

May 2015

Right Decision

Wrong Decision

illinois

school
counselor



ILLINOIS
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR
ASSOCIATION

The official publication of the Illinois School Counselor Association
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gmail.com



Contents

The Mission

of the Illinois School Counselor Association (ISCA) is to provide leadership, advocacy, and collaboration for Illinois school counselors, which results in systemic change to enhance the success of all students in their academic, career, and social/emotional development.

JOIN

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03	Time to Unwind Nancy Penk
04	ISCA Spring Conferences Worthy of Praise Sherri McLaughlin
06	2015 Annual ISCA Conference Photos
08	ASCA Update Delegate Assembly
10	CICO Report Daniel Stasi, Lobbyist
11	The IEP Team
12	ISCA Honors Award Recipients
14	Dr. Trish Hatch -presents The Use of Data in School Counseling- Naperville
14	Dr. Brett Zyromski presents Evidence Based School Counseling - Springfield

ISCA President

Time to Unwind



As we draw near to the end of another school year it seems like the perfect time to unwind and enjoy the last few weeks with our students. Realistically though, as we near the end of the year, things seem to get even crazier with what we are required to do before our summer vacation arrives! PARCC, AP testing, scheduling for

next year, assisting students with post high school plans, and those endless letters of recommendations; and finally we (yet again) double check that all graduation requirements have been met before we push the little birdies out of the nest.

Every year at graduation, I have tears. It is my Pavlov's response to Pomp and Circumstance. I have been so fortunate and blessed to get to know my students. Every one of them is special and it is a good feeling to see them move on to the next phase of their lives.

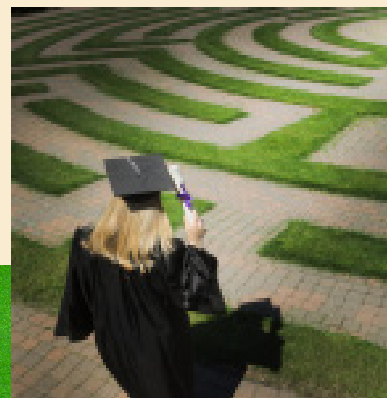
I feel this way about serving this past year as ISCA president. It will be like Pomp and Circumstance for me. I have been blessed to be given the opportunity to serve you as President and as an ISCA board member. Now it is time for me to move on to the next phase of my life. I will still be involved as the Past-President, but want to continue my involvement with ISCA beyond that one year. I cannot express enough the things I have learned about our profession through this organization. My personal

thanks goes out to the many wonderful people whom have taught me so much over the past few years. Counselors truly are the best people to surround yourself with!

I want to encourage each and every one of you to continue your support and involvement with ISCA. Please continue to call your state representatives and senators when needed. The things I have learned about advocating and lobbying for our profession have been amazing. Through your involvement, you will grow as a professional and set new goals for yourself. It is important to remember that there are also many local ISCA chapters out there that you can become involved with as well.

It has been a very busy and full year, yet very rewarding. I want to thank the governing board for their input and support this year. I want to thank Toni Tollerud for her wisdom and work with awards. Thank you to Steve Murray, Past President, for his guidance. Thank you to Ray Piagentini for having faith in me. And lastly, I want to thank Dan Stasi, ISCA Executive Director, for his expertise and vast knowledge. Without Dan, ISCA would not be where it is today. And a final thank you to all members for making ISCA one of the premier counseling organizations in the country!

Have a wonderful summer!



ISCA Spring Conferences

Worthy of Praise

by Sherri McLaughlin, President-Elect

Vince Walsh-Rock, ISCA 2105 Keynote Speaker, literally painted the picture and set the stage for the Illinois School Counseling Association spring conference “Counseling through the School Mandates”. His keynote message “Finding Opportunities for School Counselors to be Change Agents” was delivered with passion and enthusiasm. He talked about collaboration, connections, consulting, and creativity. Vince empowered and challenged all of us to be risk-takers and step outside of our comfort zones to remember why we are here. School counselors possess the training and skills to not only assist our school districts and communities in various areas (including a number of the Illinois School mandates), but we also have the knowledge and practical applications to make a difference in the culture and environment of our schools. Vince Walsh-Rock ended his presentation with a powerful and moving chalk art landscape drawing set to music. His final power-point presentation overlaying the chalk art drawing spoke to school counselors and brought the room to a standing ovation with tears of appreciation! You can go to the ISCA website and view his presentation online again, or for the first time, along with some other breakout sessions that were videotaped during the Skokie ISCA conference.

The conference offered a variety of breakout sessions that addressed school mandates, social emotional learning standards, career and college development, school counseling legislature updates, mentoring programs, testing programs, counseling resources, and more. The breakout sessions received excellent reviews and beneficial comments that reinforced the success of the conference. I would personally like to thank all the presenters not only for their time and expertise in their subject area, but also for their dedication to ISCA and the conference. The success of the conference depends on these presentations and volunteer service. I was thrilled beyond words with the number of proposals, presentations, and collaboration of outside agencies which supported this year’s conference theme. Presenters provided all attendees with a vast array of information, resources, and techniques to utilize in their own school counseling programs.

The conference vendors were out in full force providing different resources from college and career, military, community agencies, counseling books and counseling programs, therapeutic materials and tools, and testing. Every aspect of the field of counseling was represented within the booths of our vendors who also offered some goodies and door prizes.

Graduate students, Lauren Baker and Emily Bond, presented a poster session on “Crisis Intervention in Schools”; and Teresa Bertelli, Tara Claus, and Andrea Fifield presented a poster session on “Suicide Prevention and Intervention in Schools”. These poster sessions allowed attendees the opportunity to gather new information on recent studies and research in this areas. It also gives graduate students the opportunity to present their work and build up to presenting in future breakout sessions. ISCA encourages the participation of graduate students and their work at future conferences. ISCA also awarded fifteen conference scholarships to graduate students that applied to attend the conference.

A special, huge thank you goes out to all of the volunteers that make the conferences run so smoothly. Even with a few glitches in the day, the volunteers make sure that things got back on track and continue to run accordingly. I personally thank each and every one of you for your time and support. We had over fifty volunteers between the two conferences that consisted of graduate students, ISCA members, ISCA board members, and conference attendees. Whether you assisted at the registration table, breakout session, CEU/PD table,



passed out conference bags/lunch tickets/name tags, or served as a runner; your service was highly appreciated. We could not do it without you!

Toni Tollerud served as the chairperson for the ISCA Professional Recognition Awards. Her diligent work and service is much appreciated. She takes the time out of her busy schedule to call for nominations, collect the letters, read the applications, and setup the voting for the ISCA board. Toni graciously serves as the master of ceremony and presents the awards with class and professionalism. We thank Toni for her past, present and future service to ISCA! Congratulations goes out to all of the ISCA Award Winners for 2015!

Francine Sabens is credited for her technological skills in developing an Illinois School Counselor Conference App that hundreds of conference attendees downloaded and used throughout the conference. (http://my.yapp.us/AVECY*) Her hard work does not go without notice. She is a driving force for the school counseling profession. I personally appreciate all of her time, dedication, and efforts to myself and the ISCA board.



There are always new and familiar faces at both the ICA and ISCA conferences. However, a conference without Dan Stasi and Ronna Heinig would not be the same. All of the little details and preparation before and behind the scenes, Dan and Ronna handle with ease. They have the system down to a science. Their knowledge, organization, and planning is truly what makes the conference successful. The registration process, check-in process, venue (the list goes on and on) runs like clockwork because of their time and efforts. Thank you is not enough to express my gratitude for all of their work and assistance.

At the Skokie Conference, we had some guest attendees that traveled over 2,000 miles from Pakistan. All of the guests expressed their gratitude for inviting them to attend the conference and learn about professional school counseling in the United States. They were fascinated by our level of training and continuing

education offered to school counselors. This fact reinforces the outstanding post-secondary programs offered by our counseling educators and our school counseling programs. Members of ISCA benefit even more in regards to professional development, networking, and collaboration.

The ISCA Skokie Conference saw record numbers in attendance. Six hundred and fifty people attended the conference. The level of energy added to the excitement and demonstrated the strong alliance of school counselors and our professional organization. The new Illinois School Counseling Model is setting the stage for the importance of school counseling programs and school counselors in Illinois Schools.

Finally, thank you to the current board members: Nancy Penk, President; Steve Murray, Past President; Barbara Karpouzian, President Elect-Elect; Vince Walsh-Rock, Secondary Level V-P; Dustin Seeman, Secondary Level V-P; Joann Benz, Region III; Sherry Thomas, Region V; Franciene Sabens, Region VI; Melissa Ockerman, V-P Counselor Educator; Shira Fisher, V-P Elementary; Lisa DeGregorio, Region VII; Erin Mason; Dan Stasi, Executive Director; Toni Tollerud, Professional Recognition Chair; and all the Past Presidents that were in attendance and offered support:

Ray Piagentini, Jeff Edwards, Anne Kuntz, Laurie Siegel, Scott Wickman, Amy Thompson, Sarah Esslinger, Liz Hannon, and Jack Royhl.

Thank you all from the bottom of my heart for an endearing opportunity and experience to not only serve as conference chair but also lead the Illinois School Counseling Association. It is a humbling and gratifying journey thus far. I know that I have a great support system to continue on as president and look forward to serving ISCA!

2015 Annual Conferences



Loading up



Unloading



ISCA Welcome Banner



Dr. Barbara Karpouzian



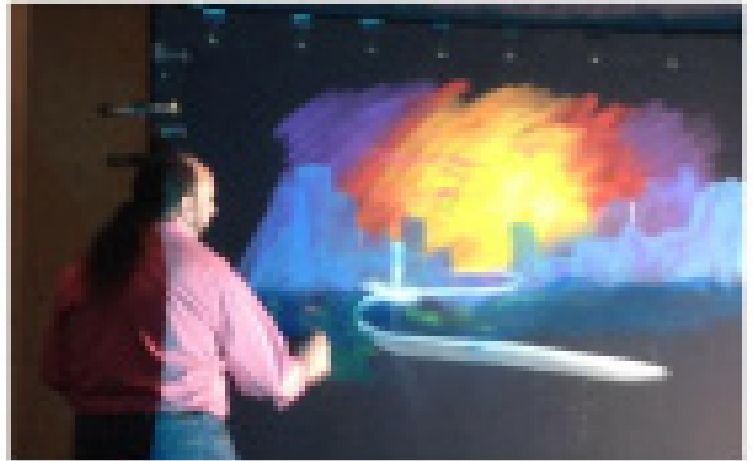
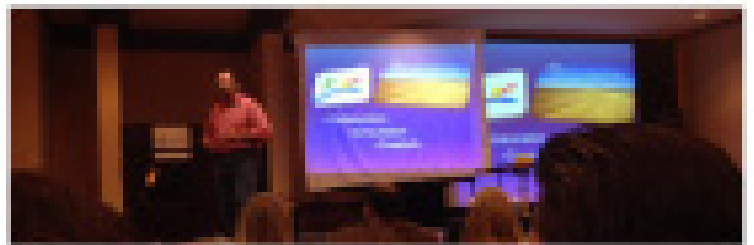
Dan Stasi
and
Dr. Toni Tollerud



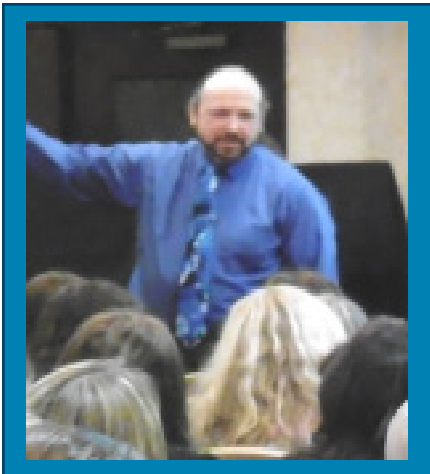
Eastern Illinois University Students
and Dr. Heidi Larson (4th from left)



Conference Exhibitors



Vince Walsh-Rock's Keynote Presenta-



Vince Walsh-Rock



ASCA Update on Upcoming Delegate Assembly School Counselor vs. School Counseling Professional

June 26-28, 2015 Phoenix, AZ

It's hard to believe that another school year has almost passed! I'm sure this communication finds you busy with end-of-year activities at your schools. I certify seniors for graduation next week, and wish students a happy summer on May 21. Time has flown...but that also reminds me that the ASCA conference is right around the corner! And that means fun, learning, and socializing with the amazing school counselors of this country!

The Board of Directors met via teleconference on April 26. We continued our discussions on counselor identity, and began mulling the issue of the difference between a school counselor and a school counseling professional. We pulled points from our discussion in January with Dr. Norm Gysbers in which he emphasized the need for school counselors to implement a school counseling program. That program is what makes school counselors unique. I hope that you will discuss school counselor vs. school counseling professional with your colleagues, and continue the conversation on roles and identity.

At Delegate Assembly, I will be giving the State of the Profession address. This has been a monumental year for school counselors, and I'm anxious to share what states are doing programmatically and legislatively. Since the support of the White House, how have things changed in your state for school counselors? Please send me any information you'd like to share and I'll do my best to reflect it in my speech () We need to celebrate all victories...large and small.

Julie Baumgart is the chair of our Delegate Assembly committee, and she and fellow members Bob Bardwell and Kris Moe have planned a wonderful and informative event for delegates in June. I'm very excited about the discussions being planned. It was because of Delegate Assembly that the board began its study of school counselor identity, and that journey has proven to be very thought-provoking. Soon you will receive your packets for Delegate Assembly. Please carefully review the contents and come ready to address proposed bylaw changes and position statements, as well as provide input on future position statements.

I wish you a very successful closure of the school year, and I welcome you to summer and the ASCA conference in Phoenix!! Please remember to vote for candidates for the Board of Directors!! See you soon—

Shari Sevier
Chair, Board of Directors
American School Counselor Association

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CICO Report

Daniel Stasi, MS, Executive Director , Lobbyist

HB 3123

HB 3123 as amended has passed the Senate and House. It now goes to the Governor for his signature to become law.

The School Counselor initiated bill clarifies the intent and meaning of existing language in the Illinois School Counseling Law under ISBE defining School Counseling Services. It adds clarification on services for students in IEPs.

House Sponsors

Rep. Robert W. Pritchard - Linda Chapa LaVia - Stephanie A. Kifowit and Jehan A. Gordon-Booth

Senate Sponsors

(Sen. Pamela J. Althoff - Julie A. Morrison)

If they are your Representative/Senators call and thank them.

Thank you to everyone who made calls to legislators on behalf of this bill. The ISCA Executive Director / Lobbyist testified on behalf of this bill in both the House and the Senate. It passed the House 93-0-1 and the Senate 58-0
ilga.gov

HB 217

Passed House and Senate

Prohibits Conversion Therapy with those under 18

Creates the Youth Mental Health Protection Act. Defines "mental health provider" and "sexual orientation change efforts" or "conversion therapy". Provides that no mental health provider shall engage in sexual orientation change efforts with a person under the age of 18. Provides that a mental health provider shall not refer a client or patient to any individual for the purpose of sexual orientation change efforts. Further provides that any sexual orientation change effort attempted on a person under the age of 18 or any referral made by a mental health provider shall be considered unprofessional conduct and shall be subject to discipline by the licensing entity or disciplinary review board with competent jurisdiction.



HB 3428

Passed House and Senate
Advanced Placement Exams

Provides that a student who takes a College Board Advanced Placement examination and receives a score of three or higher on the examination is entitled to receive post secondary level course credit at a public institution of higher education.

HB 3527

Student Passwords Privacy

Waiting on amendment concurrence
Different versions passed House and Senate

Modifies the Right to Privacy in the School Setting Act to prohibit an elementary or secondary school from requesting or requiring a student to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student's account or profile on a social networking website. Instead, it requires the school to provide notification to the student and his or her parent or guardian

that the school may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy.

SB 1793

Suicide Awareness Policy

Waiting on amendment concurrence
Requires the ISBE to develop a model youth suicide awareness and prevention policy in coordination with groups representing school personnel and includes certain components that school districts are required to adopt in a policy on suicide awareness beginning in the 2015-2016 school year.



The IEP Team

With recent school counseling legislation I found there was a lot of confusion about what federal and state laws say about IEPs. I am not suggesting that your school needs to change the way IEPs are conducted or who attends them. I just want to put to rest rumors or misinformation about IEPs.



The reauthorized Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) was signed into law on Dec. 3, 2004, by President George W. Bush. The provisions of the act became effective on July 1, 2005, with the exception of some of the elements pertaining to the definition of a “highly qualified teacher” that took effect upon the signing of the act. The final regulations were published on Aug. 14, 2006.

The biggest confusion seems to be who an IEP team is comprised of. I have seen a variety of explanations on the internet including many that are incorrect.

IDEA states:

Sec. 300.321 IEP Team.

General. The public agency must ensure that the IEP Team for each child with a disability includes—

The parents of the child;

Not less than one regular education teacher of the child (if the child is, or may be, participating in the regular education environment);

Not less than one special education teacher of the child, or where appropriate, not less than one special education provider of the child;

A representative of the public agency who—

Is qualified to provide, or supervise the provision of, specially designed instruction to meet the unique needs of children with disabilities;

Is knowledgeable about the general education curriculum; and

Is knowledgeable about the availability of resources of the public agency.

An individual who can interpret the instructional implications of evaluation results, who may be a member of the team described in paragraphs (a) (2) through (a)(6) of this section;

At the discretion of the parent or the agency, other individuals who have knowledge or special expertise regarding the child, including related services personnel as appropriate; and

Whenever appropriate, the child with a disability.

*Note, nothing specifically names any school staff by position. School Counselors, school social workers, school psychologists are NOT mandated members of the IEP team.

ISCA Honors Award Recipients



Vince Walsh-Rock
Friend of ISCA Award



Lisa Stanton
Elementary
School Counselor of the Year



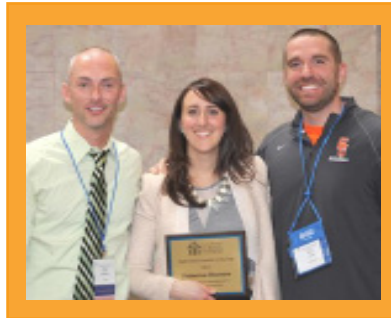
Rochelle Cripe
Graduate Student of the Year



Martha Williams
Elementary
School Counselor of the Year



Dr. Heidi Larson
Dr. Toni Tollerud Educator of the
Year



Francesca Pecoraro
High School
Counselor of the Year



George Schlott
Friend of ISCA Award



Sarah Esslinger
Graduate Student of the Year



Amy Klug
High School
Counselor of the Year



Dawn Erickson
High School
Counselor of the Year

ISCA Honors Award Recipients



Francesca Pecoraro
High School
Counselor of the Year



Karen Fitzpatrick
High School
Counselor of the Year



Lydia Maldonado
High School
Counselor of the Year



Rachel Behren
High School
Counselor of the Year



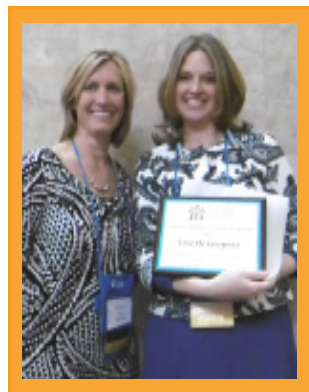
Dana Smith
Middle School
Counselor of the Year



Steve Murray
Past President Award



Marina Kosak
School Administrator of the Year

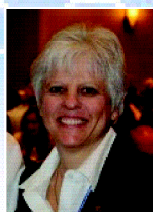
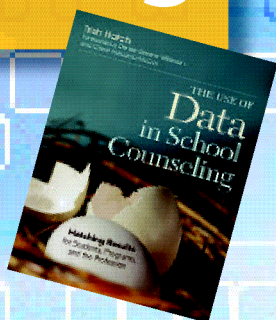


Lisa De Gregorio
School Counselor
Advocate of the Year



Sherry Thomas
School Counselor
Advocate of the Year

THE USE OF DATA in School Counseling



PRESENTED BY
Trish Hatch

This workshop is designed to provide participants with attitudes, knowledge and skills to use data to design, implement, evaluate and improve their school counseling program. Includes specifics for administrators hiring, use of time and evaluation.

Date/Time

Friday, September 11, 2015
7:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Location

Universal Technical Institute
2611 Corporate West Drive
Lisle, IL 60532

Earn 6 CE's or PD's

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EVIDENCE BASED

School Counseling



PRESENTED BY
Brett Zyromski

Provide school counselors with a visual representation to apply to create an evidence-based data-driven comprehensive school counseling program that also achieves RAMP status.

Date/Time

Friday, December 4, 2015
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Location

Springfield, IL - Location TBA

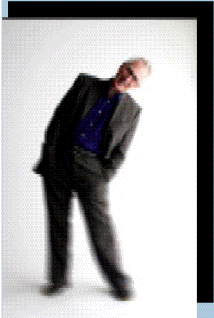
EARN 6 CES OR PDS

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2016 IMHCA Annual Conference

“Resolving Trauma without Drama” Featuring Bill O’Hanlon

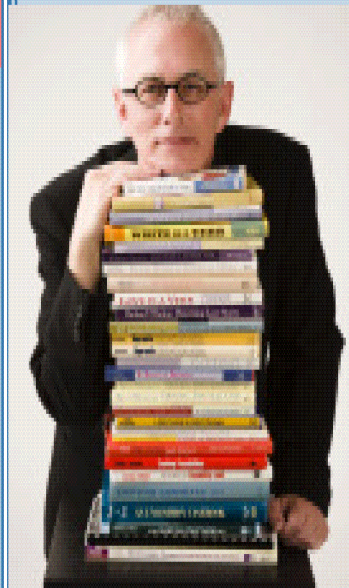


March 4, 2016
8:30am - 4:00 pm
Skokie Doubletree

IMHCA Members \$45
before July 1, 2015
Non-members \$120

Registration and more info on our website:

www.imhca.org
seating is limited
6 CEs awarded



Bill O’Hanlon, MS, LMFT, has authored or co-authored books, including *Change 101: A Practical Guide to Creating Change* (W.W. Norton), and *Thriving Through Crisis* (Penguin/Perigee; winner of the Books for a Better Life Award). His books have been translated into 16 languages. He has appeared on *Oprah*, *The Today Show*, and a variety of other television and radio programs. Since 1977, Bill has given over 2000 talks around the world. He has been a top-rated presenter at many national conferences and was awarded the “Outstanding Mental Health Educator of the Year” in 2001 by the New England Educational Institute. Bill is a Licensed Mental Health Professional, Certified Professional Counselor, and a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. His seminars are as entertaining as they are educational.

This workshop is directed at all mental health professionals. Counselors, social workers, psychologists and marriage and family therapists as well as graduate students.

Call for Proposals for the 67th ICA Annual Conference

THIS YEAR’S THEME IS:

Courage; the Contagious Spirit of the Counselor’s Lifework.

Submit online at www.ilcounseling.org

Due June 15, 2015

Call for Articles for the 7th Annual
Illinois Counselor Magazine.

Specifications online at
www.ilcounseling.org

Due June 15, 2015



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ISCA Annual Conferences



April 2016 Springfield Location and Date TBA

April 2016 Chicago area Location and Date TBA