Legislative Alert: Send a personal invitation to your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives to attend a bipartisan bicameral briefing in honor of National School Psychology Awareness Week.

Date: November 5, 2009

Action Requested: NASP needs you to personally invite your U.S. Senators and Representatives to attend a congressional briefing called “Positive School Climate, Student Wellness, and Improved Academic Achievement: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Schools.”

NASP needs you to send a personal invitation to your elected officials in Washington, D.C., as they are more likely to attend if they receive an invitation from a constituent like you. This briefing will specifically address ways that school psychologists promote positive school climates and student wellness. A panel of experts including school psychologists and a school principal will address briefing participants. The briefing is being offered during National School Psychology Awareness week in order to bring national attention to the work and services of school psychologists across the country. It is supported by the four lead sponsors of the National School Psychology Week federal resolutions being introduced next week in the House of Representatives (H.Res. 210) and the U.S. Senate (S.Res. 700), including Senator Lincoln (D-AR), Senator Cochran (R-MS), Representative Loebsack (D-IA-2) and Representative Ehlers (R-MI-3).

The purpose of the briefing is to help legislators understand the critical link between academic achievement, positive learning environments, and student’s outlook and resilience, and what schools can do to promote these important factors in school success. I

1. Send a letter to your elected officials through the NASP Advocacy Action Center. Click on the following link and you will be guided through a simple 1-minute process for sending an e-mail to your elected official. You only need your name and address to submit this correspondence. Click on the address here or type it in if your link fails.  
http://capwiz.com/naspweb/home  Click here. Go to the ACTION ALERT box and click on “Send a personal invitation to your elected officials to attend a Congressional Briefing in honor of National School Psychology Awareness Week on November 10, 2009” OR
2. If you know the name of your U.S. Senators or Representative, you can call them by phone: Call the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121. Once you are connected with your elected official, you will likely get a voicemail system or a receptionist where you should say, “Hi, my name is (your name) from (your city and state). As your constituent, I am calling to invite you to attend a Congressional briefing on “Positive School Climate, Student Wellness, and Improved Academic Achievement: Bringing Out the Best in Students and Schools.” This briefing will be held on Tuesday, November 10 from 11am-12:30pm (lunch included) in the Senate Visitors Center in the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center Room 201/200. This briefing will provide valuable information about the critical link between academic achievement, positive learning environments, and student’s outlook and resilience, and what schools can do to promote these important factors in school success. Thank you for considering attending this important event. If you need to reach me for any reason, you can contact me at (your phone number) or (your e-mail address)."

3. Forward this e-mail to any school psychologist friends or other educator that you think might be interested in participating in this effort. They do not have to be NASP members to participate.

If you would like to review the House and Senate National School Psychology Week resolutions, please click here [http://thomas.loc.gov]:
http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/z?q=c111:S.RES.210:
http://thomas.loc.gov/cgi-bin/bdquery/z?d111:HE00700:|/bss/111search.html]

Thank you for your advocacy efforts and being part of the 1-minute solution! If you have any questions or comments about this alert, please feel free to contact NASP Public Policy Director, Stacy Skalski, at sskalski@naspweb.org or 301-657-0270.

“I never worry about action, but only inaction.”
--Winston Churchill