

# Nebraska School Counselor Association School Counselor Academy

*Achieve the Dream!*

**Thursday, October 13**

**7:30–8:30** Registration .....Woods Atrium  
Continental Breakfast.....Woods Exhibit Hall

**8:30–8:45**.....Welcome  
Nancy Bond, NSCA President                      Woods Auditorium

Please turn off your cell phones while attending keynote and breakout sessions.

Thank you!  
NSCA Board

**8:45–9:45**.....**Keynote**  
Patricia Martin, Assistant Vice President, The National Office for School Counselor Advocacy  
**Achieving the Dream-Keeping Your Eyes on the Prize**  
Woods Auditorium

**9:30**.....Exhibits Hall Opens

**10:00-11:00**.....Breakout Sessions

**School Counselors: Essential Link in the Chain for Students' Success**

Patricia Martin, Assistant Vice President, The National Office for School Counselor Advocacy

What does it mean for a school counselor to be essential in a world where school budgets are rapidly shrinking, academic standards are being raised, increasing student achievement with the goal of college and career readiness for all students are valued concepts-right up there with apple pie and motherhood, and accountability for concrete measurable outcomes is the coin of the realm? In this session, participants will be able to examine what all this means for school counselors and identify what they can do in their work to become essential to students' success in 21<sup>st</sup> Century schools.

**Audience: All**    **Woods Auditorium**

**Strengths-Based School Counseling and the Reluctant Learner**

Ann Luther, InPurpose Consulting

Which student(s) come to mind when you consider the term "reluctant learner"? What are the issues in working with these students? The session integrates strengths-based counseling strategies, the power of relationships, and differentiated student supports into the school counselor's role. The goal of the session is to provide school counselors with strategies and practices across the ASCA model program delivery to help struggling students experience school success.

**Audience: All Levels**    **Amphitheater A**

**Tricks of the Trade**

Julia Cook, Author and Presenter

National award winning children's author, Julia Cook leads a hands on application of bibliotherapy in the classroom. New topics, new books, new tricks. (Divorce, Grief, Anger, Accepting NO for an answer, Listening and Following Instructions, and more!) Take home ideas that you can really use! A must see presentation!

**Audience: Elem/Middle**    **Amphitheater B**

**Naviance Succeed**

Don Tollman, VP for Community Relations, Naviance & Mary Docken, Dir. Of Strategic Initiatives, Naviance/Hobsons

This will be an interactive session offering an overview of Naviance Succeed. Find out why more than 5,000 schools and 1,200 districts across the U.S. and in more than 72 countries embrace the philosophy and vision of Succeed. See some of the functionality offered in the system, and gain a greater understanding about why it works.

**Audience: Senior High**    **DB 303**

**Eliminating Hindrance to Dream Attainment**

Neil Feser, Guidance Director, Archbishop

In addition to mental health benefits, it is important to remove blockages which can keep dreams from coming true. Participants will witness 6–10 minute presentations related to *Bullying*, *\$ Reasons to Achieve*, *Reducing Worry Time*, and *Suicide Prevention* to help reduce hindrances which steal time from positive development and inhibit the flow of success to turn dreams into reality.

**Audience: Mid. /Senior High**    **DB 308**



**11:15-12:15.....Key Note**

**Creating a Culture of Universal Achievement**

*Fran Hjalmarson, School Counselor, Los Penasquitos Elementary School in San Diego*

**Woods Auditorium**

**12:15-1:15.....Lunch On Your Own**

The Ortner Center Dining Room has a nice selection of a' la carte vegetarian menu items for lunch, or you may wish to try one of the excellent nearby restaurants.

**12:15 –1:15. .... Exhibit Hall Closed (Reopens at 1:15)**

**1:15-2:15. .... Breakout Sessions**

**Utilizing Student Success Teams to Support RTI**

*Fran Hjalmarson, School Counselor, Los Penasquitos Elementary School in San Diego*

Do you currently serve on a Student Assistance Team? Does attending numerous meetings and spending hours on questionable documentation frustrate you? If so, this session will present a streamlined and effective model for supporting at-risk students by developing individual action plans in a simple and efficient manner. This model builds on the strengths of team members, dividing the workload between them and fostering shared responsibility. Attendees will leave this session inspired by this alternative and eager to make changes at their school sites.

**Audience: All**

**Woods Auditorium**

**Making Domains Work: Committing to a Hybrid School Counseling Program**

*Jenn Bernard, Records Counselor, Omaha North High School*  
*Kevin Custard, Guidance Director, Omaha North High School*

Through the use of collaboration, counselors can maintain the integrity of an ASCA Model program while still meeting the needs of individual students and families.

**Audience: Senior High**

**Amphitheater A**

**Sibling Bullying and Family Violence**

*Melissa Saunders, Child and Family Therapist/Author*

A new study by the CDC links bullying with family violence. Violent families encounters were most common among youth who identify themselves as someone who has both been bullied and been victimized. Learn the characteristics of bully-victims, ways to identify signs of family violence and sibling bullying, how to intervene and support a family who struggles with domestic violence and understand the links to family bullying and school bullying.

**Audience: All**

**Amphitheater B**

**Naviance User Groups-Paying It Forward**

*Don Tollman, VP for Community Relations, Naviance*

User groups are powerful avenues to help Naviance Network members utilize Naviance Succeed to assist their students as they create and follow meaningful and relevant success plans. Peer-to-peer knowledge transfer can greatly enhance professional training sessions to ensure Naviance Network members are operating at the highest level possible. This session will address ways to form user groups, and discuss what has worked best for some well-established user groups around the country. In addition, there will be time to discuss the ASCA time-tracker that is integrated into Naviance Succeed along with how ASCA standards can be assigned to student tasks in Success Planner.

**Audience: Senior High**

**DB 303**

**Supporting LBGTQIA Students In Your Schools and Classrooms**

*Nishja Nuss, 7-12 Counselor, Tekamah-Herman Schools*

Information presented by a school counselor that was selected as the PFLAG grant recipient to attend the Solutions to a Crisis: Supporting Students, Saving Lives Conference in San Diego. Learn strategies and activities to help make schools and classrooms safe for the LGPTQIA youth in your schools. Information will be presented on resources and different lesson activities that teachers and counselors can use in the classroom today to effectively create positive change.

**Audience: All**

**DB 302**

**Layers of Goodness: Considering the Value of Using Multiple Character Based Programs**

*Jan Brown, Nebraska and Iowa School Relation Representative, Youth Frontiers, Inc.*

Do various layers of character education muddy or clear the waters? Consider this question from a local superintendent: "Jan, will you come talk to my leadership team about how different character programs complement each other? I'm worried my teachers will just think, "Oh, one more thing!" and not understand the way these programs can work together to help them and their students."

During this session, we will discuss and share how the concurrent use of programs such as PBIS, Developmental Assets, Ethics Curriculum, Character Counts and Youth Frontiers' Retreats can function as mutually helpful layers in your counseling and strategic plan toolboxes. Come prepared to learn but also to share your school's experiences.

**Audience: Senior High**

**DB 308**

**2:30-3:00. .... NSCA Meeting Woods Auditorium**

**Agenda**

- Introduction of Slate of Candidates for NSCA Governing Board
- Election of 2012-2013 Governing Board
- State of the Association
- ASCA Membership and Conference – June 23-26, 2012

**Minneapolis**

**3:15–4:15**.....Breakout Sessions  
*Exhibit Hall Closes at 4:00*

**3:15–4:15**.....Breakout Sessions

**Increasing Parent Involvement Through Differentiated Parent Strategies**

*Fran Hjalmarson, School Counselor, Los Penasquitos Elementary School in San Diego*

Involved, supportive parents enhance student success. Yet involving all parents can often be extremely challenging. How does one connect with that hard-to-reach parent? How do teachers support families that have extraordinary needs? How can the school remove barriers to learning so that a culture of universal achievement is achieved? Schools practice differentiated instruction for students. In a similar manner, learn to support all parents through the development of “Differentiated Parent Involvement”.

**Audience: All** **Woods Auditorium**

**Creating a College-Going Culture**

*Cheryl Kreikemeier, School Counselor, Wisner-Pilger Public Schools & Mary Janata, School Counselor, West Point Public Schools*

All middle school kids want to someday go to college, but in order to make that dream come true, a college-going culture in every middle and high school needs to be established. This session will give ideas on how to help students be confident in the college and career preparation process, how to engage families, how to involve the entire school staff, and how to create a college-going expectation. Learn how to implement several activities, events, and programs that will help students turn their college dream into a reality.

**Audience: Mid/Senior High** **Amphitheater A**

**Using Literature and Storytelling to Address Student Needs**

*Melissa Saunders, Child and Family Therapist/Author*

Literature and storytelling can assist children in overcoming emotional problems in life challenges, especially those who are not yet ready to face their specific issue. Learn more about the specific ways in which stories help children and discover effective and meaningful ways to implement storytelling and literature into your work with students and classrooms.

**Audience: All** **Amphitheater B**

**Making College Dreams Come True**

*Donna Menke, Coordinator of Advanced Scholars, UNL*

The Advanced Scholars Program brings online University of Nebraska-Lincoln courses right to your high school. Participating schools rave about the variety of courses available, from Descriptive Astronomy, to Art History to Severe and Unusual Weather. Learn more about the benefits of the Advanced Scholars program—including half priced tuition—and how you

can help your students' dreams of college become reality before they leave high school.

**Audience: Senior High** **DB 303**

**Bullying Prevention and Intervention: What Works!**

*Dr. Jean Varden, Consultant*

Discuss common school responses to bullying and hear what research has discovered about what works. Recognize system challenges to implementing recommended approaches and discuss ways to address these challenges. Consider the potential of a ‘whole school approach’ organized and promoted by Coordinated School Health/Wellness Teams.

**Audience: Elem/Middle** **DB302**

**Themes, Dreams, Hopes & Desires: Essays from the NSCA Scholarship Contest**

*Dr. Laura Gaudet, Professor; Dr. Katy Woods, Asst. Professor; & Dr. Susan Schaeffer, Assoc. at Chadron State College*

For many years, NSCA has sponsored an essay scholarship contest where high school seniors (from public or private Nebr. secondary schools) have written essays describing how a school counselor or school counseling program assisted them to plan, decide, resolve or grow in a personal or academic area. For the last five years, the Counseling, Psychology, and Social Work faculty at Chadron State College (CSC) have read all submitted essays and selected the winning essay. The themes of these fine essays have not been evaluated, nor have they been discussed with school counselors in a state-wide forum. In this presentation, the themes, hopes and challenges, as discussed by submitting students, will be shared.

**Audience: All** **DB308**

**4:15-5:15**.....Reception

**Sponsored by Metropolitan Community College**  
**Woods Atrium**

**Own The Turf**

College and Career Readiness Counseling

I am a school counselor, and I am here to provide the clear guidance, strong support, and vital information that students need to reach their education goals.

1. Nurture college aspirations
2. Advance academic planning
3. Ensure enrichment and extracurricular engagement
4. Enable college and career exploration and selection processes
5. Promote college and career assessments
6. Provide college affordability planning
7. Increase understanding about college and career admission processes
8. Make the transition from high school graduation to college enrollment successful

National Office for School Counselor Advocacy

## Friday, Oct. 14

**7:30–8:00** Registration ..... **Woods Atrium**  
Continental Breakfast ..... **Woods Exhibit Hall**

**8:00–8:15** ..... **Welcome**  
*Nancy Bond, NSCA President*  
**Woods Auditorium**

Please turn off your cell phones while attending keynote and breakout sessions.

Thank you!  
NSCA Board

**8:15–9:15** ..... **Keynote**  
**The How of Hope**  
*Shane Lopez, Gallup Student Poll*  
**Woods Auditorium**

**9:15** ..... **Exhibit Hall Opens**

**9:45–10:45** ..... **Breakout Sessions**

**Evidence-Based School Counseling Practice**  
*Alan Burkard, Assoc. Professor/Dept. Chair, Marquette University College of Education*

This session will focus on accountability practices in school counseling programs and the larger perspective of evidence-based school counseling and program evaluation. To address these issues, participants will learn needs assessment strategies and a model for program evaluation. The session is intended to be interactive and discussion based.

**Audience: All** **Woods Auditorium**

**Tricks of the Trade**  
*Julia Cook, Author and Presenter*

National award winning children's author, Julia Cook leads a hands on application of bibliotherapy in the classroom. New topics, new books, new tricks. (Divorce, Grief, Anger, Accepting NO for an answer, Listening and Following Instructions, and more!) Take home ideas that you can really use! A must see presentation!!

**Audience: Elem/Middle** **Amphitheater A**

**Partnering4Students\*/Transition Programs for Students in Out-of-Home Care (2 Hours)**  
*Michele Borg, Nebr. Dept. Ed.; Lori Griggs, State Juvenile Probation Dist. 3J; Jessica Williams, Answers4Families Associate; David Baisinger, Nebr. Youth Academy; Jim Bennett,*

*Lancaster Co. Youth Svcs Center; Dave Erb, Northeast Nebr. Juvenile Services; Mark Mason, YRTC Transition Liaison.*

Introduction to session includes a demonstration of *Partnering4Students*, Nebraska's new web-based "Tool Kit" of information and resources designed to assist educators and child welfare/juvenile justice professionals involved with the education of children and youth in out-of-home care. The *Tool Kit* includes *Frequently Asked Questions*, *Asking the Right Questions* checklists, sample processes, forms, contact listings, interactive maps, and links to related documents and websites. The resources available through [www.Partnering4Students.org](http://www.Partnering4Students.org) address the following general topic areas: Systems Collaboration, Nebraska's child Welfare System, Nebraska's Juvenile and Criminal Justice Systems, Elementary and Secondary Education, Post-Secondary Education and Employment, and Diverse Student Populations.

The remainder of the session will be presented by a panel of educators and professionals who work with students in out-of-home care as they transition from schools in detention and correctional facilities to community-based settings where they will attend public school or other education programs. The panelists will provide an overview of their school programs and the challenges these students face as they transition between schools and residential placements. The role of school counselors and other professionals in assisting students throughout this transition will be highlighted.

**Audience: All** **Amphitheater B**

**Evaluation is NOT a Four-Letter Word (2 Hours)**  
*Mike Shain, Shain Evaluation & Consulting, LLC*

In the era of results-focused accountability, evaluation is a necessary part of all school counseling programs. Reports to school boards and state agencies demand data collection and analysis. Common sense asks the question: "Is what we're doing making a difference in the lives of our students?" Effective evaluation answers that question and helps sustain counseling programs in a time of budget cuts. Learn the fundamentals of results-driven evaluation and sources of assistance in conducting successful evaluation, including development of concise objectives and performance indicators, logic models, and data collection.

**Audience: All** **DB 303**

**WATCH D.O.G.S.®(Dads of Great Students)**  
*Eric Snow, National Director & Scott Brody, National Coordinator of WATCH D.O.G.S.(Dads of Great Students)*

This program is a one of a kind school-based initiative building on the personal capital of already available—fathers and father-figures of students. Every attendee will walk away with the 7 Steps to Success for launching the WATCH D.O.G.S.® program in their school(s) to support education and school safety through positive male role models. Women and Men should attend this workshop.

**Audience: All** **DB 302**

**Nebraska Career Connections: New and Improved (2 Hours)**

*Charlie Winterboer, NCC Trainer, Nebr. Career Connections/Kuder, Inc.*

Have you checked out the enhanced Nebraska Career Connections system? Get a guided tour of the new and enhanced features, including an e-portfolio and learn how you can assist students with career exploration and awareness by learning about themselves, investigating post-secondary education and employment options, and ultimately in achieving their dreams.

**Audience: Mid/Senior High DB 308**

**10:45 - 11:00.....Exhibit Time**

**11:00 - 12:00.....Breakout Sessions**

**The Effects of Psychological Trauma on the Learning of Children and Adolescents (2 Hours)**

*Dr. Laura Gaudet, Professor at Chadron State College*

This presentation will discuss the characteristics of students who experience post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and the effects of psychological trauma on the learning and behavior of children and adolescents. The presenter will describe school-related crises; typical adaptive and maladaptive behaviors of children and adolescents, as well as, discussing what schools and therapists can do to create successful interventions for children who experience stressful reactions to traumatic school events.

**Audience: All Woods Auditorium**

**Making the Dream Come True with Online Learning**

*Debby Bartz, Academic Advisor, UNL Independent Study High School*

An overview of online education opportunities that *Make the Dream Come True* for high school students. A look will be taken at students who may be accelerating, "alternative", facing graduation crisis, or need scheduling adjustments to achieve their educational goals. What to look for in online programs, student selection, and support needs will be addressed.

**Audience: Mid/Senior High Amphitheater A**

**Partnering4Students\*/Transition Programs for Students in Out-of-Home Care (Cont.)**

*Michele Borg, Nebr. Dept. Ed. et. al.*

**Audience: All Amphitheater B**

**Evaluation is NOT a Four-Letter Word (Cont.)**

*Mike Shain, Shain Evaluation & Consulting, LLC*

**Audience: All DB 303**

**Technology 101 for School Counselors**

*Bobby Kelley, PreK-12 Principal, Meridian Public Schools*

During this presentation you will learn how to use google docs, google calendar, iPods/iPads, and several other technology resources to help you deliver your curriculum and manage your programs effectively. This will ultimately help your students achieve their dream! This session is for counselors who would like to incorporate **USABLE** technology into their daily routines.

**Audience: All DB 302**

**Nebraska Career Connections: New and Improved (Cont.)**

*Charlie Winterboer, NCC Trainer, Nebr. Career Connections/Kuder, Inc.*

**Audience: Mid/Senior High DB 308**

**12:15 – 1:15.....Breakout Sessions**

*Exhibit Hall Closes at 12:30*

**The Effects of Psychological Trauma on the Learning of Children and Adolescents (Cont.)**

*Dr. Laura Gaudet, Professor at Chadron State College*

**Audience: All Woods Auditorium**

**Sibling Bullying and Family Violence**

*Melissa Saunders, Child and Family Therapist/Author*

A new study by the CDC links bullying with family violence. Violent families encounters were most common among youth who identify themselves as someone who has both been bullied and been victimized. Learn the characteristics of bully-victims, ways to identify signs of family violence and sibling bullying, how to intervene and support a family who struggles with domestic violence and understand the links to family bullying and school bullying.

**Audience: All Amphitheater A**

**Individual Student Counseling Sessions: Who Has the Time?**

*Susan Richards, Director of Counseling, Fremont High School*

Have individual counseling sessions become obsolete with the development of counseling lessons, group career experiences and advisory programs? Individual sessions with counselors at Fremont High School provide a unique opportunity to develop a supportive relationship in a confidential setting. Topics covered in the annual review conference include four-year academic planning, career exploration and updating current records on home, health, relations and activities. This session will reinforce the importance of the counselor/student relationship and identify differences in the role of counselor and advisor.

**Audience: Senior High Amphitheater B**

**Bullying Prevention and Intervention: What Works!**

*Dr. Jean Varden, Consultant*

Discuss common school responses to bullying and hear what research has discovered about what works. Recognize system challenges to implementing recommended approaches and discuss ways to address these challenges. Consider the potential of a 'whole school approach' organized and promoted by Coordinated School Health/Wellness Teams.

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**DB 303**



**Making College Dreams Come True**

*Donna Menke, Coordinator of Advanced Scholars, UNL*

The Advanced Scholars Program brings online University of Nebraska-Lincoln courses right to your high school. Participating schools rave about the variety of courses available, from Descriptive Astronomy, to Art History to Severe and Unusual Weather. Learn more about the benefits of the Advanced Scholars program—including half priced tuition—and how you can help your students' dreams of college become reality before they leave high school.

**Audience: Senior High**

**DB 302**

**Endless Dreams: Building Educational Supports for Youth in Foster Care**

*Cassy Blakely, Youth Engagement Coordinator, Project Everlast  
Amy Peters, (Past Member) Lincoln Public Schools Graduate  
Haley Graupner, (Past Member) Scotts Bluff Graduate*

Endless Dreams is a 10-module curriculum designed to build educators 'capacity to promote success in students involved in foster care. The first module includes general information about youth in foster care, their educational needs and ways for educators to be more sensitive to the unique experiences of these students will be covered. Alumni of the Nebraska foster care system will utilize data and share their personal experiences.

**Audience: Mid/Senior High**

**DB 308**

**1:25-2:30**.....**Awards Luncheon**

**Luncheon Keynote**


**Top Ten Methods for Developing Data Driven Principles**

*Alan Burkard, ASCA President*

**RAMP Awards**

**NSCA Awards**

**Complete Overall Conference Evaluation**



Nurture college aspirations  
Build a college-going culture based on early college awareness by nurturing in students the confidence to aspire to college and the resilience to overcome challenges along the way. Maintain high expectations by providing adequate supports, building social capital, and conveying the conviction that all students can succeed in college.

**Help students  
Achieve the Dream!**