

ANDREW SHANOCK
State Delegate Candidate: New York
Statement 1

What are your qualifications that make you a strong candidate for delegate?

I humbly write this statement for you to consider electing me as your New York NASP Delegate. Over the last twenty years, I have dedicated my life to the field of school psychology as a practicing school psychologist and as a trainer. I have exhibited my leadership skills and ability to serve New York school psychologists by proudly fulfilling my elected positions as President of the New York Association of School Psychologists (NYASP) and the Trainers of School Psychologists of New York (TSP-NY). I am also the current President of the Trainers of School Psychologists (TSP). I believe that I have been repeatedly elected to these statewide and national positions because of my focus on building relationships, my genuine interest and excitement of learning from others, as well as my sincere yet fierce advocacy for all school psychologists and the children and families they serve.

What is the most pressing issue in your state? As NASP Delegate, how do you see your role in working with your state association to address this issue?

In conjunction with the responsibilities of the offices I have held, my work as a consultant keeps me keenly aware of the current issues facing the daily working lives of school psychologists. I visit with school districts throughout New York and collaborate with different professional educational organizations to help build the bridge between research and practice. While there are a great many commonalities regarding the challenges that we all face, within each region of New York there are unique factors that differentiate the role of school psychologists. For example, the shortage of monolingual and bilingual school psychologists impacts each area of the state differently. Access to mental and behavioral health supports varies between and within urban, suburban, and rural communities. As your Delegate, I can and will ably represent the concerns and needs of all.

As NASP Delegate, I can continue my work with NYASP to address the issues of social justice. During my presidency, I asked each Board member to set goals for their service, and within each goal the concepts of equity and diversity had to be incorporated. I saw this approach as vital in ensuring that social justice was integral to our daily work. As part of my duties as NASP Delegate, it will be more than simply sharing the wealth of justice resources that NASP has developed, but it will be how to effectively implement various strategies throughout New York by knowing and appreciating the environmental nuances of each region and each district. In that same vein, as Delegate I hope to lead collaborative efforts by NASP and NYASP to address the ongoing challenges that COVID has brought to our districts, our children, and to our roles as school psychologists. It will be imperative to make sure communication around policies, procedures, and best practice is clear and understandable.

Over the years I have come to know so many of you and the remarkable work that you do. You are a constant source of inspiration, and you push me to be a better school psychologist. To represent you on the national level would be of the highest of honors.