The National Association of School Psychologists, in cooperation with Representative Loebsack (IA-2), invites you to attend:

Rethinking School Safety: Schools and Communities Working Together

What: Please join us for lunch and a panel discussion focusing on how schools can prevent violence, improve safety, and bolster academic achievement by creating conditions for learning that emphasize student support and well-being as integral to school success. Connecting essential services and improving school–community collaboration is critical to making the most effective use of school resources in tight budget times.

When: Wednesday, December 11, 2013, 12:30–2:30 p.m. (Lunch will be provided.)

Where: Rayburn House Office Building (RHOB) Room 2168 (Gold Room)

Why: Effective school safety efforts do not begin in response to a crisis event. Rather, safety and crisis programming must be part of a comprehensive, whole-school approach that encompasses prevention, early intervention, and response services designed to support learning. Such efforts contribute to positive school climate, promote trauma recovery, and improve access to mental health services.

Key components of safe, supportive schools include:

- School-wide programs and services that prevent negative behaviors such as bullying, violence, gang involvement, substance abuse, and truancy
- Comprehensive and coordinated learning supports that directly contribute to student social–emotional wellness, mental health, positive behavior, and learning—even in the aftermath of a crisis event
- Positive school climates that promote student connectedness and family engagement
- Integrated safety and crisis efforts that support physical and psychological safety
- School–community partnerships that maximize appropriate use of resources
- Effective use of data to identify and address critical issues related to school safety and engagement
- School-based specialized instructional support personnel who are integrally involved in development, delivery, and evaluation of these services

NASP represents more than 25,000 school psychologists who work with students, educators, and families to support academic achievement, positive school climate and safety, and the mental well-being of all students. School psychologists are critical members of the team working to create safe, supportive schools and student success.

Who: Drawing on their extensive experience, panelists will review the key components of safe, supportive schools and how to use student support resources to maximum benefit.

- Cathy Kennedy-Paine, School Psychologist, Chair of the NASP National Emergency Assistance Team (NEAT)
- Christina Connolly-Wilson, Director of Crisis Intervention and Safety, Waukegan Public Schools, IL
- Mo Canady, Executive Director of the National Association of School Resource Officers
- Thomas Demaria, PhD, Director of Psychological Services Center at Long Island University
- David Osher, Vice President and Codirector, Human and Social Development Program; AIR Institute Fellow
- Nelba Márquez-Greene, LMFT, Mental Health and Relational Wellness Director for Sandy Hook Promise and Founder, Ana Grace Project (by video)

Remarks by honored guest, Representative Loebsack (IA-2) (invited).

Please RSVP by December 6, 2013, to Allison Bollinger Miller at amiller@naspweb.org. Contact Kelly Vaillancourt at kvaillancourt@naspweb.org with questions.