

Advocacy in Action



Kansas Association of School Psychologists

.....

2022 Fall Convention

October 13th & 14th

Junction City, Kansas





KASP President's Welcome

Welcome to the KASP Fall Convention!

I am beyond excited to welcome you all here in person! Virtual professional development is a convenient option, but nothing can replace in-person learning, collaborating, and seeing your colleagues from all parts of the state. The KASP board has worked tirelessly to seek out some exceptional professional development and I look forward to you taking part in it.

The convention theme “Advocacy in Action” is near and dear to my heart. As school psychologists we are natural advocates for our students, families, staff, and our profession. Every single session offered during the convention hits the topic of advocacy from different lenses.

As you attend the engaging sessions at the convention, I challenge you to write down ideas of how you will take all this information to engage in advocacy. Even better, post your ideas on social media and tag us at **#KASPempowers** so that your colleagues can see them.

I am looking forward to learning with all of you!

Your President,

Lina Kitson, Ph.D., NCSP



Convention Information



Presentation Materials

Presentation materials are embedded within this convention brochure. Watch for a [clickable link](#) to view the respective materials for each session. A master list of links can be found [here](#).

KASP Membership Meeting

The annual KASP membership meeting will be held during the awards banquet on Friday, October 13 at 11:00 AM. Email kaspempowers@gmail.com with items you would like discussed.

Grievance Policy

If you are dissatisfied with any aspect of this convention, please contact Lenae Cupps, Convention Chair, who will work with you to reach a satisfactory resolution.

Question, Comments, Concerns

Lenae Cupps, Convention Chair
lenaecupps@usd373.org
316.351.8044

Melissa Sullivan, Executive Manager
melissa.sullivan@mchpherson.com
620.245.7702

Convention Schedule

Thursday, October 13, 2022

7:30-8:00	Registration	
8:00-8:15	Opening Remarks	
8:15-10:15	Reimagining School Psychologists as Healers <i>with Celeste Malone, PhD, MS</i>	
10:15-10:30	BREAK	
10:30-12:00	Morning Breakout Sessions	
	Breakout 1 - Sunflower Room Advocating for Equity in Gifted Education <i>Jessica Follette, PhD</i>	Breakout 2 - Cottonwood D Dyslexia: What exactly is it and what exactly am I supposed to be testing? <i>Mandy Cundy, EdS</i>
	Breakout 3 - Cottonwood E Who is Responsible for Advocacy Actions to Support Student Mental Health and Who Benefits? Everyone! <i>Jennifer Kitson, EdS, NCSP</i>	
12:00-1:00	LUNCH <i>on your own</i>	
1:00-2:00	A Year in Review <i>with Mark Ward, JD</i>	
2:00-2:15	BREAK	
2:15-3:45	Afternoon Breakout Sessions	
	Breakout 4 - Cottonwood F Strategic Planning at the District Level: Improving School Psychological Services <i>Tyler Kitson, EdS, NCSP</i>	Breakout 5 - Sunflower Rom Characteristics of Gifted Learners <i>Jessica Follette, PhD & Lindsay Black, MS</i>
	Breakout 6 - Cottonwood D Grassroots Advocacy and Policy Making: Working Toward the World We Want <i>Jonathan Smeeton, EdS</i>	
8:00-9:30	KASP Convention Social! - Cottonwood Foyer <i>(optional)</i>	

Friday, October 14, 2022

8:00-8:30	Registration
8:30-11:30	Advocating for Mental Health Supports <i>with Andria Amador, EdD, NCSP</i>
11:30-1:00	KASP Awards Banquet & Membership Meeting
1:00-3:45	Advocating for Mental Health Supports <i>with Andria Amador, EdD, NCSP</i>



Convention SOCIAL!

**Join us Thursday Evening at 8:00
in the Cottonwood Foyer**

Go out for dinner Thursday evening,
then come back for our convention social!



Dessert bar & soft drinks provided.

Support Children's Fund... Win Cool Stuff!



Support the Children's Fund of School Psychology by purchasing a t-shirt or donating today!

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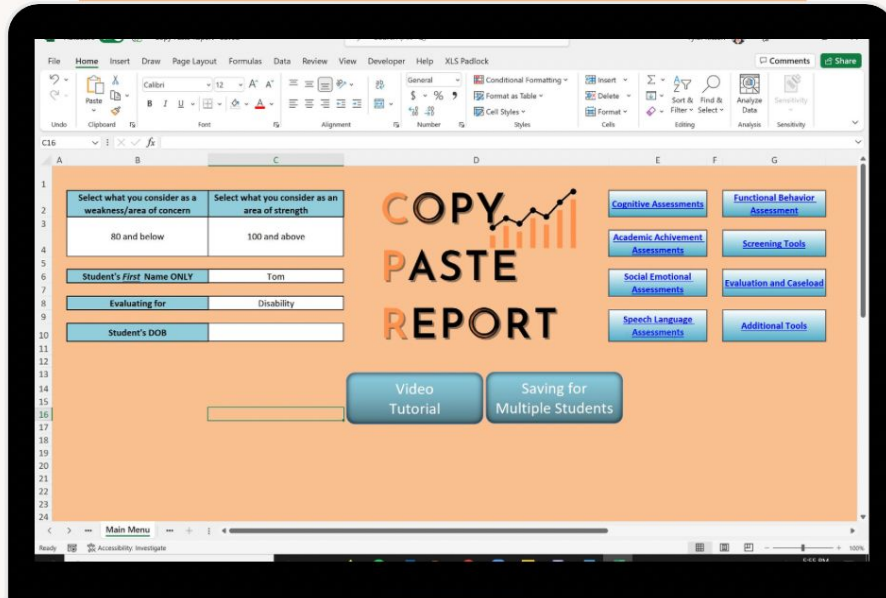




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Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

KASP is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) to provide continuing education for psychologists. This convention provides NASP-approved CPD credits. KASP maintains responsibility for this program and its content.

Attendance Forms

In order to receive CPD certificates, attendees must sign in and out of each CPD eligible session using the QR codes provided.

Convention Evaluation Forms

In order to receive CPD certificates, attendees are required to complete evaluation forms. As an approved NASP provider of CPDs, KASP must collect evaluations for all activities and provide documentation that the data is used in future planning. Evaluation information is used to choose future topics and speakers, conventions formats, and other details. Please complete the evaluation form for each session attended and the overall convention feedback form using the QR codes provided. We value your input!

CPD Certificates

CPD Certificates will be emailed to all participants that completed the required attendance and feedback forms. You can expect to receive your certificates within 2-4 weeks. However, if you need CPD forms sooner for purposes of NCPS or license renewal, please email kaspempowers@gmail.com.



NASP Approved Provider #1301

Travel & Accommodations



**Welcome to
Junction City!**

[Website](#)
[Visitors Guide](#)

Hotel Information

Courtyard by Marriott

310 Hammons Drive
Junction City, KS 66441

785-210-1500

[Hotel Website](#)





Our Vision



KASP visibly leads in promoting proactive, research-based practices and partnerships which foster the academic and psychological well-being of children, for their benefit and that of their families, schools, communities, and the profession of school psychology.

Our Mission



KASP exists to advocate for the psychological and educational well being of Kansas children, while serving the needs of the membership and promoting school psychology as a profession.

2022 KASP Executive Board



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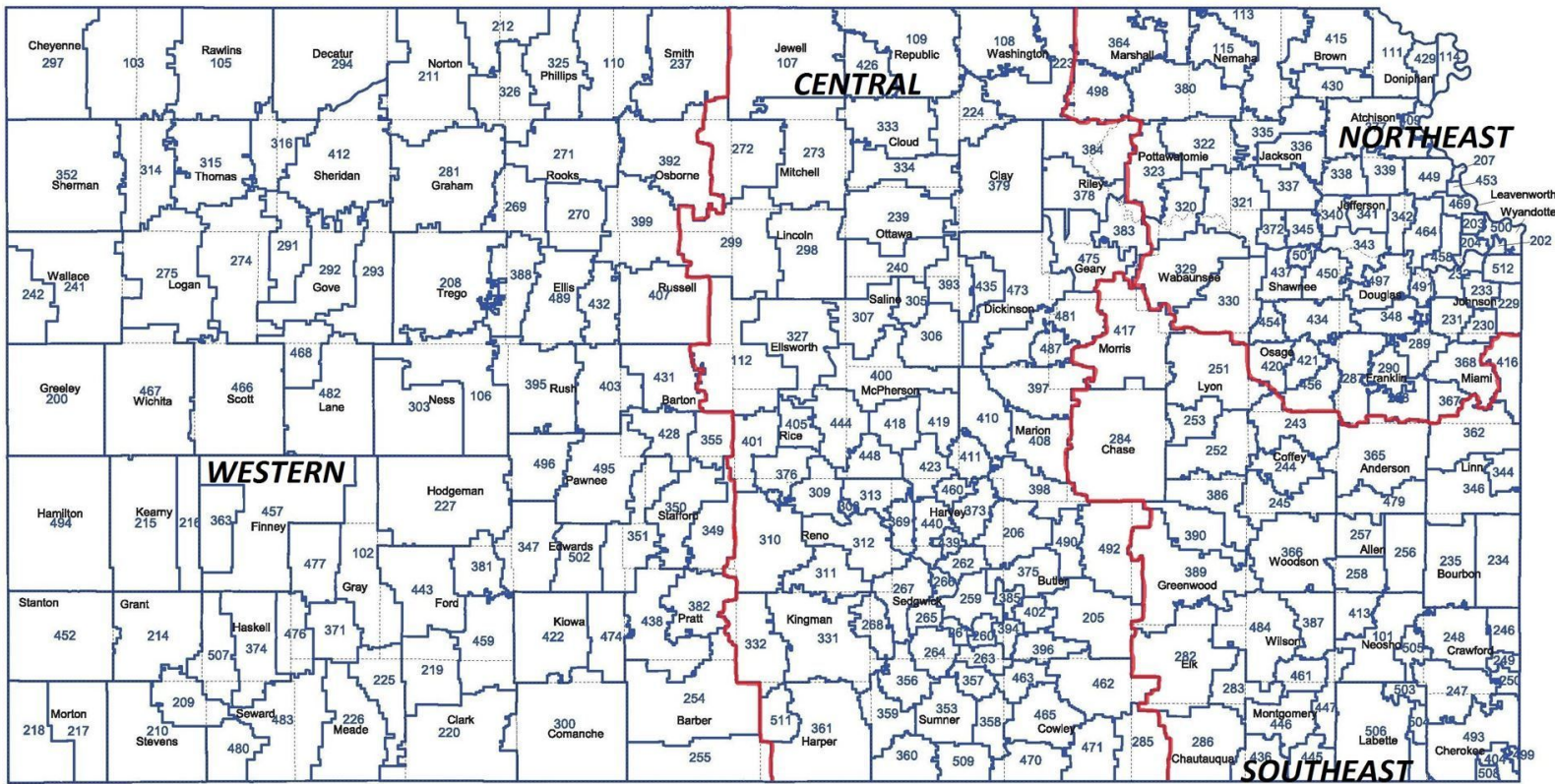
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***Interested in leadership on the KASP board?
Visit the KASP table for more information!***

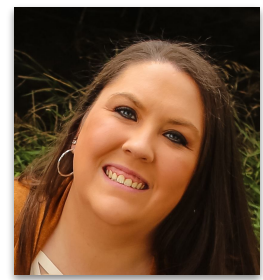




**2022
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Western Region
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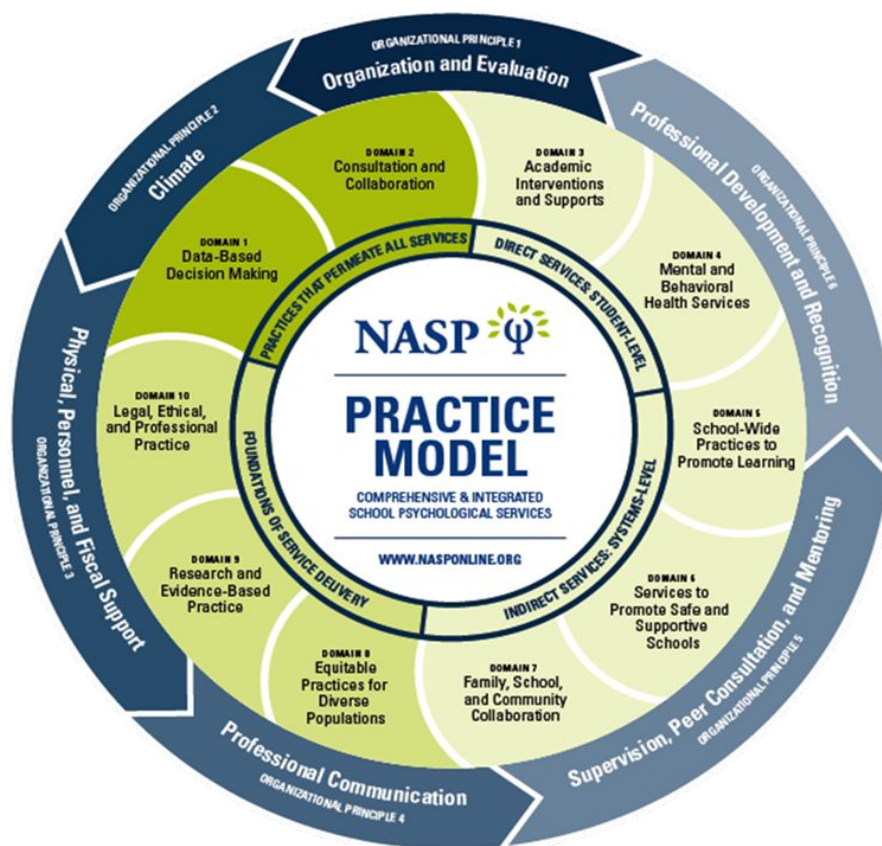


Southeast Region
Kaira Hayes

*Interested in leadership on the KASP board?
Visit the KASP table for more information!*



KASP endorses the use of the NASP Practice Model to outline the standard of practice for school psychologists.



Convention presentations will address one or more domains from the NASP Practice Model; these signifiers can be found in the presentation descriptions within this brochure using the domain numbers below.

<u>Domain 1</u> Data-Based Decision Making	<u>Domain 2</u> Consultation & Collaboration	<u>Domain 3</u> Academic Intervention & Supports	<u>Domain 4</u> Mental & Behavioral Health Services	<u>Domain 5</u> School-Wide Practices to Promote Learning
<u>Domain 6</u> Services to Promote Safe & Supportive Schools	<u>Domain 7</u> Family, School, & Community Collaboration	<u>Domain 8</u> Equitable Practices for Diverse Populations	<u>Domain 9</u> Research & Data-Based Practice	<u>Domain 10</u> Legal, Ethical, & Professional Practices



Thursday Keynote Speaker

Celeste Malone, PhD, MS

she, her, hers

Celeste M. Malone, PhD, MS, is an associate professor and coordinator of the school psychology program at Howard University. She received her master's degree in school counseling from Johns Hopkins University and her doctorate in school psychology from Temple University, and she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in child clinical and pediatric psychology at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. Celeste's primary research interest relates to multicultural and diversity issues embedded in the training and practice of school psychology. Specifically, her work addresses the development of multicultural competence through education and training, diversification of the profession of school psychology, and the relationship between culturally responsive practice and pre-K–12 student outcomes. Related to her interest in professional issues in school psychology, Celeste has continuously held leadership positions in psychology professional associations and has been recognized for her ongoing leadership and commitment to social justice in psychology by presidential recognitions from NASP, the Maryland School Psychologists' Association, and APA Division 16 School Psychology. Celeste is the 2022–2023 NASP President and, notably, is the second person of color to ever serve in this role.

Reimagining School Psychologists as Healers

Ample evidence indicates that minoritized students experience oppression and discrimination in schools. On an interpersonal level, minoritized students experience discrimination in the form of microaggressions and bias-based bullying. Structural oppression emerges as restricted access to educational opportunities and differential treatment by school staff. The ongoing exposure and re-exposure to oppression impact negatively students' mental and physical health leading to traumatic stress. As mental health professionals, school psychologists teach minoritized students coping skills to help them survive invalidating school environments; however, our goal should be to create environments that allow all students to thrive. This requires school psychologists to embrace healing centered approaches that affirm students' identities, empower students to be agents in restoring their own well-being, and correct the unjust practices which marginalize some students.

As a result of this session, attendees will be able to:

- Describe the relationship between oppression and traumatic stress.
- Explain the difference between coping and healing.
- Apply social justice principles to engage in healing-centered school psychology practice.



Thursday Law Review

Mark Ward, JD

Mark Ward has been an attorney with the Kansas State Department of Education for the past twenty-five years. In that role, he provides legal consultation for the state department of education in matters regarding special education, and provides legal technical assistance to school districts, parents, and advocates throughout the state. For most of his time with the department of education Mark has managed the special education dispute resolution processes for the state department of education by coordinating the state's special education mediation, due process hearing, and formal complaint programs. Since 2008, Mark has also been an annual presenter at a pre-conference held exclusively for State Special Education Complaint Investigators around the country, at the Tri-State Special Education Law Conference held each year in Omaha, Nebraska (when live). In 2008, Mark was honored by the Kansas Association of Special Education Administrators with the "Kids First" award for his "dedication to the future of kids in Kansas." In 2011, he received the Glenn I. Latham Excellence Award from the Center for Technical Assistance for Excellence in Special Education (TAESE) at Utah State University.

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT: The one thing most people do not know about Mark is that he genuinely believes special education law is an important, and even interesting, topic, so, when initiating discussion with him about special education, reserve some time.

Year in Review

[View Materials](#)

Including selected special education complaints filed with the Kansas State Department of Education, court cases, and questions and answers regarding special education fielded by the state department of education this past year.

A portrait of Andria Amador, a woman with short reddish-brown hair, wearing a dark blue sleeveless top and a gold necklace. She is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile.

Friday Workshop

Andria Amador, EdD, NCSP

Andria Amador, Ed.D., NCSP, is the Senior Director of Behavioral Health Services for the Boston Public Schools (BPS). Andria has dedicated her career to urban school psychology and began her career as a school psychologist before becoming an administrator. Andria, along with her staff and partners, have developed the Comprehensive Behavioral Health Model (CBHM). CBHM is a multi-tiered system of supports designed to support the behavioral health needs of students across a continuum of prevention, early-intervention and intensive services. Implementation of CBHM requires BPS school psychologists to expand their scope of service delivery to include all NASP Domains of Practice. Andria was the Past President of Massachusetts School Psychology Association and currently has the pleasure of serving as the NASP Delegate Rep for the Northeast. She is also the coordinator of the NASP Supervision Interest Group and is the past chair of the NASP Practice Model Committee.

Advocating for Mental Health Supports

[View Presentation](#)

Session Objectives:

- Participants will understand current practices of school psychologists who have adopted the NASP Practice Model.
- Participants will be able to identify ways to advocate for mental health services.
- Participants will understand considerations for the development of community partnerships.

Thursday Morning Breakout Sessions

Session 1

Advocating for Equity in Gifted Education

Jessica Follette, PhD

Learn about the equity gaps in Kansas gifted education and how to address them. Presenters will share an overview of research and best practices to advocate for the needs of traditionally underrepresented populations in gifted education such as culturally and linguistically diverse learners, students from low-income households, and twice exceptional learners.



Jessica LaFollette is the current president of the Kansas Association for the Gifted, Talented and Creative. She is also the chair-elect for the Parent, Family and Community Network of the National Association for Gifted Children and services on the NAGC Convention Committee.

She earned her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in education from Emporia State University and her PhD from the University of Missouri - Kansas City. She has taught graduate courses for these two institutions in curriculum design and characteristics of gifted learners. She currently teaches gifted students at Piper Middle School in Kansas City, KS and is the chair of the special education department. She also teaches a graduate course at the University of Missouri in identification and assessment of gifted learners.



Thursday Morning Breakout Sessions

Session 2



Dyslexia: What exactly is it and what exactly am I supposed to be testing?

Mandy Cundy, EdS

The first part of this presentation will cover what Dyslexia is and is not and common myths associated with Dyslexia. The second part will focus specifically on what exact areas should be evaluated when assessing for Dyslexia.



Mandy Cundy received her bachelor's degrees from the University of Kansas in Psychology and Human Development and Family Life. She went on to earn her Education Specialist degree in School Psychology, also from the University of Kansas.

Mandy worked for the Sedgwick County Coop for 20 years with students as young as early childhood and as old as middle school. During this time, she presented many times at the local and state level on the topic of Dyslexia and provided countless professional development opportunities to administrators and practicing School Psychologists. Mandy currently serves as Communications Director for KASP, is an educational advocate through Families Together, provides contractual school psychology services, conducts independent educational evaluations, and continues to provide training about Dyslexia at the local and state level.

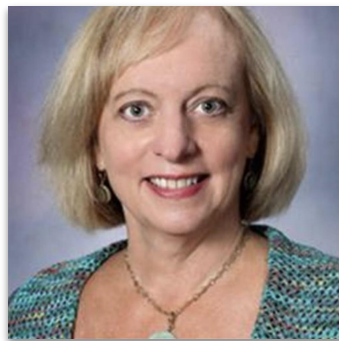
Thursday Morning Breakout Sessions

Session 3

Who is Responsible for Advocacy Actions to Support Student Mental Health and Who Benefits? Everyone!

Jennifer Kitson, EdS, NCSP

Faced with increased student needs, competing demands, shortages, etc., school psychologists may find it daunting to deliver student and system-level mental health services resulting in measurable outcomes. This interactive session will explore resources for advocacy to support manageable steps in applying a continuum of mental health services benefitting all stakeholders.



Jennifer Kitson, Ed.S., NCSP is dedicated to advocating for school-based mental/behavioral health system change and outcomes at local, state, and national levels, spanning 45 years of professional volunteer work and in career changes from school psychology practitioner in Hays Coop, to co-leading a

federally funded national center providing to communities across the country training and assistance focused on mental and behavioral health, to university instructor in school psychology, and now retired. She promoted policy advocacy and provided training while serving in NASP volunteer leadership as Chair of Government and Professional Relations. Ms. Kitson has presented over 50 sessions/webinars at state and national conferences and developed resources, tools, and training modules, focused on advancing social emotional and school-based mental health, on topics of implementing prevention programs, collaboration among community and school mental health, school-based mental health service models, school-wide safety and crisis planning, and addressing challenges of providing mental health in rural communities. She has been a federal grant reviewer for Education Department LEA grants to expand school mental health professionals, and served as an expert on policy planning to address needs of rural mental/behavioral health for children to three federal departments/agencies (ED, SAMHSA, HRSA).

[Objectives & Learning Outcomes](#)





Thursday Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Session 4

Strategic Planning at the District Level: Improving School Psychological Services

Tyler Kitson, EdS, NCSP

Participants will be provided strategies for how to advocate for an expanded role and tools for strategically planning at the district level to improve service delivery and student outcomes.



Tyler Kitson, Ed.S, NCSP is a School Psychologist in the Olathe Public Schools and is a Nationally Certified School Psychologist (NCSP). He currently serves as the Northeast Region representative on the Kansas Association of School Psychologists (KASP)

board and is the Chair of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) Practice Model Committee. In the Olathe Public Schools, he is a part of the school psychologist strategic planning committee, which strives to align the role of the school psychologist with the NASP Practice Model as well as develop a strategic plan for areas of improvement. Tyler was awarded the 2020 and 2022 NASP Presidential Award in recognition of exceptional service to children and school psychology. He has also presented at the state and national level to further the profession of school psychology.

Thursday Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Session 5

Characteristics of Gifted Learners

Jessica Follette, PhD & Lindsay Black, MS



Identification of gifted learners in Kansas is challenging! In this interactive session, participants will examine characteristics of gifted and high achieving learners through hands-on inquiry activities. Next small groups will analyze potential intervention strategies for RTI/SIT teams to establish “need” for gifted services. Resources will be provided.



Jessica LaFollette is the current president of the Kansas Association for the Gifted, Talented and Creative. She is also the chair-elect for the Parent, Family and Community Network of the National Association for Gifted Children and services on the NAGC Convention Committee.

She earned her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in education from Emporia State University and her PhD from the University of Missouri - Kansas City. She has taught graduate courses for these two institutions in curriculum design and characteristics of gifted learners. She currently teaches gifted students at Piper Middle School in Kansas City, KS and is the chair of the special education department. She also teaches a graduate course at the University of Missouri in identification and assessment of gifted learners.

Lindsay Black is the current secretary of the executive board for the Kansas Association for the Gifted Talented and Creative. She also developed a new teacher mentorship program to help provide support for new teachers entering the gifted profession across the state.



Lindsay has chaired or co-chaired the KGTC Convention in 2016, 2020, and 2022. Lindsay was named an NAGC National Javits-Frasier Scholar in 2013 for her work with students from culturally and ethnically diverse backgrounds. She received her first graduate degree from Emporia State in Gifted Education, and is currently working toward her second graduate degree in Educational Administration. She teaches K-5 elementary gifted students in the Kansas City, Kansas school district, and serves as the Lead Gifted Teacher in her department.

Thursday Afternoon Breakout Sessions

Session 6

Grassroots Advocacy and Policy Making: Working Toward the World We Want



Jonathan Smeeton, EdS

This presentation will identify types of grassroots advocacy and barriers to advocates. Advocacy as ethical practice and the practice of advocating ethically will be discussed as well. We will review basic policy-making procedures and discuss successful advocacy efforts from school psychologists within Kansas and throughout the country. Through understanding of advocacy practices, we can be a better voice for marginalized students and families. Advocacy can help get barriers removed in order to allow students to reach their individual and collective potential. The presentation is designed to introduce the "nuts and bolts" of advocacy but also to explore methods of advocacy and how you can advocate for students at the local level with teachers and administrators.



Jon Smeeton is received his Ed. Specialist degree from Wichita State University in 2016. He is currently the GPR Representative for KASP and a practicing school psychologist for the Reno County Education Cooperative. Prior to

becoming a school psychologist, Jon was a physical education teacher in the public school setting for 6 years. During grad school, he worked with juvenile offenders and individuals with substance-use disorders. Jon has attended the NASP Public Policy Institute the past two years.

Thank you for attending the 2022 KASP Fall Convention!

Please complete the [overall feedback form](#).

Your KASP board is here to support you!

Please visit KASP.org or email kaspempowers@gmail.com
to let us know what you need.

