Overview of the 2015 GW/NASP Public Policy Institute

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George Washington University
Goals of the 2015 GW/NASP Public Policy Institute

• Learn about how public policies are made and the changing federal role in education.
• Examine how trauma sensitive schools can be supported in policy and practice.
• Understand how IDEA, ESEA/NCLB, emerging national policies, and current federal legislation promote student success.
• Learn how to develop grassroots advocacy campaigns to effectively influence legislation, administrative policy, and professional practices.
• Engage with national leaders and experience firsthand how legislation is created and advanced on Capitol Hill.
• Examine how school administrators, teachers, counselors, school psychologists and other stakeholders can more effectively collaborate to provide comprehensive student learning supports.
2015 PPI Theme

Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools: Supportive Policies and Practices for Learning
Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools
The Fundamental Concepts

• Trauma-Sensitive schools are those that recognize behaviors as a developmental response to their experiences – not necessarily representative of willful, purposeful misbehavior.

• Adults in the building have an awareness and sensitivity to the potential impact of trauma and adverse experiences on students’ lives.
Guiding Questions for the Public Policy Institute

• What practices have a positive effect on learning and behavior, and are we effectively utilizing these practices in schools?
• Are there sufficient learning supports accessible in school for struggling students?
• To what extent are schools focusing on the prevention of problems that interfere with learning vs. simply reacting to problems as they occur?
• How can we help schools adopt policies and practices that support students who have experienced trauma while also setting high expectations for learning and behavior?
Common Themes Related to Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools

- Understanding the impact of trauma on health, mental health, and wellness
- Recognizing how trauma effects physiological, cognitive, social emotional, and behavioral responses
- Creating a sense of safety and belonging is critical to school and student success
- Improving understanding of appropriate disciplinary strategies and de-escalation techniques is essential
- Identifying needs for professional development for staff
Program Overview: July 15-17

Day 1: Foundations of Educational Policy

- Introductions by GW & NASP Leaders and Participants
- Foundational and feature presentations by prominent leaders from the Institute for Educational Leadership, Center on Education Policy, First Focus, the IDEA Partnership, Preparing for Capitol Hill Experience
- Introduction to Trauma Sensitive Schools
- Regional networking
- Evening Networking Reception at TONIC (just down the street) for all PPI Participants and presenters (Free food & drink)
Program Overview: July 15-17

Day 2  Federal Programs & Policies and Practices to Promote Student Resilience

- US Department of Education:
  - David Esquith, Director, *Office of Safe and Healthy Students*
  - Renee Bradley, Deputy Director, *Office of Special Education Programs*

- Kids Count—Annie E Casey Foundation

- Featured Speaker: Dr. Marleen Wong, University of Southern California, *The Importance of Trauma Informed Schools*

- Reflection Discussions Around the Federal Role in Education and Trauma Sensitive Schools

- Team planning for the Capitol Hill experience (Lunch)

- Evening Session for NASP Approved Credit Participants Only: NASP GPR committee presents “NASP Advocacy: Program, Policies, and Practices”
Program Overview: July 15-17

Day 3 Capitol Hill Day Experience

- Continental Breakfast on Capitol Hill
- Legislative Hill Staff Panel Discussion
- Hill Visits to Elected Officials
- Touring the Capitol, Gallery viewing, and Observing the Legislative Process
- Final Debriefing (all participants)
- Dismissal of 3-day Participants
- Teamwork Session: 5-day participants
Day 4  Policy into Practice, Part 1
Theme: Understanding the health, mental health, and educational needs of trauma impacted students.

– Ted Talk: How Childhood Trauma Affects Health
– Dr. Stacy Overstreet, Exposure to Community Violence
– Children in Transition Panel
– Dr. Todd Savage, Helping Transgender Students Succeed at Home and School
– Jenee Littrell, Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth
Program Overview: July 20 & 21

Day 5  Policy into Practice, Part 2

Theme: An Integrated Approach to Creating Trauma Sensitive Schools

– Boston Public Schools Showcase
– National Organization Panel: Building Policy Support for Trauma Sensitive Schools
– Developing Policy Application Activity
– Team Presentations
Trauma-Informed Care Belief Measure Psychometric Study

• You are invited to participate in a study focused on validating the ARTIC, the first measure systematically developed to evaluate individuals’ attitudes related to trauma-informed care.

• The purpose of the current study is to build psychometric support for the ARTIC in order to facilitate data-based decision-making about trauma-informed approaches such as trauma-sensitive schools.

• How do I participate?
  – You will receive an invitation email containing a link to the 20-25 minute online survey.
  – Click on the link to complete the study.

• Participants who complete the study can choose to enter a raffle for one of two $25 Amazon gift cards.

• Thank you for your consideration!

• Research being conducted by Tulane University, Dr. Courtney Baker
Supporting and Educating Traumatized Students: A Guide for School Based Professionals

Editors: Eric Rossen and Robert Hull

For sale during PPI for $40. (30% discount off retail cost)

Optional for 3-day; Required course text for 5-day

Disclosure: Eric Rossen is the Director of Professional Development and Standards, NASP
PPI Etiquette

• Turn off or mute all cell phones in class.
• Please be on time each morning and to all scheduled events, including Capitol Hill appointments.
• Use scheduled breaks wisely in order to minimize disruptions during speaker or panel presentations.
• Business casual for the week and business dress for fieldtrips. Comfortable shoes are recommended (but not flip-flops).
PPI Etiquette, continued

- Be respectful and considerate of differing opinions and points of view.
- *Introduce yourself* when speaking.
- Be respectful of the time -- get swiftly to your question or point.
- Pick up all trash and place in appropriate receptacles.
- Direct questions about course requirements and GW campus to Carol or Pam.
- Direct questions about NASP, logistics, and/or organizational issues to Stacy, Kelly or Christina.
PPI Resources and Extras

• Training Notebook
  – Daily Agenda and Related Information
  – Syllabus (5-day participants only)
  – Session PowerPoints
  – Evaluations
  – Logistical Information (maps, instructions, etc.)
  – Some supplemental Information (flyers, brochures, etc.)

• Online Webpage with Supplemental Information & Handouts (access protected)
  – Includes readings, additional handouts, electronic PPTs, links to valuable websites, etc.

• Congressional Handbook

• Metro Pass ($10 pass for field trip to Capitol Hill)

• Daily meals
PPI & Social Media

Don’t miss out on what’s happening at PPI! Get the latest updates, including program changes, share news, and connect with friends and colleagues.

• **Become a Fan of NASP on Facebook** – ‘Like’ the NASP Facebook page and get fun updates, photos and information from PPI!

• **Do You Instagram?** Share what’s happening in your sessions and at PPI by tagging your photos with the address #NASPonTheHill and you might see your photo on the NASP Facebook page!

**Do you tweet?** Follow our [Twitter feed!](#) Twitter is @nasponline, use #NASPonTheHill
Toast to your Successful PPI Experience!!

• Purchase your GW/NASP PPI Pint Glass or Tumbler today!
• $6.00 Pint Glass; $9.00 Tumbler Glass
• See Christina Koch to purchase.
Here to Help You During PPI

GW University
• Carol Kochhar-Bryant, Senior Associate Dean, GSEHD
• Pamela Leconte, Asst. Research Professor in Special Education
• Popsy Kanagaratnam, Graduate Assistant Intern

NASP Staff & Leaders
• Stacy Skalski, Director of Professional Policy and Practice
• Kelly Vaillancourt Strobach, Director of Government Relations
• Christina Koch, Manager of Professional Relations
• GPR Committee & Regional Assignments for PPI
  – Katie Eklund (Central)
  – Peter Faustino (NE)
  – Nate Von de Embse (SE)
  – Margaret Sedor (West)
Questions? Comments?

Participant Introductions