Maine Association of School Psychologists

# Ethics: A Real World Approach to Everyday Problems!

**Annual Meeting** 

Overview and
Framework for
Building and
Conducting TeamBased Threat
Assessments

Presented By: Joan Stuzziero, Ph.D. Frank McCabe, Ph.D.

Friday, April 5, 2019

Harraseeket Inn Freeport, Maine

## **Ethics Workshop**

The myriad demands that confront contemporary school psychologists are (a) constantly evolving, (b) increasingly complex, and (c) incredibly challenging! In an era of increasing accountability and the seeming necessity to "do more with less," it becomes crucial to practice in a manner that acknowledges the importance of meeting the demands of multiple stakeholders who may frequently have dissimilar goals. A practical and humorous approach based on a series of real-life vignettes that have been encountered by school psychologists will be used to untangle conflicting demands and mandates. Using APA and NASP ethics codes, attendees will be asked to thoughtfully explore feasible problem-solving approaches to most effectively and efficiently determine optimal, pragmatic courses of action.

#### **Presenter:**

Dr. Joan Struzziero is a nationally certified school psychologist who has taught in school psychology training programs for more years than she is willing to admit! She is currently a practitioner at Scituate High School in Scituate, MA, is on the faculty of UMASS-Boston's Counseling and School Psychology department, and teaches a doctoral-level course in supervision at William James College. She has served on ethics committees at the state and national levels for over twenty years. She has co-authored two books on supervision and has published and presented nationally and internationally.

## **Threat Assessment Workshop**

This workshop is based on a presentation by Dr. McCabe, Ruth Crowell, and Karen Lacey-Martin to the Maine Principal's Association a few years ago. Participants will receive a copy of the new book *Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines* by Dewey Cornell (2018), which provides a researched-based model endorsed by the National Association of School Psychologists that was designed to assist school personnel with predicting school violence. Key aspects of this model will be reviewed. It will be incumbent for the participants who are unfamiliar with the work to read and pursue further investigation of this systematic approach after the presentation.

#### **Presenter:**

Dr. Frank McCabe is a school psychologist in RSU #40, Union, Maine. He devoted the first half of his career working with significantly involved children and youth in public and private settings such as a maximum security correctional facility for youth, state institutions for children, and inpatient/residential treatment settings. He has developed residential treatment, experiential learning, and extreme wilderness-based programs for at-risk and behaviorally challenged youth. Dr. McCabe has presented nationally, written position papers, and testified in court regarding involuntary hospitalizations of violent youth. The second half of his career has been in public education where he developed day treatment programs. Dr. McCabe is a Past President of MASP and currently serves on the Executive Board.

## Schedule

Registration: 8:00

Ethics: 8:30 to 11:30

**Annual Meeting 11:30 to 12:00** 

Lunch: 12:00 to 1:00

Threat Assessment: 1:00 to 3:00

**Q + A/Networking 3:00 to 4:00** 

## **Ethics Workshop Objectives:**

- Understand and utilize characteristics of effective ethical problem-solving and decision-making.
- Increase their knowledge of approaches and strategies to enhance ethical practice(s).
- Learn techniques to model and foster ethical behavior for staff, colleagues, and supervisees.

## **Threat Assessment Workshop Objectives:**

- Understand how to build an effective threat assessment team and create a climate of trust between students and adults.
- Understand the ethical considerations involved in the evaluation process in general and specific to risk threat questions (e.g., scope of competence, supervision, informed consent, etc).
- Understand the framework and elements to establish a clear policy inclusive of key elements: assigning and training the threat assessment team; evaluating and interviewing potential offender(s); notification and working with parent(s); interviewing other students and staff; determining the level of intervention required; bringing in additional professionals; providing follow-up observation and services; and responding to media.

# **Registration Information**

Full Day Registration includes: continental breakfast, lunch, and copy of the new book *Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines* by Dewey Cornell

Ethics Registration includes: continental breakfast and lunch

Threat Assessment Registration includes: lunch and copy of the book *Comprehensive School Threat Assessment Guidelines* 

## **MASP Member Pricing**

Full Day = \$100 Ethics Workshop = \$50 Threat Assessment Workshop = \$75

#### **Non-Member Pricing**

Full Day = \$150 Ethics Workshop = \$75 Threat Assessment = \$100

## **Student Pricing**

Full Day = \$50 Ethics Workshop = \$25 Threat Assessment = \$35

# **Cancellation Policy**

If you need to cancel, you must submit written notification to MASP at least 10 days in advance for a full refund. Cancellations with less than 10 days notice will receive a refund less the cost of food (typically \$50) and a \$25 processing fee. Please email your request to <a href="maineasp@gmail.com">maineasp@gmail.com</a>.

## **Directions + Other Information**

From the North: Take I-295 South to Exit 22. Take a right off the exit. Follow 1/2 mile to to stop light. The Harraseeket Inn will be directly in front of you.

From the South: Take I-95 North to Exit 52 Falmouth. Go through the tollbooth and take the exit for I-295 North. Take Exit 22. Take a left off the exit. Follow 1/2 mile to the stop light. The Harraseeket Inn will be directly in front of you.

Potential participants include: school psychologists, special education directors, special education consultants and teachers, guidance counselors, and social workers.

#### **Accommodations:**

Persons with physical disabilities who need accommodations should contact MASP at <a href="maineasp@gmail.com">maineasp@gmail.com</a> for assistance as soon as possible so that accommodations can be arranged.

CE Hours: The Maine Association of School Psychologists is approved by the National Association of School Psychologists and the Maine Board of Examiners of Psychologists to sponsor continuing education (CE) for psychologists. In keeping with requirements, CE is awarded in contact hours only and is awarded at the close of the workshop. The Ethics Workshop will be 3 CE credits and the Threat Assessment Workshop will be 2.5 CE credits.