***(SAMPLE PRESS RELEASE—NATIONAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY WEEK)***

Further Information Contact:

DATE                 YourName, YourPhone, YourEmail

**School Psychologists Nationwide Encourage the “Power of Possibility” for National School Psychology Week**

*National School Psychology Week is November 9-13, 2020*

**Yourtown, yourstate & Bethesda, MD**—The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) has designated November 9-13, 2020, as National School Psychology Week. This year’s theme is "Power of Possibility."  School psychologists connect with students and staff to highlight how focusing on possibilities can help lead us to our goals, our interests, and our positive growth. The theme highlights how school psychologists can empower children to grow in areas of skill such as social skills, empathy, and compassion for others, as well as problem solving, goal setting, and study skills. Throughout the week, schools across the country will be taking part in events and activities designed to highlight how school psychologists, teachers, and other school personnel work with students to look for the power of possibility.

As part of National School Psychology Week, school psychologists at [NAME OF SCHOOL] will be adapting resources and activities provided by NASP to [FILL IN SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES AT YOUR SCHOOL.]

 “This year’s theme champions the personal power in focusing on what we can do to achieve goals rather than the barriers,” explains NASP President Wendy Price. “A key objective is to teach children that they have the power to bring about positive changes, both for themselves as individuals and for their communities as members of classrooms, peer groups, families, teams, and clubs.” In an effort to meet this key objective, all of the resources and activities designed to promote National School Psychology Week emphasize a student-centered approach.

“Leveraging the “*Power of Possibilities!” seems especially important in the current context,” notes Price. “*Doing so emphasizes each individual’s ability to tap into and build on the talents, skills, behaviors, and mindset that will help them grow and contribute to the quality of their school and broader communities. By encouraging and valuing intentional, small, positive efforts, adults and students grow academically, build understanding, create compassion, and become more resilient – more energized to confront upcoming challenges.”

NASP has put together a variety of resources that NASP members and other partners can access through the NASP website in order to coordinate National School Psychology Week events and activities for their own schools and practice settings (www.nasponline.org/spaw).

In addition, several NASP programs are in place to reinforce aspects of this year’s theme. School staff can use the Student POWER Award to recognize those students who work to make a difference through hard work, personal optimism, and dedication of others. The Possibilities in Action Partnership Award recognizes the contributions of teachers, administrators, other staff, and parents make to support the needs of the whole child. The Gratitude Works program is designed to help students focus on positive relationships, mature socially, and grow an understanding of the world by fostering gratitude through a variety of activities.

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About NASP—The National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) represents 25,000 school psychologists throughout the United States and abroad. NASP empowers school psychologists to promote the learning, behavior, and mental health of all children and youth.

For further information contact [LOCAL CONTACT] or NASP Director of Communications Kathy Cowan at 301-347-1665 or kcowan@naspweb.org, or visit [www.nasponline.org](http://www.nasponline.org).

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