

Make it Meaningful!



Indiana Association of School Psychologists School Safety Statement

The Indiana Association of School Psychologists (IASP) believes school psychologists are distinctively positioned in schools to advocate for evidence-based initiatives at the local, state, and federal levels, which create safe and supportive learning environments that naturally prevent violence and ensure that students have access to supports they need to be successful both inside and outside of the classroom.

While we understand the need for debate of gun control, we believe the role of school psychologists is to function as comprehensive mental health providers. In addition to conducting psychoeducational evaluations, school psychologists: provide evidence-based academic and behavior interventions; offer counseling to individual students and groups of students; and develop suicide and violence prevention policies. As one of our goals is to promote a positive, safe school climate, we recommend (1) integrating services through collaboration, (2) facilitating access to school based mental health supports, (3) implementing and promoting multi-tiered systems of support which include trauma-informed care, and (4) ensuring school safety and crisis response.

Anyone interested in learning more information is welcome to contact our association, as several of our members are trainers in the PREPaRE curriculum, which is a national crisis safety model. The PREPaRE curriculum has been developed by the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP), and it is ideal for schools committed to improving and strengthening their school safety and crisis management plans and emergency response. In addition, our annual IASP conferences are open to the public for all to attend and are beneficial to anyone working in schools or with children. For more information, please contact IASP (iasponline.org) or our national affiliate NASP (nasponline.org).