

# South Dakota Association of School Psychologists



Summer 2012

MARK YOUR  
CALENDAR:  
September 20-21, 2012  
SDASP Conference in  
Chamberlain, SD

## SDASP UPDATE

### Behavior Workshop

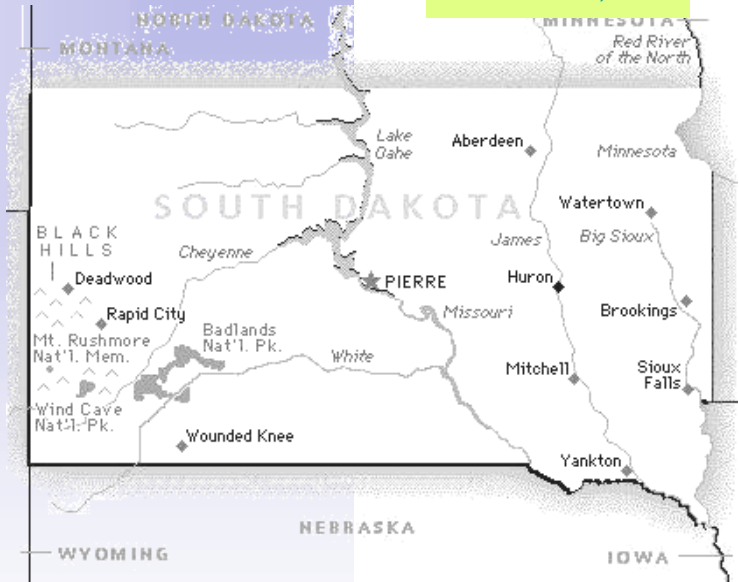
School Psychologists Kari Oyen (Lennox School District), Joyce Anderson (Watertown School District), and Alyssa Larson (Watertown School District) presented on April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Muenster University Center on The University of South Dakota's campus. Over 70 attendees from across the state learned about intervening with students with problematic behaviors, RTI and positive behavior

support for all students, and strategies for serving students with emotional and behavioral problems. Kari presented on PBIS elements such as antecedent modification strategies, functionally equivalent re-

placement behaviors, positive reinforcement, and reactive strategies (major behavior problems). Regarding national PBIS speakers, she highly recommends hearing Diana Browning-Wright if you can. Joyce shared information about six components for a multi-tiered behavioral support system and specific universal screening instruments, tier basics, and data-based decision making. She emphasized the importance of data (continued on page 3) collection through progress



*From left: Kari Oyen from Lennox; Alyssa Larson and Joyce Anderson, both from Watertown*



### Inside this issue

President's Page.....	2
From the Editor.....	3
Job Openings/Farewells..	4
NASP .....	5
West River Planning .....	6
Conferences .....	7
Executive Board Roles.....	8
Children's Day .....	9
Membership App.....	10
<b>NEW!!</b>	
Submission Dates.....	11

SDASP Website:  
<http://www.sdasp.k12.sd.us/>



*Kristi Kafka, SDASP President*

#### MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASING

Attending the NASP Central Region Meeting has many benefits. One of which is the opportunity to learn how neighboring state's school psychology associations are run. Some have lobbyists and full or part-time office staff. Others are much like South Dakota and lead by full-time school psychologists. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we learned our membership dues are the lowest in the region. Given the changing economy and costs related to putting on conferences and workshops, the Executive Board voted to increase dues to \$45 for regular members and leave retired and student membership rates the same. Increased dues will allow the organization to bring in national speakers, provide additional workshops beyond the annual conference, and keep up with rising venue costs.

## President's Page

Hello! Summer is a good time to plan ways to more effectively help students achieve academic, behavioral, emotional, and social successes next year. Thanks to participating in the state's Sped Forms Workgroup, I have been thinking about assessing emotional difficulties. At the May meeting, a group member suggested adding "emotional" as an area to evaluate because saying we are assessing "behavior" can be misleading. I commented it seemed unnecessary; most school psychologists primarily use instruments that measure *behavior*; and many school psychologists do not "go on record" with anxiety or depression because outside agencies are often involved when Emotional Disturbance is being considered. Then on the long drive home from Pierre and in the days that followed, I got to thinking. What about those cases where outside service providers are not involved? When they are, how thorough is the assessment process that determines the presence and severity of anxiety or depression? Why *don't* I examine depression or anxiety

specifically, rather than use broad behavioral assessment instruments? Ultimately, I realized I need to approach Emotional Disturbance evaluations differently. As a school psychologist, I have been trained how to conduct a comprehensive assessment and interpret results. Certainly, eligibility is a team decision, but I need to do my part by collecting the most salient information regarding suspected disabilities. Even if outside mental or medical health providers are involved, I can examine depression and anxiety and should especially do so if they are not involved. Realizations like this are humbling but necessary. Assessing anxiety and depression in a more comprehensive way is no different than evaluations for ADHD, Aspergers, or autism, which many of us do. So, this summer I will be re-searching instruments that assess anxiety and depression to improve my evaluations. (If you use any you really like, please let me know!) I hope to always grow and question myself and wish the same for you too.

---

***Given the changing economy and costs related to putting on conferences and workshops, the Executive Board voted to increase dues to \$45 for regular members and leave retired and student membership rates the same.  
(see sidebar)***

---

## Salary and Benefits Survey

A SDASP Salary and Benefits survey was conducted this spring. Thank you to those of you that submitted information on such short notice. SDASP collects this data periodically as a member benefit. In the future, only *current* members will be emailed this data so if you have let your membership lapse, be sure to renew and stay current!

## From the Editor

As I was closing out the 2011-2012 school year, I decided that this has clearly been the busiest year I have experienced in my 28 years of education (did I say that last year, too?). Maybe the needs are greater or maybe I am older and things just seem busier. I struggle with balancing the two faces of my job as a school psychologist in our district: the documenting/paperwork side and the helping-people-in-the-trenches side. Both sides are important, but the latter tugs at my conscience more and therefore gets more of my attention during my work days; that leaves night time for the other side, which creates a logistical problem for a family person. I'm working on it and will let you know how I fare.

Now it's summer with its endless list of benefits. Here are a few:

1. My trunk seems to have more room for groceries since I am not carrying around all those test kits.
2. I can shop for groceries during the daylight hours.
3. My brain feels very lucid after getting eight hours of sleep at night, which I intend to do more often after I finish this newsletter.
4. I can read a book that is not related to psychology or education. (You should know that I went to the library to get actual books to read, not e-books. The first book I picked up in the New Releases section is written by a man with Asperger Syndrome [see side bar]. I couldn't pass that up because books written by individuals with spectrum disorders are probably the most insightful for helping me to help others who suffer from the same. I am reading that book first and then I will read something not related to my job.)
5. I can sit on my under-used deck and watch birds, read, hum, listen to lawn mowers, and do anything else that doesn't require a computer.

---

*By the Numbers: The Ohio School Psychologists Association has 67 individuals on their Executive Board. SDASP has 16.*

---

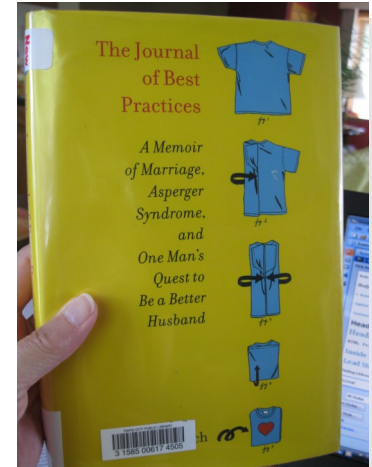
## Behavior Workshop (Continued from page 1)

monitoring to help make better decisions. Alyssa shared statistics regarding students with emotional behavioral disorders, the 7 Big Ideas, and described specific interventions, including resources used, based on her experience with



*Stephanie Nesselhuff checks in Kimmy Mickelson during registration.*

the Watertown behavior intervention classrooms. Alyssa specifically referenced Cognitive-Behavior Therapy curriculums such as Coping Cat, Coping Power, Coping with Stress Course, and Cognitive Behavior Intervention for Trauma in Schools. Workshop evaluations were remarkably positive and thanks to SDASP becoming a NASP Provider, we were able to provide 4.5 hours of CPDs to attendees. Please thank these ladies for their contribution to public education and for positively promoting our profession.



## Book Review

The book (above) to which I referred in *From the Editor* is called *The Journal of Best Practices: A Memoir of Marriage, Asperger Syndrome, and One Man's Quest to Be a Better Husband*, written by David Finch (2012, Scribner). The author is an engineer who was diagnosed with Asperger Syndrome as an adult. His wife is a speech therapist who first identified his symptoms.

The memoir tells about the discovery of his syndrome and how the diagnosis changed his life and saved his marriage. He describes his thought processes and the notes, or best practices as he calls them, which he writes on every scrap of paper he finds. "With my marriage in dire straits, I decided that even if I needed to make flash cards about certain behaviors and staple them to my face to make them become second nature, I was willing to do it...Many people leave reminder notes for themselves: Pick up milk and shampoo, or Dinner with the Hargroves at 6:00. My notes read: Respect the needs of others, and Do not laugh during visitation tonight, and Do not EVER suggest that Kristen doesn't seem to enjoy spending time with our kids." The author's progress is painstakingly difficult, but he tells about it with a good smattering of humor. One caution: strong expletives are used.

## Job Openings

**Mid-Central Cooperative** has an opening for a school psychologist or school psychology intern. Competitive salary and car provided. For information on this position contact Penny McCormick-Gilles at 605-207-0243 or e-mail a resume to [penny.mccormick-gilles@k12.sd.us](mailto:penny.mccormick-gilles@k12.sd.us)

**Pierre School District** has an opening for a school psychologist. For more information, please contact:

Mary Lou Goehring, Executive Assistant  
Pierre School District; 211 S Poplar Avenue; Pierre SD 57501  
Phone: 605-773-7300; FAX: 605-773-7304  
Email: [Marylou.goehring@k12.sd.us](mailto:Marylou.goehring@k12.sd.us)

### **Northwest Area Education Coop**

Position Name: School Psychologist - open until filled  
Date Opened: 6/6/2012 Date Closes: 8/1/2012  
District Web Site: [nwas1@yahoo.com](mailto:nwas1@yahoo.com)

### **Brandon Valley School District**

Position Name: Autism Specialist  
Date Opened: 6/18/2012 Date Closes: 7/13/2012  
District Web Site: [www.brandonvalleyschools.com](http://www.brandonvalleyschools.com)  
Position Web Site: [www.brandonvalleyschools.com](http://www.brandonvalleyschools.com)  
Position Contact Email: [David.Pappone@k12.sd.us](mailto:David.Pappone@k12.sd.us)

## Farewells



Best wishes to **Margaret Pier** who retired from the Pierre School District this year. While doing contract work at St. Joseph's Indian School in Chamberlain, she became Kristi Kafka's inspiration to become a school psychologist. Margaret recently served as SDASP's Central Region Area Representative. She will undoubtedly be missed by her schools and coworkers but we wish her a happy retirement and thank her for many years of service!



Congratulations to **Anita Winter**, who retired from the Rapid City Area Schools this spring. She will, however, continue to be our NASP delegate. She will be missed at her schools and we are all grateful for her hard work and dedication.

## STUDENT NEWS

*SDASP Update* is seeking news and information about students in school psychology programs. Please submit information to the editor: [coralee@rap.midco.net](mailto:coralee@rap.midco.net)

## In Memoriam



### **Charles W. Barron, Jr.**

died December 11, 2011. SDASP sent condolences to his family. His beautiful obituary reminds us that school psychologists give much more to their communities than we often realize. Charlie's daughter, Heather Galvan, continues his tradition of helping children in her work as a school psychologist in Nebraska. Obituary can be found at:

<http://www.wintzrayfuneralhome.com/obituaries/barroncharles.html>



# NASP Central Regional Meeting



*Above: Anita prepares the SDASP display board. The delegation shared South Dakota made goodies with participants at the meeting.*

Kristi Kafka, Anita Winter, and Stephanie Nesselhuff traveled to Minneapolis for the NASP Central Regional Meeting. The primary focus was the NASP Practice Model and how states are using or promoting it. If you are not familiar with the 10 Domains of the NASP Practice Model please check it out on NASP's website.

The photos displayed here were inadvertently left out of the last newsletter. Refer to Kristi Kafka's discussion on the President's page of the last newsletter for more information about the event. Archives of previous newsletters are accessible at SDASP's website:

<http://www.sdasp.k12.sd.us/>



Denver, CO  
July 9-11

Minneapolis, MN  
July 23-25

## Questions?

Please contact NASP with questions or requests for more information:

[convention@naspweb.org](mailto:convention@naspweb.org)

phone: (301) 657-0270

toll free: (866) 331-6277



*From Left: Kristi Kafka, SDASP President; Stephanie Nesselhuff, SDASP Secretary; Phillip Lazarus, NASP President; Anita Winter, NASP Representative*



**Mark Your Calendar!**  
**NASP 2013 Annual Convention**  
**February 12-15, 2013**  
**Washington State Convention Center/**  
**Sheraton Seattle**



*Participants at the West River Planning Day on April 27, 2012*

*Pictured on the front steps of the Alpine Inn are front row, left to right: Cherise Lerew (Spearfish), Cora Lee Alley (Rapid City), Elizabeth Deserly (Lead/Deadwood), Keyra Comer (Spearfish); middle row: George Lee (Rapid City), Jill Hibbard (Rapid City), Jennifer Negrette (Black Hills Special Services Coop), Bev McLeod (Rapid City), Sonja Shannon (Rapid City, retired); back row: Tom Brey (Rapid City), Anita Winter (Rapid City), Duane Tumas (Rapid City), Curtis Middleton (Rapid City); not pictured because she was behind the camera: Marsha Burgraff (Hill City).*

*Congratulations to Jill Hibbard (pictured above) for completing her internship with the Rapid City Area Schools. She met and exceeded her training goals and has accepted a position with the Black Hills Special Services Cooperative.*

## West River Planning Day in Hill City

The School Psychology Department from the Rapid City Area Schools invited other West River school psychologists to join them for a day of planning and review. This is a once a year occasion for psychologists to stop and consider ways to improve services, stay current with test updates, and review compliance rules. We also took a look at changes in technology and brainstormed methods for improving efficiency. The group met in a conference room at the Super 8 and walked over to the famous Alpine Inn for lunch.



*Above: Cammie Clark at Betsy Ross' house*

*Left: Cammie Clark (South Central Coop), George Lee (Rapid City), and Connie Tucker (Douglas) in the City of Brotherly Love.*

## NASP Conference Photos

Connie Tucker, school psychologist for the Douglas School System, submitted photos from the 2012 NASP Conference in Philadelphia.

**Next year's conference is in Seattle. If you go, take a few photos and submit them to the newsletter!**

## Conferences

### ALERT!

The *SDASP Update* is seeking the following information:

—SDASP member involvement in **state committees**. Would you please send an email to [coralee@rap.midco.net](mailto:coralee@rap.midco.net) if you are involved?

—If you have events to report such as **retirements, awards, deaths**, please submit information to [coralee@rap.midco.net](mailto:coralee@rap.midco.net)

—A majority of our members work in schools. If you are in **private practice** as a school psychologist, let us know about your successes or challenges, or just say hello and tell us what you do. Send to [coralee@rap.midco.net](mailto:coralee@rap.midco.net)

I would rather travel around as the roving reporter and meet everyone, but you probably know the rest of that story.

The next deadline for submission is September 1, 2012.



### **SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**

#### **—CONFERENCE PREVIEW—**

**September 20-21, 2012 — AmericInn, Chamberlain**

Focusing on Asperger Syndrome

Dr. Frank Sansosti will speak on HFA/Aspergers in Schools: Strategies for Success and Interventions for Teaching Social Skills.

Dr. Scott Schneider will discuss

the diagnosis of Aspergers and co-occurring disorders.

Watch for details on this 1 1/2 day conference

in the heart of South Dakota where East meets West.



The Learning Disabilities Association of South Dakota

has announced its 2012 Conference:

### ***Enlightened Minds/Bright Futures***

**October 11-13, 2012, in Rapid City, South Dakota**

An all day symposium on Friday will be led by Dr. Sam Goldstein on the topic of ADHD. A keynote Saturday morning will be presented by Christian Moore of *WhyTry*. The *WhyTry* Program is a strength-based approach to helping youth overcome their challenges and improve outcomes in the areas of truancy, behavior, and academics.

**For more information contact:**

Margie Neugebauer, MA, LPC, GCDF

LDA-SD Executive Director, 1021 S. Courtland St., Chamberlain, SD 57325 605-234-0175



# SDASP Executive Board Roles

The following is a combination of formal and informal expectations. Some are listed in the association's Constitution and Bylaws and others have developed over time. If you are interested in becoming involved or know someone who might be a good candidate for board membership, contact President Kristi Kafka or your area representative (see sidebar).

## President

- Preside at Association meetings (at least 1) and act as chairman of the Executive Board (2/calendar year)
- Appoint standing committees and task forces
- Designate emissaries to other offices and agencies
- Promote objectives of the Association
- Attend NASP Region meeting with President-Elect and NASP Delegate
- Attend NASP Convention/meetings
- Attend/encourage attendance at Children's Day at the Capitol
- By March 1<sup>st</sup> select 2 members to help with Nominating Committee (usually a team effort)
- President plus 2 non-candidate members supervise elections
- President notifies membership of election results

## President-Elect

- Assume and perform duties of the President in the event of absence or incapacity
- Succeed the President at the end of his/her term
- Attend executive board meetings
- Attend NASP Region meeting with President and NASP Delegate
- Advisor/promoter of continuing ed., professional in-service training activities, membership recruitment
- Gift for outgoing President (coordinate with Treasurer)

## Secretary

- Maintain records of all meetings of Executive Board
- Maintain relevant information on the general membership (Treasurer has inherited this...)
- Respond to membership inquiries
- Promote new and continued membership
- Forward pertinent minutes of Executive Board activities to members of the Board and Newsletter Editor

- Prepare and issue ballots on issues requiring the vote of the general membership
- Attend Executive Board meetings or send designee

## Treasurer

- Have custody of all funds of the Association and deposit them in the Association bank
- Have authority to sign checks and pay debts on behalf of the Association as approved
- Present current financial status report at each Executive Board and general membership meeting

## Immediate Past-President

- Serve as counsel and advisor to the Executive Board
- Chairman of the Nominations Committee for the elections of new officers
- Nominations need signatures of 2 members and indicate the nominee will serve if elected (rarely happens)
- By May 1<sup>st</sup> mail ballots and allow 30 days for reply (rarely happens)

## Area Representatives – two year term

- Keep current information on school psychologists within area
- Attend executive board meetings
- Identify and represent needs, interests, and desires of Association members within area
- Promote membership
- Keep area members informed of professional concerns (meetings, email, newsletter)
- If Executive Board determines an A.R. is unable/unwilling to serve a replacement will be appointed
- Coordinate Bruce Rens Scholarship (poster presentations, professional paper)
- Coordinate School Psychologist of the Year (PR, review nominations, selection, plaque)
- Spring: send request for nominations
- Fall: send another request for nominations
- Door prize solicitation and distribution or delegation of distribution

## SDASP Executive Board Members

President – Kristi Kafka  
kristi.kafka@k12.sd.us

President-Elect –  
Stephanie Nesselhuff  
stephanie.nesselhuff@k12.sd.us

Secretary – Alyssa Larson  
alyssa.larson@k12.sd.us

Treasurer – Kari Oyen  
kari.oyen@k12.sd.us

Past-President –  
Roxana Uttermark  
roxana.uttermark@northern.edu

Northeast Rep – Maria Meyer  
maria.meyer@k12.sd.us

Central Rep – Amanda Wilson  
amanda.wilson@k12.sd.us

Western Rep – Curtis Middleton  
curtis.middleton@k12.sd.us

Southeast Rep – Jolene Keckler  
jolene.keckler@k12.sd.us

Student Rep – Amanda Barton  
amanda.barton@usd.edu

USD Liaison – Nicholas Benson  
nicholas.benson@usd.edu

Webmaster – Jennifer Burkett  
jennifer.burkett@k12.sd.us

Newsletter – Cora Lee Alley  
coralee.alley@k12.sd.us

Delegate - Anita Winter  
anita.winter@k12.sd.us

**GPR Committee Chairs :**  
Ruth Fodness  
rfodness@mchsi.com

Ericka Kotab (SPAN Contact)  
ericka.kotab@k12.sd.us



## SDASP Executive Board Roles (Continued from Page 11)

### NASP Delegate

- Communicate NASP information to SDASP membership
- Attend executive board meetings
- Attend NASP Region Meeting
- Attend NASP conference

### Editor

- Publish vacancy of positions
- Encourage general membership to nominate candidates

### Webmaster

- Maintain SDASP website
- Post minutes following approval and position openings



South Dakota Voices for Children is the only nonprofit, statewide organization that has as its sole purpose improving the lives of all South Dakota children through program and policy advocacy. Our vision is that the needs of all South Dakota children are met, including food, clothing, shelter, health care, nurturing, education and safety within the family and the community.

Founded in 1993 by concerned parents, nonprofit executives, business leaders and youth-care professionals following two years of statewide organizing conferences, South Dakota Voices for Children develops programs and influences policies that affect children.

South Dakota Voices for Children conducts research focused on specific problems facing children and youth, develops solutions and then mobilizes the community to support and implement these solutions.

Children, in matters of public policy, are virtually powerless and unable to achieve solutions. Voices for Children is vigilant in addressing children's needs and critical issues that affect their welfare.

The core mission of Voices for Children is funded by corporate, nonprofit, foundation and individual gifts. These donors become the "voices" for South Dakota children.

(Taken from Voices for Children website. For more information and to see how you can help, go to <http://sdvoicesforchildren.org/index.php>)

## Children's Day at the Capitol 2012

Since 1995, South Dakotans from across the state have gathered in Pierre to speak about the needs of children in our state. The event, held this year on February 7, was attended by advocates from across the state including members of our association. They joined with policymakers and others who are committed to the health, education, and safety of South Dakota children. SDASP sponsored the event again this year at the \$250 level. Roxana Uttermark, the Past-President of SDASP, attended and provided the following photographs.



*Left: The SDASP Poster Board is finished and was on display at Children's Day at the Capitol. Diane Reylts, school psychologist from Aberdeen, is shown standing next to the SDASP display. Many thanks to our Aberdeen area Executive Board school psychologists Jennifer, Burkett, Maria Meyer, and Roxana Uttermark for making this happen!*

**Below: Briefing on policy legislation:**  
Sen. Larry Tidemann-R, Brookings, at the annual Children's Day at the Capitol.



**Above: Briefing on policy legislation:** Rep. Bernie Hunhoff, D-Yankton, was among the speakers at the briefing.

SOUTH DAKOTA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS  
**SDASP MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**  
 (Membership Year July 1 to June 30)

NAME:	JOB TITLE:
ADDRESS:  (Zip)	EMPLOYER:  ADDRESS:  (Zip)
PHONE:	PHONE:
E-MAIL (will automatically receive SDASP & NASP announcements/news):	FAX:
NCSP CERTIFIED: Yes      No	NASP MEMBER: Yes      No
HIGHEST DEGREE:	TRAINING INSTITUTION:
MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY:	MEMBERSHIP DUES: ( ) \$45 for Regular & Associate ( ) \$10 for Student & Retired
MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY: ( ) Regular (must hold valid SD School Psychologist Endorsement)  ( ) Associate (allied fields)	( ) Retired  ( ) Student – To be eligible, your advisor must complete the following.
I am interested in participating in the following SDASP activities: ( ) Leadership Position ( ) State Newsletter/Web Contributor ( ) Membership Committee ( ) PR Committee ( ) Convention/Workshop Planning ( ) Government & Professional Relations Committee ( ) Other	I certify that the above named student is enrolled in a college or university program & is not engaged in full-time employment.  ADVISOR'S SIGNATURE:   NAME OF SCHOOL:
Send check or money order payable to <b>SDASP</b> to:	Kari Oyen Lennox School District Box 38 Lennox, SD 57039

The *SDASP Update* invites articles, letters, and other items of interest.

We need submissions from our readership. Please consider this opportunity.

The editor reserves the right to edit articles.

**EDITOR:**

Cora Lee Alley  
Rapid City Area Schools

Email:  
coralee@rap.midco.net

The *SDASP Update* is emailed to members. Archives can be found on the website at: <http://www.sdasp.k12.sd.us/>

*SDASP Update* is published by the South Dakota Association of School Psychologists for its members. Views expressed in *SDASP Update* do not necessarily reflect the position of the SDASP Executive Board or its members. Test, book, or product reviews and announcements do not imply endorsement by SDASP.

REPRINT AUTHORIZATION: Editors of state school psychology association newsletters, National Association of School Psychologist publications, and other mental health and education organization newsletters in South Dakota may reproduce any article published in *SDASP Update*, provided that the original author, source, and newsletter are credited and any modification of *SDASP Update* material is noted.

Issue	Closing Date for Submissions	Approximate Distribution Date
Summer	June 1	June 15
Fall	September 1	September 15
Winter	January 1	January 15

## SDASP

**An organization that believes that  
all children can learn!**

