

VERMONT ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS  
SPRING CONFERENCE 2020

*School Safety 2.0:  
Supporting Gender Diversity and Mitigating Youth Suicide Risk*

Presented by  
**Todd A. Savage, Ph.D., NCSP**  
Former President of National Association of School Psychologists  
Professor in School Psychology at University of Wisconsin-River Falls

**Monday March 30, 2020**  
**8:00-4:00**  
**Delta Hotel by Marriott, Burlington VT**  
1117 Williston Rd, South Burlington, Vermont, 05403, USA

**Breakfast & Lunch included in your registration**

**Description:**

The purpose of this session is to provide the participant with increased awareness and knowledge about gender diversity and schools; family matters about raising a gender diverse child and navigating the education system in this regard; and legal and ethical considerations that apply. Specific strategies participants can employ to support gender diverse students within a Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) framework will be highlighted.

Many students experience significant life stressors, trauma, and/or mental health issues that may lead some to contemplate suicide to deal with these matters. Schools, as places in which the majority of youths spend significant amounts of time, are natural settings to address student mental health. Additionally, guidance from the U.S. Department of Education has indicated schools should address mitigation of known risk in their school safety and crisis initiatives. As such, school psychologists not only play an integral role on the multidisciplinary teams engaged in this type of work, they often lead the charge. Therefore, it is imperative school psychologists are up-to-date both in terms of their knowledge of the process and their skills to lead and to conduct the process, and what to do in follow-up to the results obtained through this process.

**Objectives:**

- ❖ To enhance participants' awareness of gender identity and gender diversity matters in schools from multiple perspectives.
- ❖ To introduce tools and resources participants can use not only to assess a system's readiness to accommodate gender diverse students but to determine the support and transition needs of individual gender diverse youth.
- ❖ To highlight strategies within an MTSS framework participants can employ to support transgender and gender diverse students and to improve school climates as they pertain to gender diversity.
- ❖ To increase participant awareness of a school-based suicide risk education and assessment initiative and how it fits within a comprehensive approach to school safety.
- ❖ To enhance participant knowledge of processes and models of school-based suicide education and risk assessment.
- ❖ To augment participant school-based suicide education and risk assessment skills; and provide resources for continued learning and that can be applied in practice.

**Todd A. Savage, Ph.D., NCSP** is a professor in the school psychology program at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls (UWRF); he is also a former president of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). Dr. Savage earned his doctorate from the University of Kentucky in 2002 and prior to his current position at UWRF, he was on faculty in the school psychology program at New Mexico State University. Dr. Savage's scholarly research interests include LGBTQ+ issues in education with an emphasis in gender diversity; culturally-responsive practice; social justice matters; and school safety and crisis prevention, preparedness, and intervention.

**Schedule:**

8:00-8:30	Registration (continental breakfast included)
8:30-12:00	Morning Session (Break mid-morning)
12:00 – 1:00	Lunch (included)
1:00 to 4:00	Afternoon Session (Break mid-afternoon)

**Registration:** Pre-registration is encouraged by **March 13, 2020**. Lunch cannot be guaranteed for late registration. Registration at the door is accepted. Group discounts available.

VASP Members*	\$135	Group Rates (2 or more)	\$135 per person
Non Members	\$185	Students	\$50

\* You must be a current VASP member to qualify for the member fees. Call Cynthia LaRiviere (802-847-9801) if you are unsure of your **2020** membership status. The **2020** (Jan. – Dec. 2020) membership dues of \$40 were due by 01/31/20 but can be included with this conference registration for your convenience.

Register online at: <http://vasponline.org>.

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## Vermont Association of School Psychologists

The Vermont Association of School Psychologists (VASP) was organized to address the needs of school psychologists in Vermont. The Association has four purposes: to serve the mental health and educational needs of all children and youth; to encourage and provide opportunities for the professional growth of members; to inform the public about the services and the practice of psychology in schools; and, to advance the standards of the profession of school psychology.

VASP is affiliated with the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the Vermont Psychological Association (VPA). Those who practice in schools are encouraged to join VASP, NASP, and VPA.

VASP, through its members, has a goal of providing leadership and direction in addressing the needs of children and schools and in the provision of school psychological services. VASP also provides continuing education workshops on school-related issues; disseminates information to members on local, state, and national issues related to the profession; and fosters communication among Vermont psychologists and school psychologists who are engaged in school-based practice, in whole or in part.

For more information and a VASP membership application, contact Cynthia LaRiviere, Ph.D., Center for Children, Youth, and Families, One South Prospect Street, Burlington, Vermont 05401 or, VASP, P.O. Box 9375, South Burlington, Vermont 05407.

### Questions:

Shannon Newell

[Shannon.newell@castleton.edu](mailto:Shannon.newell@castleton.edu) or

Cynthia LaRiviere at 847-9801

## Spring Conference—March 30, 2020

### Sponsored by the Vermont Association of School Psychologists

**Conference Site:** Delta Hotel by  
Marriott

1117 Williston  
Road, South  
Burlington  
Vermont, 05403

From Burlington International Airport:  
Turn left on to Airport Road. At end of  
road turn right at traffic light on to  
Williston Road. Go approximately 1.5  
miles. Turn left into the Delta Hotels by  
Marriott South Burlington Entrance at  
traffic light.

From Canadian Border: Drive on  
Interstate 89 South, take Exit 14E. The  
hotel is on the right.

From New York: Follow Route 7 North  
to Interstate 189 to Interstate 89 North.  
Take Exit 14E and the hotel is on the  
right.

From New Hampshire or  
Massachusetts: Proceed on Interstate  
89 North to Exit 14E. The hotel will be  
just off the exit on the right.

From Burlington and the Ferry Dock:  
Follow state Highway 2 for  
approximately 1.5 miles to Williston  
Road. The hotel will be on the right.

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