

WHEN CRISIS COMES: SUPPORTING STUDENTS IN SCHOOLS

**FREE AND
UNLIMITED
ACCESS**

The University of South Dakota School of Education, in partnership with the South Dakota Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health, is pleased to offer FREE professional development focused on student & staff mental health and crisis prevention & response in schools.

This speaker series will feature some of the nation's most renowned speakers, researchers and professionals who have experienced crisis in schools. Recorded presentations will be available throughout the 2022-2023 school year. Continuing Education Units will be awarded for participation in the series. Participants can pick and choose what videos they are interested in viewing, or they can choose to view them all.

SPEAKER LINE UP



DR. STEPHEN BROCK

Comprehensive School Suicide Prevention

Suicide is the second leading cause of death for our nation's teenagers, and suicide deaths rates and suicidal ideation and behavior are increasing. After providing a review of suicide statistics, this session reviews school suicide prevention, intervention and postvention.



SCOTT ERVIN

How to Interact with Parents: No Matter How Difficult

Even the most skilled teacher, principal, or superintendent can be made miserable by a persistently difficult parent. Let me train your staff or district to work with parents in a calm, and assertive way so that you can hold students and parents accountable in order to do your very difficult job with optimal effectiveness.



BEN FERNANDEZ

Student Mental Health and Safe Schools

In order for students to thrive, schools not only must educate students but also must be ready to address their mental health needs as well. This presentation discusses the connection between student mental health and the connection between a safe and supportive school. Participants will learn about ways schools can support student mental wellness and address mental health concerns.



NATALIE HAMMOND

Resiliency in the Aftermath

Natalie taught third grade at Sandy Hook Elementary for thirteen years before becoming the lead teacher in the building. In a morning meeting on December 14, 2012, she heard alarming sounds outside of the main office. She, along with the principal and school psychologist, confronted the unknown. Although wounded multiple times during the attack, Natalie survived her injuries. She now serves as principal in a PreK-4 elementary school in Connecticut. Since the tragedy, she works with groups around the country to discuss resiliency in the face of adversity and the importance of communication and collaboration when developing safety plans.



SCARLETT LEWIS

Cultivating a Healthy Workplace Environment

Based on the science and research behind successful social and emotional learning programs, Scarlett provides adults in the corporate world the same tools that support and promote healthy interaction, cultivate happiness and enable employees to have healthy perspective without being distracted by negativity. The program provides the support and tools for heightened self-awareness and understanding the opportunity to take personal responsibility for one's actions and reactions to peers, supervisors, and others in the workplace.



JOHN MCDONALD

The World Isn't a Scary Place... But It Is Uncertain.

Nationally recognized school safety leader John McDonald is known for developing the post-Columbine security program recognized by the White House following the Sandy Hook tragedy as a model school safety program. His work on the front lines has included managing ongoing threats to Columbine High School, as well as leading school districts through crises like the 2nd Deer Creek Middle School shooting, the kidnapping and homicide of 10-year-old Jessica Ridgeway and the tragic suicide of a student who set himself on fire at school in front of more than 200 classmates.

John's presentation will discuss the challenges of being a responder and the impact of loss, trauma and the challenges of responsibility when even the responders assumptions are shattered.



DR. AMANDA NICKERSON

Bullying Prevention & Intervention

Dr. Nickerson presents the myriad issues and presentations of bullying in today's schools and explores their impact upon students' learning and sense of safety in school today. She shares practical solutions, interventions, strategies and resources for identifying and combating these challenges to promote a safe school climate.



DR. SCOTT POLAND

School Crisis and Liability

Practitioners in the schools — including administrators, support personnel and teachers — face a myriad of complex issues when a crisis occurs, exposing them to potential criticism and legal liability. This training reviews cases in which school personnel have been sued over issues such as failure to obtain parental consent before telling students the truth about a crisis situation, and analyzes legal action against school personnel for failure to notify parents when students were known to engage in self-injury or suicidal behavior. Participants will review key issues, court decisions and best practice suicide postvention and discuss legal consequences of inadequate threat assessment in schools.



DR. MELISSA REEVES

Addressing Mental Health Needs in Schools

This workshop discusses the impact of mental health on academic achievement and social-emotional functioning. Participants will learn the developmental indicators of mental health challenges and identify the barriers that schools face in addressing mental health needs. Strategies to implement proactive and universal approaches to addressing mental health needs and interventions to promote skill building will be discussed. In addition, how schools can provide intensive supports and utilize community services to supplement school-based services and programs will be reviewed.



Register now using the QR Code or the link below.

<https://form.jotform.com/221954899285172>



The SAMHSA Disaster Response Grant is managed by the Division of Behavioral Health South Dakota Department of Social Services. The Virtual Speaker Series is offered in partnership with the University of South Dakota School Psychology Department.