

<p>DATA DRIVEN ACCOUNTABILITY: Actualizing the Promise through Practice</p>	<p>CASE Winter Hybrid Session Descriptions</p>
<p>February 23-24, 2017</p>	<p>Virtual OR Sheraton Sand Key, Clearwater Beach, FL</p>

Thursday, February 24, 2017

1. Early Experiences Elevate Everything: Early Brain and Child Development and the Future of Society: (90 minutes) Dr. Navsaria will discuss the critical importance of the first thousand days of life and the key role human relationships and interactions play in that time period. The concepts of toxic stress and how early adversity leads to lifelong issues will be reviewed, with practical examples and discussion of research which highlights these areas. Broad policy and programmatic principles that may help address the issue will also be discussed, providing a practical framework for those who work with children and families.

2. Books Build Better Brains: How Promoting Literacy is Key to Early Brain and Child Development: (45 minutes) Dr. Navsaria will discuss the critical importance of the first thousand days of life and the key role human relationships and interactions play in that time period, along with concepts of toxic stress and how early adversity leads to lifelong issues. The importance of early literacy, along with key concepts about literacy development will be reviewed. The structure and concept behind the Reach Out and Read program (which provides early literacy promotion) will be discussed in this context as a workable approach for busy primary-care medical settings.

3. Teaming up: Implications for School Aged Children, and the Role Health Care Providers Play in the Schools: (75 minutes) Dr. Van Acker and Dr. Navsaria will wrap up the information we learned this morning, and tie in the role that health care providers play in school based programs. They will discuss the implications for schools, and how it effects school based programming when working with students with mental health needs. This will set the stage for Dr. Van Acker's sessions on how schools can address the mental health needs of students and build school based programs to meet their students' unique needs.

4. Addressing the mental health needs of our students: Exploring school-based programming: (2 hours) Dr. Richard Van Acker

It has been estimated that 20% of all students within the public and private schools of the United States display a diagnosable mental health disorder. For over half of these children the problems surface at a clinical level impacting almost every facet of their daily life. Unfortunately, most teachers have little or no pre-service preparation to address the needs of these students. Staff development for existing teachers related to practical and effective approaches for the appropriate education of these students is also lacking in most schools. Yet the public school has been recognized as the primary provider of services for the vast majority of students with mental health concerns. Almost 70% of these students receive no outside services, making the public school the *de facto* mental health provider for our nation. This presentation will explore some of the most common mental health concerns confronting teachers in the classroom and identify school-based and cooperative (community partnership) programming options that have demonstrated effectiveness. Programming options delivered within multi-tiered systems of support as well as options outside of these approaches will be explored. Special attention will be given to trauma informed care and addressing the escalation of assaultive student behavior

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1. Legal Issues in the Mental Health Area (90 minutes with Julie Weatherly):

**Students with Mental Health Issues:
What are the Legal Issues and What are Schools Required to Do?**

The noticeable increase in student mental health concerns in schools is staggering, and school district personnel continue to struggle with the provision of appropriate services to assist their troubled students. While some members of Congress are making efforts to address this important topic, it will take some time, if ever, to get sufficient services and assistance in place. In the meantime, there are legal requirements for educating students with mental health issues about which parents and educators should be aware. In this session, Julie Weatherly will provide an overview of the legal obligations on the part of schools when presented with a student who is displaying emotional, behavioral, social and/or academic difficulties and who, as a result, may be suspected of having mental health issues that could constitute a disability under the law.

2. Discipline (45 minutes with Julie Weatherly)

**Discipline of Students with Disabilities:
A Review of the Rules and Practical Implications**

Discipline of students with disabilities who violate the student code of conduct continues to be a complex and challenging issue for school personnel. The laws and rules are complicated and, in some instances, seem unworkable and unrealistic. This session will provide a review of the applicable rules and practical suggestions for appropriately addressing behavioral and disciplinary issues for students with disabilities.

3. Hot Topic Q&A (75 minutes with Julie Weatherly and Moderator)

Follow-up to Mental Health Topic and Legal Update: Hot Topic Q&A

Now that Julie has provided an overview regarding legal issues related to the education of students with mental health issues and has reviewed some rules and practical implications of the law of discipline, now's the time for a few follow-up questions for Julie from the audience. Hopefully, she can provide some answers!

4. Special Education Legal Update (75 minutes with Julie Weatherly)

Special Education Legal Update: What Happened in 2016?

Last year was another active year in the area of special education law! Even though there has been no change to the IDEA since 2004, there is an enormous amount of litigation going on, while courts and federal agencies interpret and apply the provisions of the IDEA, Section 504 and the ADA. In this session, Julie Weatherly will update the audience on significant special education "legal happenings" during 2016, including court decisions, new ADA regulations and important guidance from OSEP, OCR and the DOJ.

5. Q&A and Wrap Up (45 minutes with Julie Weatherly and Moderator)

Wrapping Up the Legal Discussion

This final session will provide participants with an opportunity to pose additional questions generated by the day's sessions and discussion.