty years of experience as a practitioner, professor, school administrator and advocate for children's mental health. Prior to joining the NASP staff in 2005, Dr. Skalski served as the Coordinator of Mental Health Services for the Douglas County School District (DCSD), Castle Rock, CO; as an Assistant Research Professor in School Psychology and Initial Teacher Preparation at the University of Colorado at Denver; and as a School Psychologist for the Douglas County and Cherry Creek School Districts. Over the last two decades she has written numerous articles and provided hundreds of professional presentations, trainings, and in-services across the USA on legal issues, assessment, behavior planning, school violence prevention, crisis intervention, response to intervention, and professional issues in school mental health. Dr. Skalski received her BA in psychology (Hanover College, IN, 1985), MA in educational psychology (University of Denver, CO, 1986) and her PhD in school psychology (University of Denver, CO, 1991).

Kathleen Minke, PhD, NCSP

Dr. Kathleen Minke is the President-Elect of NASP. She received her EdS from James Madison University and her PhD from Indiana University. She has worked as a School Psychologist in Virginia, Indiana, and Maryland. Since 1991, she has been a Professor in the School Psychology program at the University of Delaware and currently serves as Acting Director of the School of Education. Her research interests include family-school collaboration, professional issues in school psychology, and positive behavior supports. She has published more than 20 articles and chapters and co-edited three books targeted toward school psychology practice. She teaches courses in family-school collaboration and solution-oriented, strength-based counseling. For the past six years she has been a consultant for the state of Delaware's Positive Behavior Support (PBS) initiative. Dr. Minke's work with the project has focused primarily on family-school collaboration, universal screening and targeted interventions.

Terry Molony, Psy.D., N.C.S.P.

Dr. Terry Molony has been a school psychologist for the past 10 years and currently serves three elementary schools in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, N.J.. Dr. Molony collaborates with teachers and parents in developing academic and behavioral interventions to comprehensively meet the needs of the whole child. These interventions have included Positive Behavior Strategies (PBS), Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS), PRePARE Curriculum, counseling techniques, and positive psychology. Prior to working as a school psychologist, Dr. Molony worked in hospitals, schools and private practice as a licensed clinical social worker. She is a member of the Executive Board of the New Jersey Association of School Psychologists and the NASP Delegate from New Jersey. In addition, she is the coordinator of the NASP Positive Psychology Special Interest Group. Dr. Molony is also an Adjunct Professor at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, where she teaches in the School Psychology Program.

Mr. Kwame Morton, Sr., MS.Ed.

Mr. Kwame Morton, Sr. is currently the principal at the Kilmer Elementary School in the Cherry Hill Public Schools, N.J. Prior to beginning at Kilmer Elementary School he was principal of an elementary school in the Philadelphia School District and an assistant principal in Philadelphia and Brooklyn, NY. He began his education career as a public school teacher in Brooklyn. Mr. Morton holds a MS.Ed. from the College of Saint Rose and a B.S. in Business Administration from Clarion University. He is pursuing an Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Northcentral University. In addition, Mr. Morton participated in School Turnaround Specialist Training at the University of Virginia's Darden/Curry Partnership for Leaders in Education.