Overview of the 2012 GW/NASP Public Policy Institute

Wednesday, July 11, 2012
George Washington University

PRESENTERS

Carol Kochhar-Bryant
Senior Associate Dean, GSEHD
George Washington University

Stacy Kalamaros Skalski
Director of Professional Policy & Practice
National Association of School Psychologists

Pamela Leconte
Assistant Research Professor
George Washington University
Goals of the Public Policy Institute

Theme: Creating Safe and Supportive Conditions for Learning: Directions for the Nation

• Learn about how public policies are made and the changing federal role in education.

• Be introduced to the model of “whole child” education and the relationship between healthy school environments and academic progress.

• Understand the connections between IDEA, ESEA/NCLB, emerging national policies, and current federal legislation that promotes safe and successful schools.

• Explore how schools can recognize and respond to the needs of vulnerable student populations by creating supportive classroom and school environments that promote student learning.
Goals of the Public Policy Institute, continued

- Learn how to become advocates and “change agents” and participate in influencing legislative and administrative policy, and professional practices.
- Develop personal or organizational action plans to promote advocacy agendas.
- 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.
What are Safe & Supportive Conditions for Learning?

» Safe learning environments promote student well-being, prevent negative behaviors, and engage students in the classroom and broader school community.

» Students need to:
  (a) be able to come to school knowing they are safe, welcomed, and respected
  (b) have a trusting relationship with at least one adult in the building
  (c) understand clear academic and behavioral expectations
  (d) understand their role as positive members of the school community.

» Positive conditions for learning are shaped by the attitudes, expectations, policies, and practices of school personnel.
Common Policy and Practice Themes Addressing Safe & Supportive Conditions for Learning

- School Climate
- Bullying and Harassment Prevention
- Social Emotional Learning
- Promotion of Student Wellness Programs
- Drop Out Prevention
- School Safety
- Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports
- Access to Specialized Instructional Support Personnel including School-employed and Community-employed Mental Health Services
Program Highlights: July 11-13

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 for Law and Education, First Focus, and Annie E. Casey Foundation
• Preparing for Capitol Hill Experience
• Facilitated Dialogue Session
• Evening Networking Reception at TONIC (2 blocks down the street) for all PPI Participants (Free food and a drink)
Program Highlights: July 11-13

Day 2 Creating Safe Conditions for Successful Learning

- US Department of Education Office of Safe and Healthy Students, Office of Special Education Programs, National IDEA Partnership
- Featured Speaker: Susan Swearer, University of NE, Co-founder of the Bullying Research Network
- Featured Speaker: JoAnn Freiberg, National School Climate Center
- Facilitated Dialogue Session
- Evening Session for 3-day Participants Only: NASP GPR committee presents “NASP Advocacy: Program, Policies, and Practices”
Program Highlights: July 11-13

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 & Dismissal of 3-day Participants
Program Highlights: July 16 & 17

Day 4  Policy into Practice, Part 1

» State Spotlight (CO): Making Learning Supports a Priority in State Education Policy & Practice

» David Osher, Principal Investigator for the Safe and Supportive Schools National Technical Assistance Center—Building Safe and Supportive Schools

» Safe Schools, Healthy Students: Addressing the Needs of Commercially Sexually Exploited Youth

» State and District Spotlight (PA): Pocono Mountain Schools & PA Dept. of Education—Scaling up PBIS

» Dialogue Guide Activity: Common Core Standards
Program Highlights: July 16 & 17

Day 5  Policy into Practice, Part 2

» Featured Film: Who Cares About Kelsey?
» Featured Presenters: Jonathon Drake from the NH Institute for Disability and the Debra Grabill from the NH Community of Practice
» Featured Presenter: Jack Jennings, Founder, Center on Education Policy
» Team Presentations
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 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.
- Balance speaking and listening.
- 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 Allison.
Here to Help You During PPI

GW University
- Carol Kochhar-Bryant, Senior Associate Dean, GSEHD
- Pamela Leconte, Asst. Research Professor in Special Education
- Jacqueline Smith, Research Assistant

NASP Staff & Leaders
- Stacy Skalski, Director of Professional Policy and Practice
- Kelly Vaillancourt, Director of Government Relations
- Mary Beth Klotz, Director of IDEA Projects & Technical Assistance
- Allison Bollinger, Manager of Professional Relations
- GPR Committee & Regional Assignments for PPI
  » John Kelly (NY), GPR Chair
  » Barry Barbarasch (NJ), Northeastern
  » Charlotte Smith (MO), Central
  » Laurie Klose (TX) Southeastern
  » Fulvia Franco (UT) Western
Questions? Comments?

Participant Introductions