



**For Immediate Release
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Poway Unified School District School Psychologist Called Outstanding

Linda Scarpa, a school psychologist with the Poway Unified School District, was named Outstanding School Psychologist for the San Diego-Imperial counties region, by the California Association of School Psychologists (CASP).

Each year CASP officially recognizes the outstanding work of school psychologists with its Outstanding School Psychologist award. Only practicing school psychologists who provide direct service to students, teachers, parents, or community agencies may receive this recognition. Nominated by their peers, one school psychologist in each of CASP's 10 regions receives the award at the association's annual convention, held in late February in Monterey.

Scarpa works at a low-income elementary school with a large English-learner population, as well as at a continuation high school. She has developed criteria for assessing students with Asperger Syndrome and the guidelines are being used throughout the district. She has taken a leadership role in her elementary schools' Special Education Team, which meets weekly to discuss student needs. Colleagues say Scarpa has taken on a large caseload of students with severe behavior issues. She often works with classroom teachers and parents to develop behavior support plans, monitors that behavior in the classroom and on the playground and does individual and group counseling.

A resident of the city of San Diego, and a former president of the San Diego County Association of School Psychologists, a CASP affiliate, Scarpa serves on the CASP Board of Directors as the representative of the San Diego-Imperial county region. She has also served as CASP's assessment specialist, advising other school psychologists on the best assessment practices.

The California Association of School Psychologists, with more than 3,000 members, is the largest state association of school psychologists in the nation. For more than 50 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 services to schools and their communities.

NOTE: A photo of Linda Scarpa is available by email. Call the number above or email Heidi Holmblad at communications@casponline.org.