John Lody Receives Possibilities in Action Partnership Award

Bethesda, MD—The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has recognized John Lody of Loudoun County Public Schools (LCPS) as a national Possibilities in Action Partner. NASP established the Possibilities in Action Partnership program to honor teachers, administrators, other staff, and parents who contribute in an extraordinary way to support the needs of the whole child in furthering positive school outcomes.

Lody currently serves as Director of Diagnostic and Prevention Services for LCPS. His leadership has allowed LCPS to make great strides in improving its students’ access to mental health services that are vital to their academic, social, and emotional well-being by improving the number of school psychologists in the district. At the state level, Lody has worked to improve learning disabilities assessment, spread awareness of contemporary cognitive theory, and promote school-based threat assessment to improve school safety. As a member of the Virginia School Psychology Advisory Committee, he has been influential in developing best practices in school psychology across Virginia.

“Loudoun County is an example of a school district working to meet the individual learning and mental health needs of all students,” says Susan Gorin, NASP Executive Director. “We know this is critical to student success, and John has played a vital role in improving access to needed services, such as those provided by school psychologists.”

Among other responsibilities, school psychologists assess student learning needs, support student mental health through counseling, and provide risk assessment and crisis interventions. They consult with teachers and administrators on instruction, behavior management, and school safety. Lody’s efforts in support of this work have been extraordinary. NASP is pleased to honor Lody’s dedication and leadership in helping children, families, and educators in Loudoun County and across Virginia.

NASP represents 25,000 school psychologists throughout the United States and abroad. NASP represents and supports school psychology through leadership to enhance the mental health and educational competence of all children. Further information about school psychology, NASP, and our Possibilities in Action Partnership program is available at www.nasponline.org.

Photo available. Inquiries should be directed to Kathy Cowan, NASP Director of Communications, 301-657-0270, ext. 226, or kcowan@naspweb.org, or to Wayde B. Byard, LCPS Public Information Officer, 571-252-1040, or Wayde.Byard@lcps.org.

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