

For Immediate Release
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Fresno School Psychologist Honored by Statewide Association

Alecia Paliughi, a school psychologist with the Fresno County Office of Education, has been named Outstanding School Psychologist for the Central Valley region by the California Association of School Psychologists.

Ms. Paliughi, a 10-year veteran with the county office, works at Caruthers High School one day a week and in the county office's special program for preschool children with autism and emotional disturbance. She is bringing the outdoors inside for the high school students by developing leadership/outdoor education/adventure component for emotionally disturbed students. She is also working to develop an equine therapy program that would serve at-risk in the areas of behavior management, vocational training, social/emotional and mental health, anger management, communication and occupational and physical therapy.

Ms. Paliughi has also written a student leadership curriculum for grades 6-12, which is now linked to the California State Standards, presents workshops at conferences, developed other programs – including a peer mediation program for special and general education students – that have received state and federal funding. She also teaches a school psychology course at California State University Fresno.

When not working with Fresno County's students, Ms. Paliughi is entering triathlons, climbing mountains and raising money for charities.

CASP, with 3,000 members, is the largest state association of school psychologists in the nation. For more than 55 years, CASP has advocated on behalf of all of California's students. School psychologists offer student assessments, classroom management, program development for at-risk students and many other education and mental health services to schools and their communities.

For more information about school psychology, visit the CASP web site at www.casponline.org.