



# The WSPA Sentinel

Spring 2010, Volume 09, Number 3

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Deadlines for receipt of material by the editor:

#1--September 1                      #2--November 15  
#3--January 15                        #4--April 15

For information on contacting committee chairpersons, check the WSPA website at [www.wspaonline.net](http://www.wspaonline.net).

**Editor's Note**

By Jennifer Kamke Black

My thanks to all contributors. If you find that you have information to share with the membership that would be appropriate for the newsletter, please feel free to contact me at N4212 Townline Rd., Shawano, WI, 54166. Or, phone me at 715-524-4180 (home), 715-526-2175 x1106 (work). My email address is [kamkeblj@ssd.k12.wi.us](mailto:kamkeblj@ssd.k12.wi.us). Topics or features we would like to promote in the upcoming newsletters include (and are not limited to) trainers' column, medical column, book/software reviews, student column (results of thesis, highlighted accomplishment), "post-retirement" articles, and "kudos" articles. If you have any ideas for these topics, or an idea for another topic, please contact me at your earliest convenience.

**Advertising Rates:**

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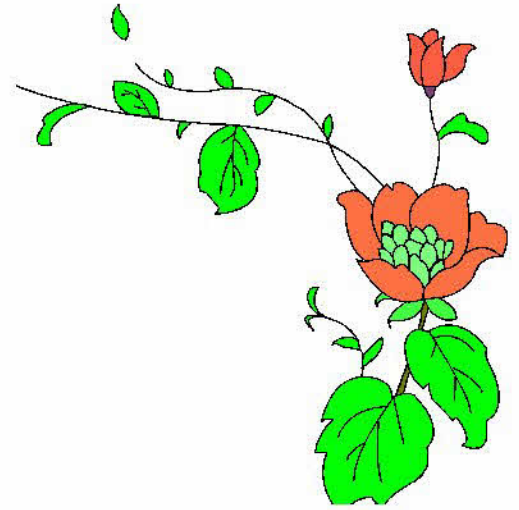
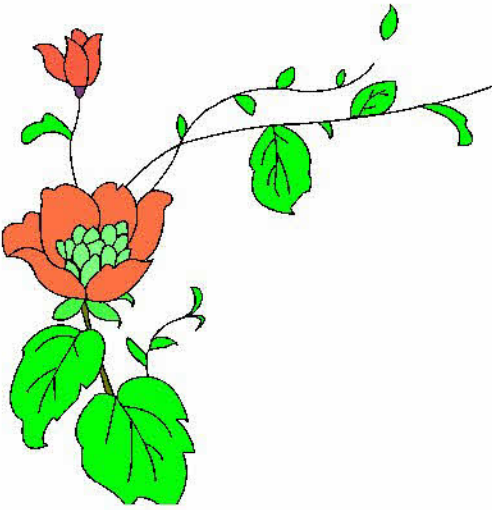


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## President's Message

By  
Linda Servais



I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season and were able to get some much needed relaxation after a very busy fall. As we get into our busiest season as school psychologists, I hope you can still find time to take advantage of some wonderful opportunities to learn and express your very valuable opinions in the near future.

Since the SLD criteria has been unveiled, there will be public hearings that will be available to anyone wanting to express their opinion about the new criteria. Please make a point of attending at least one of the hearings so the state can hear from those of us in the trenches who work to make certain the law is met when determining which children have disabilities and the need for special education. It has been almost five years since the IDEA 2004 was passed and most of us have been wondering how Wisconsin would address the SLD criteria within an RtI framework. Many school districts have been waiting for the new criteria before embarking on putting together their RtI plans, while others have embarked on the RtI path already or still others who have pieces of the plan and need to put it all together.

Which leads to me to letting you know about the numerous opportunities for learning that will be coming soon, even though we don't have a spring WSPA convention. WSPA is sponsoring three RtI workshops in late January and February with nationally-known speakers. Matt Burns and Kim Gibbons will be presenting ways to build your RtI teams and your registration fee will include their book on practical ideas for building those teams.

Following those workshops will be the RtI Summit in March which will enable your teams to learn even more about creating a successful RtI plan for your school district. There will also be nationally-known speakers presenting at the summit. Our Past President Laura McCormick has been working with the committee to make sure the presentations will be well worth your while to attend. Please consider bringing your district teams to these workshops and/or summit to begin this important process of changing how we provide education in Wisconsin.

Of course everyone knows that the NASP convention will be in Chicago March 2 -6 and I would like to encourage everyone to take advantage of the close proximity to attend a spectacular national convention with nationally known speakers and many opportunities to network with school psychologists from across the country. WSPA will be hosting a reception at the Hyatt Regency Chicago on the evening of Tuesday, March 2 from 5:00 to 7:00 to promote networking within our state and to encourage others to join us from other states. I look forward to meeting many of you at this reception to talk about the issues confronting us today or just to have some social time together.

It's important for school psychologists to stay as educated as possible in order to define our own roles and express our opinions with all the changes in education coming in the next few years. I encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to learn and express your important opinions in the coming months. I hope to see you along the way!

Linda

