

CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT - Matt Moix Ph.D., Queen Creek, Arizona

Greetings fellow members of the Arizona Association of School Psychologists. My name is Matthew Moix, and I am running for President-Elect of AASP. I'm taking this opportunity to share a little about myself with you. I grew up in Arkansas and attended college at Arkansas State University. I completed my Master's and Doctoral degrees at The University of Memphis in Memphis, Tennessee before my wife, Lori, and I moved to Nebraska for a year. After my internship with the Omaha Public Schools, Lori and I moved to Arizona and I accepted a job with the Gilbert Unified School District.

That was almost eight years ago, and I am still working in Gilbert. Currently, I am one of two full-time school psychologists working at Gilbert High School. At this time, I am also completing my two-year term as Secretary for AASP. The past two years have been very rewarding, and I have learned a lot about AASP and school psychology in general. I believe I can continue to be an asset to AASP and its members as President. I hope to not only increase membership in general, but also to increase the involvement and participation of the members. In particular, I think we need to do a better job of involving members in the rural areas of our state. Also, I think we can continue to improve on our outreach to members and to serve as a source of support for those individuals who need it. Finally, our profession is facing a serious and difficult challenge from APA and individuals who seek to restrict the practice of school psychology. I hope to lead AASP and its members in opposition to that challenge.

When I'm not working, I enjoy spending time with my wife and 3-year-old daughter, Makenzie. We frequently travel to various parts of the state to enjoy the unique opportunities that Arizona has to offer. I enjoy physical activities such as hiking and running, as well as more casual pastimes like golf, reading and watching movies. I hope that this has proved to be informative, and I sincerely hope that you will vote for me to be President-Elect of AASP.

CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY

Amy Jo Green, Phoenix, Arizona

I'm Amy Jo Green and I want to become the new Secretary for the Arizona Association of School Psychologists! I was born and raised on a farm in North Dakota and attended a very small school where I had only 13 classmates. I went on to attend the University of Northern Colorado, majoring in psychology, with minors in sociology and history. I was accepted to Minnesota State University Moorhead School Psychology program where I completed my Psy.S. While there, I was lucky enough to be able to gain experience in both Minnesota and North Dakota practices. I completed an adventurous internship with Suffolk Public Schools in Virginia before deciding on coming to Arizona. I've had the opportunity to see how four very different states view special education and school psychology. I currently work for Glendale Elementary School District as the psychologist for Discovery School. My role varies from day to day. It's a large mix of behavior consultation, assessment, crisis intervention, and putting band-aids on kids when the nurse is out! I'm interested in becoming the active in the leadership of AASP because it's imperative that we actively work at moving our profession forward. I on the Board of Directors of the Minnesota School Psychologists Association as their student representative and saw how important the state association is to our profession. We need a mix of experience and new ideas working at the state level to better outcomes for our colleagues. Outside of work, I love going to Suns (Go Nash!) and Coyotes games, or at least I used to until I bought my new house and suddenly am spending all my free time working on it!

Wanda Piver, Mesa, Arizona

My name is Wanda Piver, and I am seeking the office of Secretary for the Arizona Association of School Psychologists. I have been serving this year at the pleasure of President Claudia Weiss as the Communication Chairperson and editor of the Intervention newsletter.

I grew up in central Florida, in a city called Lakeland, which is roughly the same size as Mesa, between Tampa and Orlando along the Interstate 4 corridor. I attended community college for 10 years to attain my associate degree while working full-time, first at a municipal police department in the Internal Affairs Unit and then at a private psychological counseling practice. I earned my Bachelor's degree in psychology at Florida Southern College (a great place to go for all you Frank Lloyd Wright fans, as it holds one of the largest collections of his architectural design), and then attained my Master's and Specialist's degree (Psy.S.) in School Psychology from Nova Southeastern University. During my internship, I applied and was offered a position here in Arizona with Mesa Public Schools. I moved cross-country in June 2005, and met my fiancé, Eric, about 8 weeks later. I truly believe there is no such thing as coincidence!

I have been school psychologist with Mesa Public Schools, working at two elementary schools, ever since. In that setting, I complete all the requisite "psych" work involving evaluations, as well as consultation, Response to Intervention (RTI), and group counseling for 4th through 6th graders. I have served as an RTI coach for the state of Arizona for the past two years, and just completed the Capacity Coaching training offered by the state (which I highly recommend). As well, I serve on the Representative Council for Mesa's school psychologists. I am also a contract therapist with a private practice working with sex offenders and probation, and I teach courses at Mesa Community College (in my spare time).

I have enjoyed serving as the Communication Chair, but found myself wishing to become part of the executive board; my previous experience as a secretary on a church board for 2 years, followed by serving as secretary and treasurer of my old homeowner's association in Florida for 4 years, seemed to make the choice of secretary appropriate.

When I'm not working, I stay busy with my fiancé, Eric, who is a potter and photographer, as well as working at Mesa Community College. We enjoy hiking, photography, and traveling. We also enjoy visiting my family in Florida, although Arizona has definitely become my home.

CANDIDATES FOR CENTRAL REGION DIRECTOR

Shannon Blair, Phoenix, Arizona

I have been nominated to run for Regional Director for the Central Region of AASP. I am proud to accept the nomination from a colleague and former AASP President. This will be the first time that I have run for an official office. I am excited about the opportunity to be part of the AASP leadership community. I have been a School Psychologist, AASP, and NASP member for 10 years.

I grew up in the small town of St. Peter Minnesota. I started my college career at Mankato State University and then moved to Spokane Washington, where I completed my Bachelor of Science degree in Developmental Psychology at Eastern Washington University. I continued on at EWU to obtain my Master of Science Degree in School Psychology. After graduation I was hired by Scottsdale Unified School District, where I remain to this day. During my years at SUSD, I have continued to grow and learn through different school experiences and continued education. I have worked in the Preschool, Elementary, Middle School, High School, and in the Alternative School settings. I have come to realize, that my passion is with Elementary aged students. It is here that we can first identify students at risk and offer early interventions to help make a positive difference to help them succeed through out the rest of their school careers. I currently work between two Elementary schools. One of the schools has a special education resource setting and strives to keep even the most impaired students included in the mainstream setting. At the other school I work with two self-contained programs for student with Emotional Disabilities, three self-contained Autism programs, and two resource programs. My role at both schools includes consultation with parents, teachers, and intervention teams; leading the Multidisciplinary Teams; evaluations; and counseling. I am also part of our districts Crisis Team.

I am interested in becoming a part of AASP leadership to take my membership commitment to the next level and to be involved in helping the AASP community grow and prosper. Last year, I assisted AASP by attending an educational forum held in my area with Congressman Harry Mitchell and wrote an article for the AASP Intervention newsletter to summarize the community roundtable discussion of NCLB.

Outside work, I enjoy golfing with my husband of 10 years, swimming, and spending time with family and friends.

Louise Privette, Goodyear, Arizona

Hello AASP members. I am seeking re-election to the office of Central Regional Director. I've had the pleasure of working with Bill Mobley and Mary Arredondo as co-regional directors. Together, we have served on various committees and assisted in the planning of our state conference in order to promote professional development for school psychologists.

I am originally from Chicago, Illinois, but have called Arizona home since attending graduate school at Arizona State University. I am a practicing school psychologist for the Agua Fria High School District (aka east LA) and serve two high schools, Verrado and Millennium. I have over twenty years of experience as a teacher, guidance counselor, private therapist, and school psychologist. I love the field of school psychology and believe in the importance of being involved in other facets of school and student life. In addition to the traditional duties of the school psychologist, I've had the pleasure of coaching many Scholastic Bowl teams and, most recently, a team that competed on Brainstorm, a high school quiz show. I've also served on numerous crisis teams for several school districts, sold concessions and worked the ticket booth at sporting events, and performed a salsa routine with one of our Spanish teachers (in the staff "talent" show) to raise money for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. In my spare time, I enjoy playing tennis, oil painting, traveling, and spending time with my family.

I have enjoyed serving as an AASP Regional Director. Bill Mobley and I have worked hard to communicate with members on a regular basis (through emails, articles in the Intervention newsletter, conferences, our first Central Region Happy Hour, and in person) in order to address your needs. If given the opportunity to serve again, I will strive to strengthen our membership and the voice of school psychologists.

CANDIDATE FOR SOUTHERN REGION DIRECTOR - Dawn Baugh, Tucson, Arizona

I grew up in a very small town in northern Illinois. I moved to Arizona to attend the University of Arizona. I received my Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Sociology as well as an Ed.S. degree in School Psychology. Most of my work as a school psychologist has been in low income schools with a large minority population. I am a certified Behavior Support Specialist through the Arizona Behavior Initiative program and enjoy working with our students who have emotional disabilities and behavior disorders.

I currently work at Amphitheater Middle School as a school psychologist. In addition to conducting the Special Education evaluations, I also am a member of our Student Assistance Team prevention program. We meet as a team to develop pre-referral intervention strategies to assist students and teachers in the classroom.

I am interested in becoming part of the AASP leadership because I would like to become more involved in the School Psychology network in Arizona. I enjoy working with others and would like to broaden the base of school psychologists who participate in the state association and in area activities. I feel it is important to continue to develop my skills as a practitioner and as such, important to maintain and establish relationships with other area school psychologists.

Outside of work, I enjoy photography and travel. I also love Halloween and enjoy creating unique costumes each year to share with my students.

CANDIDATE FOR WESTERN REGION DIRECTOR - Anthony De Franco, Yuma, Arizona

I would like to be a Western Regional Director for AASP and begin to assume a more active role within the organization -- I hope to be able to stimulate growth within the AASP membership from among my colleagues and make the organization a more relevant component of their professional lives. I have been an AASP member for many years and previously served as Chair for the Professional Rights and Responsibilities Committee for approximately 15 years.

I am originally from North Western Pennsylvania and graduated from the Edinboro State University School Psychology Program which prepared me for both School and Clinical applications. I subsequently worked within the Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit #5 for three years before moving to Tucson in 1977 to attend the University of Arizona School Psychology Doctoral Program. I had consulted in the Tucson area schools (primarily Amphitheater) and with the Arizona Training Program in Tucson while a graduate student and worked as a graduate assistant in both the Educational Psychology Department and in the Psychology Department. I had also worked for the Sahuarita School District as a School Psychologist (South of Tucson) and for the Muscogee County School District as a School Psychologist (Columbus, Georgia) before moving to Yuma, Arizona to take a position as a School Psychologist with the Yuma Union High School District in 1988. Following my first year's employment with YUHSD #70, I was invited to apply for the position of Special Education Director which I did and for which I was the successful candidate. I then served as the Special Education Director for YUHSD #70 from 1989 until 2003. Unfortunately, a health problem forced me to resign this position (heart attack) but I soon recovered and returned to my first love, School Psychology and am now employed by the Yuma County Superintendent's Educational Services Cooperative to provide School Psychological services and Special Education consultation to the East Yuma County schools (now in my sixth year).

In my spare time I enjoy collecting, refurbishing, and driving classic automobiles -- primarily European models. My wife (Speech and Language Pathologist) and I love to travel across the country by car and explore new locations and meet interesting people

CANDIDATE FOR NORTHERN REGION DIRECTOR - Kathy Bohan, Ed.D, Sedona, Arizona

My name is Kathy Bohan, and I am an Associate Professor in the School Psychology program at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff. I earned my M.A. in Special Education from ASU, and my Ed.D. in Educational Psychology at NAU. Early in my career, I was an early interventionist, special education teacher, and special education director. I have been a practicing school psychologist for more than 10 years, working in various rural school settings throughout the Verde Valley and northern Arizona. I appreciate the challenges that school psychologists face with their work in remote settings on the reservations and in the diverse communities of northern Arizona. I have taught at NAU for the past nine years. As the NAU School Psychology Program Coordinator and incoming Educational Psychology Chair, I am particularly interested in becoming an AASP Northern Regional Director to increase our regional membership, promote regional professional development, and address shortage of school psychologists throughout the state. As a university trainer, I am familiar with state and national certification and licensure requirements for practitioners. I understand the importance of our active involvement in monitoring legislation that may impact our credentialing. At the state-level, I have been active on the Arizona Response to Intervention Task Force. Additionally, my research interests include intervention and assessment fidelity, positive behavior intervention support, and consultation. I hope to lend my familiarity with current research and practice issues in the field to my work on the Executive Board. As a Sedona resident, my husband and I enjoy hiking with our dog, Bailey, on the numerous trails in the area. We also enjoy travel and visits with our adult son and daughter, and new grandson.