

2022 Spring Virtual Workshop Presenters Bio

Benjamin S. Fernandez, MS. Ed

Benjamin S. Fernandez, MS. Ed, completed his graduate studies in School Psychology at Bucknell University (Lewisburg, PA) and has worked as a school psychologist in Pennsylvania and Virginia with over 24 years of experience as a practitioner. Currently, he works as a lead school psychologist in Northern Virginia providing leadership to school psychologists and a broad array of psychological and school-based mental health services including assessment, consultation, counseling, prevention, and intervention. In addition to these duties, he is a PREPaRE WS1 and WS2 master trainer and is responsible for training school employed mental health staff for his district. He serves as a crisis team leader and assists with the implementation of crisis intervention services by maintaining and updating the crisis team operations plan, response consultation, and leadership. Additionally, he has contributed to presentations, articles, books, and webinars related to youth suicide, PREPaRE, and school safety and crisis intervention on the local, state, and national levels. He has testified before the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, the Federal Commission on School Safety, the Congressional School Safety Caucus, and served as a member of the Governor of Virginia's Children's Cabinet on Student Safety. Most recently, Mr. Fernandez contributed to the Virginia Department of Education's Suicide Prevention Guidelines. In 2010, he was named School Psychologist of the Year by the Virginia Academy of School Psychologists and in 2012, he was named School Psychologist of the Year by the National Association of School Psychologists.

Margaret A. Sedor, PhD, NSCP, LEP

Margaret A. Sedor, NCSP, is a School Psychologist and Suicide Prevention Coordinator in the Sweetwater Union High School District, and Adjunct Faculty in the Department of Counseling and School Psychology at San Diego State University. She served as NASP California Delegate, NASP Board of Directors, and NASP GPR Committee currently serves on the NASP School Safety and Crisis Response Committee. As a nationally recognized presenter, Dr. Sedor provides training in MTSS, mental health, Crisis Response, SEL, restorative practices, and suicide prevention, intervention, postvention.

William Pfohl, Psy.D., MS.

William Pfohl, Psy.D., is a two-time president of The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) was awarded the NASP 2010 Lifetime Achievement Award.

Using his graduate training as a model, he developed a school psychology certification program at Western Kentucky University (WKU), where he served as a professor for more than 30 years. He further aided in the development of certification procedures for school psychology for the Kentucky Department of Education, as well as the criteria for emotionally/behaviorally disordered classification. Dr. Pfohl continues to advance the field of school psychology through his affiliation with the International School Psychology Association (ISPA). As President, he aided in the training of school psychologists in Europe in crisis response and prevention. Dr. Pfohl states, "School psychology internationally is changing quite quickly." A prolific writer, Dr. Pfohl has published over 80 articles, books, and professional periodicals. He previously wrote a technology column for *Communiqué*, NASP's monthly newsletter, covering such topics as ethics and encryption.

Dr. Pfohl received the Cangemi Award for Outstanding Public Service in Psychology and Education in 2002 from WKU for his commitment to the needs of the community. He spends much time serving the public as a child abuse protection advocate, a mental health responder with the American Red Cross, and was even a volunteer fireman. As a self-described "closet community psychologist," he maintains a strong interest in prevention. Dr. Pfohl served as a co-editor for the *Handbook of Youth Prevention Science*. His current research interests include cross-cultural examination of aggression in females and school violence.