

## In This Issue...

- \* SDSCA Leadership Opportunities... page 2
  - \* Bullying Education... page 3
  - \* Mark Your Calendar... pg. 4
  - \* ASCA Conference Stipend ... page 4
  - \* School Counselor Spotlight ... page 5
- ...AND MORE!**

### SDSCA

The mission of the South Dakota School Counselor Association is to unite, support, and empower school counselors.

#### *Our Vision:*

The South Dakota School Counselor Association supports and unites school counselors through advocacy, leadership, and collaboration. SDSCA empowers our members through professional development opportunities, ethical support, and resources to promote student success in the academic, career, and social/emotional domains.

## The Parting of the Ways

After a period of discussion, the American School Counseling Association (ASCA) and the American Counseling Association (ACA) have mutually agreed to split, with ASCA no longer being considered a division of ACA. Both organizations jointly came to the agreement that their individual missions, while closely linked, had diverged enough that this change made logical sense.

After becoming official on April 1st, both ASCA and ACA maintain a positive attitude and actually feel that this will allow for more collaborative efforts during this change in partnership. According to ACA (2018):

*“ACA and ASCA will continue to work together on common advocacy issues that strengthen the work of school counselors to support children and adolescents. “*

You can read the entire statement by [clicking here](#) and read ACA’s Frequently Asked Questions by [clicking here](#).

Currently, SDSCA does not see any major changes with our relationship with SDCA. We have and continue to have a positive working relationship with SDCA, that is aimed at helping counselors of all disciplines and by extent, the clients and/or students they serve.

We thank you for your continued support, through your membership and involvement!

## Congratulations

**Thank you and congratulations to the following members who will be serving you on the SDSCA board:**

**Amanda Bender: 2018-2020 Elementary Vice President**

**Shannon Knuppe: 2018-2020 Secondary Vice President**

**Yolanda Price: 2018-2019 President Elect,  
2019-2020 President**

## The Leader in You!

Have you ever considered being a part of the SDSCA board?

We are currently looking for individuals for the following positions (some job details are included):

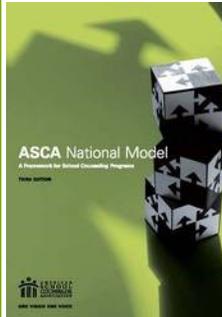
- **Government Relations Chair**  
- Follows and shares applicable legislative happenings, communicates with SDCA and legislative monitor
- **Technology Chair**  
- Manages SDSCA website and social media
- **Graduate Student Liaison**  
- Works to promote SDSCA with graduate students in school counseling preparation programs, represents these students' needs and interest to the board.
- **Middle Level Vice President**  
- Represents the needs of middle level school counselors to the board, also serves as a voting member. \*MUST work with students in grades 5th-8th (this does include K-12 counselors).

You must be a member in good standing to be considered for any of these positions. We would love to have you join our team as we work together to UNITE, SUPPORT, and EMPOWER the school counselors of South Dakota!

For questions or more information, please contact Julie Nelson at [Julie.r.nelson@k12.sd.us](mailto:Julie.r.nelson@k12.sd.us)

## Grow Your Professional Library

SDSCA is once again happy to provide several ASCA publications at a discounted price!



### ASCA National Model (3rd ed.)

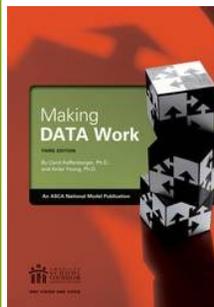
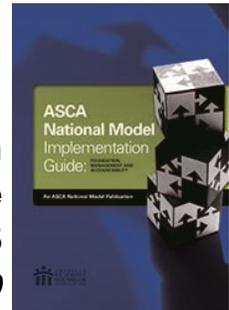
Regular Price: \$44.95

**SDSCA Price: \$30.00**

### ASCA National Model Implementation Guide

Regular Price: \$44.95

**SDSCA Price: \$30.00**



### Making Data Work

Regular Price: \$24.95

**SDSCA Price: \$15.00**

Please stop by the SDSCA table at the SDCA Annual Conference April 19th-21st in Pierre to pick up your copies! Supplies are limited. Cash or check only.

These books are a great resource for growing, managing, and maintaining your comprehensive school counseling program and are essential tools if you are thinking of becoming a RAMP (Recognized ASCA Model Program) school.

## An Education

By: Kendra Hotchkiss

I came into my current position fresh out of college and honestly I had very little idea as to what I needed to do at an established program let alone what to do to create an entire program from scratch. Thankfully, I had a great support system at my school that allowed me the freedom to explore and test a lot of different things to find what worked for our students.

Support. That was the most important part of the entire process.

The largest issue when I started this program was that bullying was an issue and the school climate needed to be improved. So I got to work and did everything I could to change and better our school climate. My biggest finding? Bullying wasn't the main problem –understanding what bullying was, this was the issue.

I found that students were being referred or coming to me with 'bullying' situations that actually were not bullying at all. The thing is-they didn't know this. So I adjusted my teachings to really focus on what bullying was with my students and staff and sent correspondence home to parents too. I sat down with my Administration and School Board and informed them of my findings from the first year, and we re-evaluated our goals from there. Their support really allowed me to be able to refocus and reinvest in the proper curriculum to better prepare and educate our students.

I spent and am still spending my time re-teaching students the differences between bullying and those other behaviors, that while they aren't nice, they aren't quite bullying either. This allows me to better get ahead of the potential for behaviors that could turn to bullying too. Once I allowed the students to really focus on the different types of behaviors-it has completely changed our climate. A simple question of 'is this a bullying behavior or is it something else' has allowed the students to problem solve if the situation is a reportable situation or one that they can work through themselves. I have seen students' problem solving and confidence increase when you give them permission to solve these problems on their own and I have seen them work together more to solve problems of potential bullying.

Has the bullying completely gone away? Absolutely not and I am not sure it ever will. However, the students have become more competent at understanding that not everything that is mean is actually bullying and if they do witness bullying-how can they help to stop it. It amazed me that students weren't aware that they could step in and help to stop bullying before this.

*Continued on page 3*



**Kendra Hotchkiss**

SDSCA K-12 Vice President

School Counselor  
Centerville School District

## Share in Fun

**Are you attending the SDCA conference and/or SDSCA & SDMHCA pre-conference?**

**If so, we'd love to see your pictures, hear about your favorite sessions, and share your experience.**

**Please tag us on Twitter (@SDSCounselors) or Facebook (also @SDSCounselors) to share your photos and thoughts. Great feedback for all involved in planning, plus a great way to share with those who are not able to join us in Pierre.**



## Mark your calendars!

- ◆ **April 19th**– SDSCA and SDMHCA pre-conference : *The ABCs of SFBC: An Introduction to Solution-Focused Brief Counseling.*
- ◆ **April 19th-21st**– 2018 SDCA Conference in Pierre. Visit the [SDCA Website](#) for more details.
- ◆ **April 26th-29th**– 2018 ACA Conference in Atlanta, GA. For more information or to register, please [click here](#).
- ◆ **July 14th-17th**– 2018 ASCA Conference in Los Angeles, CA. [Details can be found here!](#)
- ◆ **Fall 2018**— *SDSCA presents the 10th annual Counselor Connections Workshop! Details soon.*

## ASCA Webinars

Looking for even more professional development opportunities?

ASCA's webinar series still has several sessions coming up.

Past webinars are also available. [Click here for details](#) on how you can participate!



AMERICAN  
SCHOOL  
COUNSELOR  
ASSOCIATION

## An Education con't

I spent this last year really making sure our students had all the tools they needed to 1. Be able to recognize the difference between bullying and someone who may just be rude or mean 2. Give them permission to stand up for themselves and others in all of these situations 3. Give them a chance to safely and respectfully practice these new tools.

It's been months since giving the students these tools for success and I have still seen and heard this being used. It isn't something they are forgetting, and if I happen to have a student who isn't quite catching on to the process-I spend some extra time with them to work through their problem. I talk through with parents the differences when they are referred to me, in the hopes that this will be reinforced at home as well.

Overall, I found that while bullying is a real issue that does need to be focused on in schools, for our school the problem was a lack of knowledge on the differences between bullying and other behaviors. It was a long process and required A LOT of re-teaching, very often, but consistency and support for everyone made the biggest difference in our school climate. Every year, we reevaluate with school climate surveys and every year I get to hear the students quote our lessons on whether a kid is mean or if it is bullying that is a problem. Compare that to my first year here when the surveys had bullying accusations everywhere-about everything-I see the progress, no matter how small. This is exactly what we set out to do every day, help the student grow in way that allow for success in life.

## ASCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE REACH FOR THE



LOS ANGELES, JULY 14-17, 2018

**SDSCA members who attend the ASCA Annual Conference AND are members in good standing as of July 1st, 2018 are eligible to receive a \$150 stipend! Details soon.**

## Heading to ASCA 2018?

For more information or to register for the conference, [please click here](#). Keynote speakers include: Tarana Burke (founder of the #MeToo Movement) and basketball legend Kareem Abdul Jabbar!

## Stay Connected with SDSCA

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SDSCounselors/>

Twitter: [@SDSCounselors](https://twitter.com/SDSCounselors)

Website: [www.sdsca.weebly.com](http://www.sdsca.weebly.com)

Pinterest: [SDSCA Board](https://www.pinterest.com/SDSCABoard)



## Counselor Educator Ethical Standards

ASCA's proposed Ethical Standards for Counselor Educators are open for public comment until April 23.

Click here to read the proposed standards.

Click here to submit your comments to ASCA.

## School Counselor Spotlight

### **Tali Paulson**

**School Counselor, Saint Mary and Christ the King Elementary Schools,  
Sioux Falls Catholic Schools**

*How long have you been a school counselor?:* 7 years

*Why do you enjoy being a school counselor?:* Every student needs a “someone”. I hope I can be that someone for a student in need. I enjoy working with all students in the classroom building life skills, in addition to working with small groups and individuals to help students reach their potential. I also appreciate the energy in elementary schools— it’s contagious!

*Who are your inspirations or role models?:* My grandmother is a phenomenal woman who is smart, witty, passionate, and independent. She grew up in a time where women stayed home to take care of the family and didn’t make waves, but she didn’t lose her sense of self. She is still a force to be reckoned with at age 84!

*What advice would you give to anyone new to the profession?:* Find a mentor! There will be situations that weren’t addressed in graduate school, and it’s helpful to be able to connect with someone who has years under their belt. Don’t be afraid to ask colleagues for help, and remember to take care of yourself so you are able to help others.

*What do you see as the biggest issues currently facing school counselors?:* Personally, I find it challenging to be the “lone ranger” in the building. I value being able to collaborate with other school counselors. Another challenge is being able to meet the growing needs of students: family dynamics and parenting styles, the impact of technology and social media, kids scheduled to the minute, and the stigma of mental illness.

*Continued on page 6*

# School Counselor Spotlight con't

**Karmyn Marchand**  
Career and Technical Educational Academy,  
Sioux Falls School District



*How long have you been a school counselor?:* This is my 6th year.

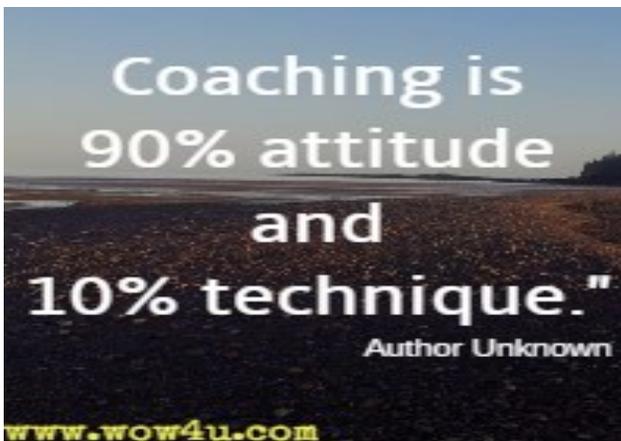
*Why do you enjoy being a school counselor?:* I love that every day that I get up and go to work I truly look forward to it! I love being a student ally and resource, deescalating stressful situations, creating lessons and programs, and working with great educators, other counselors, and community resources. I love the variety, purposeful life and times with students.

*Who are your inspirations or role models?:* My mom has and always will be my greatest role model. Also, my students; especially those that face incredible stress and adversity and still keep keeping on.

*What advice would you give to anyone new to the profession?:* The first year is the hardest. The first year, make your main goal to form relationships with students, teachers, your principal and community partners, and don't be too hard on yourself to have a comprehensive program right off the bat. Also, CONSULT; especially on the tricky situations. To consult and refer you'll need to join SDCA, SDSCA, and your local chapter. These amazing people will help you, and they will become your friends and colleagues!

*What do you see as the biggest issues currently facing school counselors?:* Student to Counselor ratios, the amount and degree of student crises that hinder moving forward with preventative work, and changing of student problems with technology.

*Have you ever attended an ASCA national conference?:* Yes, it was so wonderful to see that many School Counselors in one place! It was truly state-of-the-art information, and I walked away with many ready-to-use materials and ideas.



## COMING NEXT MONTH

Our final PIC for the 2017-2018 school year.

We'll recap the upcoming SDCA conference—including award winners and the 2018-19 SDSCA board, new faces will be in the School Counselor Spotlight, and even more. Not to be missed!

Unite. Support. Empower.