



SAVE THE DATE!

ASPA Summer Institute June 4-5, 2020

Day 1—Morning

There will be a panel discussion covering the lessons learned from Westside.

Day 1—Afternoon

Presenters: Richard Lieberman M.A., NCSP and Scott Poland, Ph.D.

Title of Discussion: Assessing Threats of Violence in Schools

Location: Westside High School
1630 AR-91, Jonesboro, Arkansas

Lunch: On your own

Day 2—All Day

Presenters: Richard Lieberman M.A., NCSP and Scott Poland, Ph.D.

Title of Discussion: Comprehensive Suicide Prevention in Schools

Location: Embassy Suites
223 Red Wolf Blvd., Jonesboro, Arkansas

Lunch: Provided on site

Prices: \$150 Regular Registration
\$50 Student Registration

Student registration is limited to 14 spots if registration reaches capacity.

Online registration will be available March 13 at www.aspaonline.net

Payment MUST be received by the first day of the conference or paid at the conference in order to attend!

Presenter Biographies



Richard Lieberman MA, NCSP, Lecturer in the Graduate School of Education at Loyola Marymount University

Richard Lieberman is a Lecturer in the Graduate School of Education at Loyola Marymount University, and from 1986-2011 he coordinated Suicide Prevention Services for Los Angeles Unified School District, the second largest school district in the US. He has co-authored numerous book chapters on suicide intervention in the schools; consulted nationally with districts experiencing suicide clusters; served on the Steering Committee for the Suicide Prevention Resource Center.



Dr. Scott Poland is a Professor at the College of Psychology and the Co-Director of the Suicide and Violence Prevention Office at Nova Southeastern University in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He is an internationally recognized expert on youth suicide, school crisis and prevention and has authored or co-authored five books on these subjects.

He previously directed psychological services for a large Texas school system for 24 years and is a past President of the National Association of School Psychologists and a past Prevention Division Director of American Association of Suicidology.

He is very dedicated to prevention and has testified about the mental health needs of children before the U.S. Congress on four occasions. He is a founding member of the National Emergency Assistance Team and has personally assisted school communities after 16 school shootings and numerous suicide clusters. He is the co-author with his partner who is a retired school principal of the Suicide Safer School Plan for Texas, the Crisis Action School Toolkit on Suicide for Montana and the New Jersey School Guide to Prevent Suicide. He previously was selected as the outstanding psychologist in Texas and was a recipient of the Houston Wage Peace Award and the Helping Parkland Heal Award.

Session Descriptions

Day 1

The frequency of threats of violence made by students requires that schools have well trained threat assessment teams. Many questions have been raised about the legal responsibilities for school psychologists in threat assessment. The presenter has been an expert witness in several cases where schools were sued after school violence and will share the outcome of those cases and the lessons learned for prevention and intervention. Several of those cases questioned the competency of the threat assessment done by school personnel. Practical best practices for school psychologists in conducting thorough assessments of threats and how to avoid liability will be outlined.

Program Objectives:

Participants will be able to:

1. Identify key factors involved in legal cases that questioned the assessment of threats of violence done by school personnel.
2. Identify the components and the key school personnel for a school threat assessment team
3. Review threat assessment measures including the SAVRY and the PETRA
4. Understand the actual incidence of schools shootings.
5. Identify the major motivation of school shooters and the three major types of school shooters.
6. Review the most recent report from the National Threat Assessment Center on mass shootings in the U.S. Identify a variety of school safety strategies with emphasis on increasing the role of students in school safety.

Day 2

Suicide is a serious public health problem in Arkansas where the rate has risen to ninth highest in the nation. Most remarkably, suicide ranks as the second leading cause of death for Arkansas' school aged youth with rates doubling for MS girls in just the last decade. School psychologists can provide the knowledge and leadership in their districts and communities to develop comprehensive policies of suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.

This presentation will help participants:

1. Design a comprehensive best practice model for suicide prevention in their schools (in accordance with the NASP Practice Model) that addresses high-risk groups and includes guidelines for intervening with suicidal students;
2. Identify protective factors for youth and model practices for preventing youth suicide through
3. gatekeeper depression programming
4. Assess student risk, use culturally responsive resources for parents, collaborate with law enforcement and local mental health resources, and design reentry plans that include safety planning.
5. Design effective postvention plans that are based on best practice strategies and culturally responsive resources and align with the NASP Practice Model;
6. Use the After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools from the Suicide Prevention Resource Center (SPRC) and the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention to help prepare school staff who are helping kids cope
7. Apply strategies of safe messaging in all school communications to students, parents, and the media to limit contagion
8. Learn the lessons from legal cases where schools have been sued in the aftermath of a student death by suicide.
9. Recognize the complex relationships that exist between suicide and bullying, self-injury, homosexuality and trauma.