

# THE PIC

(Practical Ideas for Counselors)



South Dakota School Counselor Association

January 2016



Jeff Heavlin

SDSCA President

K-6 School Counselor,  
Saint Mary and Holy Spirit Schools  
Sioux Falls Catholic Schools

## SDSCA

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

### Our Vision:

The South Dakota School Counselor Association supports and unites professional 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 personal/social domains.



## Happy New Year

We hope that your 2016 has started well!

If you have not had the chance to view our ASCA partnered Winter 2016 newsletter, please click [here](#) to take a look. It has great information regarding helping students who face violence in their lives.

This issue of the PIC is dedicated to sharing reminders and other helpful tidbits of information.

Keep being super!

## National School Counseling Week 2016

Just a reminder that this year's NSCW is February 1st-5th. Help advocate for yourself and your profession, by celebrating all of the great things you bring to your school community! Not sure where to start? Visit ASCA's [website](#), SDSCA's Pinterest [page](#), search Google, or reach out to your colleagues via the SDSCA listserv for ideas. Participate in ASCA's photo challenge (see below) and we'd love for you to share your pictures with us too. Tag us on Twitter (@SDSCounselors), or #SDSCounselors on Twitter or Facebook. You can also send photos to [sd.schoolcounselors@gmail.com](mailto:sd.schoolcounselors@gmail.com)! Your pictures could be featured on our social media pages or even in future newsletters.

Join us as we "Celebrate to Advocate"!

## NATIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELING WEEK PHOTO CHALLENGE

Take a photo for the day's theme and share on Twitter or Facebook with the hashtag #NSCW16

FEB. 1

**MONDAY** Happy National School Counseling Week  
(Download our sign from [www.schoolcounselor.org/nscw](http://www.schoolcounselor.org/nscw))

FEB. 3

**WEDNESDAY** Passion  
(Download our "I ♥ being a school counselor because" sign)

FEB. 2

**TUESDAY** Put the School in School Counselor  
(Have one of these shirts? Let's see you with it. Don't have one yet? Download our sign.)

FEB. 4

**THURSDAY** Appreciation  
(Did your staff or students make you signs or cards?)

FEB. 5

**FRIDAY** Reach Higher  
(Download our Reach Higher sign, put on your college gear, and take a selfie.)



# SDSCA Pre-Conference Workshop

By: Ashley Seeklander

In October of 2014, Kelly Jones and I went to Pierre to testify in front of the Jolene's Law task force on behalf of school counselors. The task force was created to look at child sexual abuse in South Dakota and then report back the Governor's office on what needed to be done. We heard testimony from parents, lawyers, investigators, and child advocates. While it was a heavy, emotional topic there were many things that happened as a result.

From this experience it started a conversation on how to educate and assist our school counselors. In November of 2014, at Counselor Connections, Dr. Nancy Free, from Child's Voice in Sioux Falls, presented on the appropriate response to the disclosure of child abuse. Jill Stephenson, school counselor at Central High School, also presented on everything else we need to know about the child abuse process beyond the initial report. Both of these presentations were incredibly insightful and much needed.

This spring, SDSCA will once again be working towards educating our membership about child abuse. Tanya Fritz from the Children's Home Society of SD (Rapid City) and Angela Lisberg from the Central SD Child Assessment Center (Pierre) will be leading the 9:00-4:00 pre-conference presentation filled with helpful information on the child abuse reporting process from start to finish. The investigation process, assessment, victim's rights, family assistance, legal aspects, tribal law, local child advocacy centers, school counselor's role in child abuse education, lessons and curriculum are all areas that will be covered. While this pre-conference may be sponsored by the school counselor association we highly recommend anyone working with children (agency counselors, social workers, teachers, and administrators) to attend.

Child abuse is not going to go away. In 2013, law enforcement investigated 2,192 cases of child sex abuse in South Dakota. Keep in mind that according to our 2010 U.S. Census data there were 169,112 children under the age of 15 in our state. However, we know that an overwhelming percentage of child sexual abuse cases are never reported. When I put it in this perspective about what these numbers could mean it suddenly becomes quite unsettling.

I hope that you will consider attending this year's SDSCA pre-conference on April 28, and also the SDCA conference, April 29-30. If we unite together, support each other, and empower our future generations we can help make a difference.



Ashley Seeklander

SDSCA Past President  
K-8 School Counselor  
Groton Area Elementary and  
Middle Schools

## Day on the Hill

As a reminder, this year's Day on the Hill will be taking place in Pierre on Friday, February 5th. Here is a brief schedule of events :

### Thursday the 4th:

- 6:00pm-** SDCA board meeting and supper (open to all)
- 7:45pm-** Orientation and overview of current legislative issues with SDCA monitor Dianna Miller

### Friday the 5th:

- 7:30am-** Brief meeting for those not at Thursday's orientation
- 7:30-10:00am-** Coffee and meeting with lawmakers; sitting in on committee meetings
- 11:45am-1:00pm-** Lunch at Red Rossa Italian Grille w/ guest speaker SD Attorney General Marty Jackley, speaking on Human Trafficking (sponsored by SDCA)

For questions or more information contact SDCA Interim Executive Director Rebecca Christiansen at [sdca.counseling@gmail.com](mailto:sdca.counseling@gmail.com).

We would like to extend our gratitude to both our SDSCA Government Relations Chair Kelly Jones and SDCA Government Relations Chair Jill Stephenson for their continued work on behalf of South Dakota's counselors.

You can follow this year's legislative session on the legislature's [website](#).



### Stay Connected with SDSCA:

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

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/SDSCounselors](http://www.facebook.com/SDSCounselors)

**Twitter:** @SDSCounselors

**Pinterest:** SDSCA Board



## Then vs. Now

Special thanks to Andrea Diehm for sharing this graphic from the American Counseling Association. A great tool to help educate your school community about what you do and the difference between a guidance counselor and

Andrea Diehm

SDSCA Department of  
Education Liaison  
Central Region Career Development  
Specialist and School Counseling  
South Dakota Department of Education

## Mark Your Calendar:

National School Counseling  
Week: February 1-5

Day on the Hill: February 5

SDSCA Award Nomination  
Deadline: March 1

SDCA Award and President-  
Elect Nomination Deadlines:  
March 1

ACA Conference & Expo in  
Montreal: March 31– April 3  
(registration information [here](#))

SDCA Conference in Aberdeen:  
April 27– 30  
(registration information [here](#))

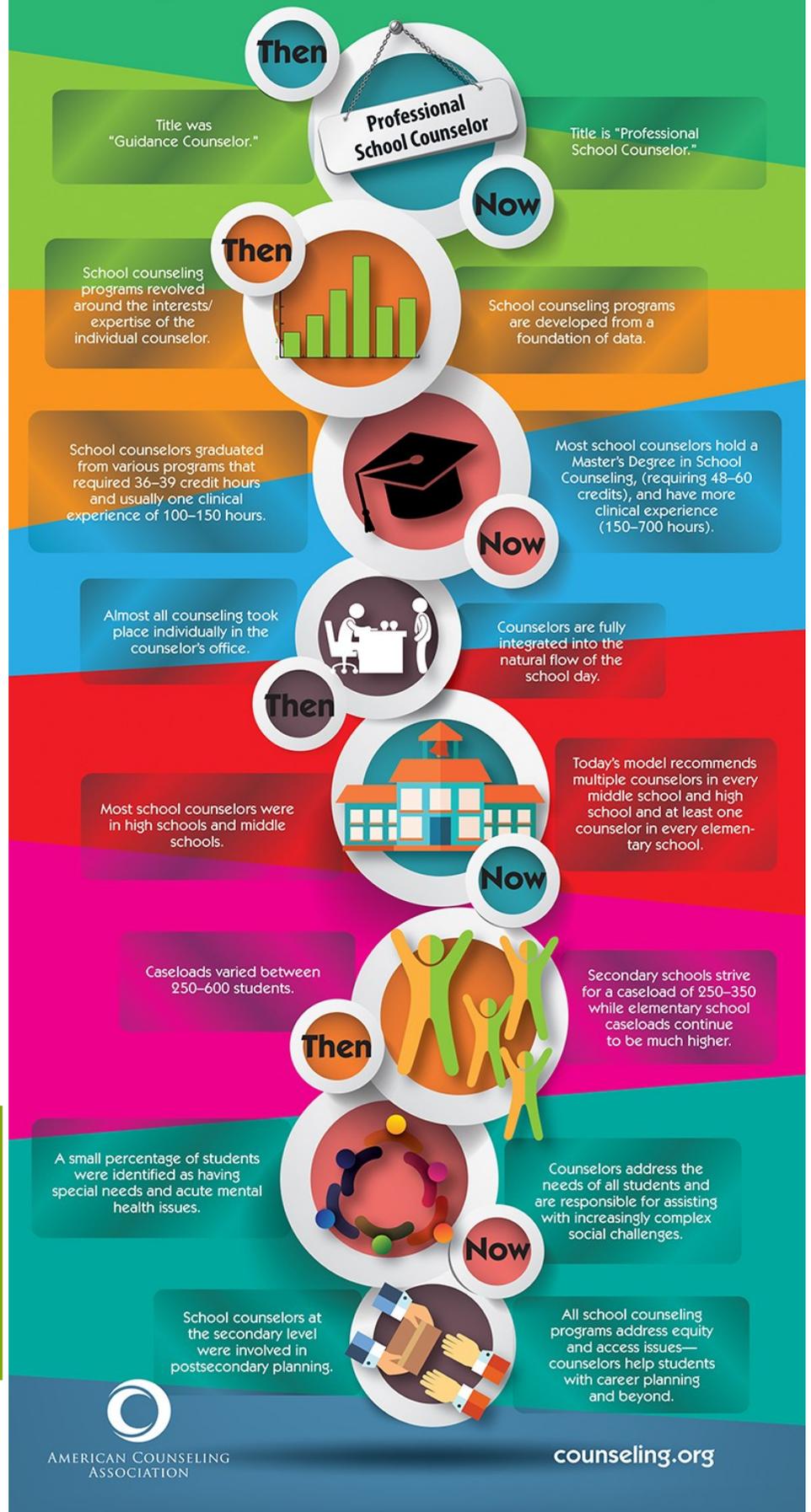
ASCA Conference in  
New Orleans: July 9-12  
(registration information [here](#))

## Coming Next Month:

- The importance of counselor self-care
- Highlights from Day on the Hill
- How members celebrated NSCW

For details on the 2016 SDCA Awards, please visit the SDCA Awards [page](#) for a list of awards and how to make nominations.

## How does the school counselor of 20 years ago compare to the school counselor of today?



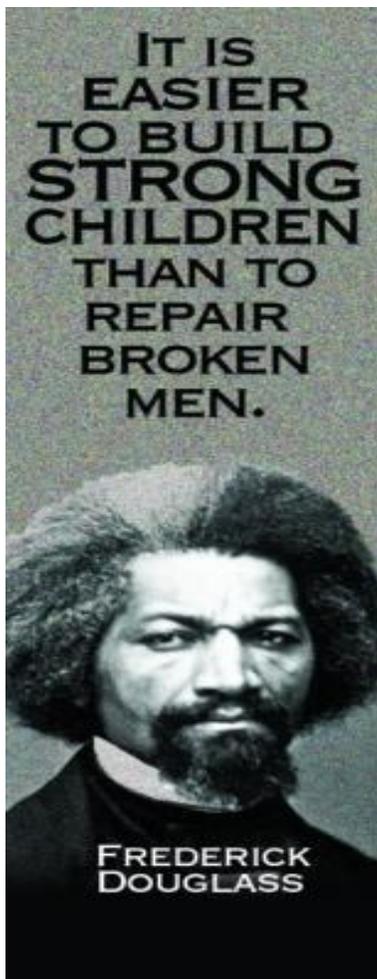
## Elections Coming Soon

Nominations will soon be open for SDSCA President-Elect, Elementary Vice President, and Secondary Vice President.

Each Vice President serves a two year term. They are voting members of the board. To be eligible to serve, a nominee must be a member in good standing of SDSCA and work in the appropriate setting (K-12 school counselors are eligible for either position).

The President-Elected serves a three year term, as President-Elect, President, and Past President. Qualified nominees must be members in good standing of SDSCA. The President-Elect will accompany our incoming President at this summer's Leadership Development Institute and Delegate Assembly in New Orleans.

Nomination details will be coming soon!



## SDSCA Awards

The window for nominations for this year's awards closes on March 1st. Recipients of the awards will be honored at the SDSCA luncheon at the SDCA conference in Aberdeen. Applicable recipients will also receive a free SDSCA membership for 2016-2017.

Awards and criteria are as follows:

### Orv Schmieding Award:

The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding service to the area of school counseling over an extended period of time. This is the top award determined by the SDSCA Award Committee. The recipient must be a member of SDSCA. Please consider the following points:

- \* Length of time as a school counselor
- \* Contributions to SDSCA
- \* Professional contributions
- \* Civic and local contributions

### Outstanding Professional School Counselor

This award is in recognition of a school counselor who:

- \* Has made outstanding contributions to their school, the counseling profession, or the community served.
- \* Has excellent rapport with students, parents, and school personnel
- \* Is highly respected as a counselor of students
- \* Is a current member of SDSCA with a Master's degree and is certified by the State of South Dakota
- \* Has worked as a school counselor during the past year
- \* Is working towards the development and maintenance of a comprehensive school counseling program

[The recipient of this award will be submitted to ASCA for nomination for their School Counselor of the Year Award]

### Rising Star

This award is in recognition of a school counselor who:

- \* Is a newcomer to the profession, entering the field within the last five years
- \* Is a model for new counselors demonstrating the highest professional competence
- \* Has made outstanding contributions to the school, community, and/or profession
- \* Has demonstrated excellent rapport with students, parents, and school personnel
- \* Is a current member of SDSCA with a Master's degree and is certified by the State of South Dakota

### Special Award

This award is given in recognition of a person or organization that has:

- \* Made a contribution of unusual significance that substantially affects the school profession, OR
- \* Made a contribution that directly affects counselors, students, or a school programs; and is not eligible for any of the other awards (recipient does **NOT** need to be a member of SDSCA)

Download the nomination form [here](#). All nominations are due to President-Elect Anna Eidem by March 1, 2016.