# Superintendent’s Memo #287-20


**COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education**

DATE: October 30, 2020

TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: James F. Lane, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: National School Psychology Week (NSPW) November 9-13, 2020

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) joins the Virginia Academy of School Psychologists (VASP) and the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) in celebrating National School Psychology Week (NSPW), previously School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW), during the week of November 9-13, 2020. This year's theme, “[The Power of Possibility](https://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/advocacy/national-school-psychology-week-%28nspw%29/about-the-theme)” conveys hope, growth, resilience, and renewal. NASP has developed a number of [adaptable resources](https://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/advocacy/national-school-psychology-week-%28nspw%29/sample-resources?utm_source=delegate_message&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=DM_VA_1020) and [suggested activities](https://www.nasponline.org/research-and-policy/advocacy/national-school-psychology-week-%28nspw%29/leveraging-the-a-in-spaw2020-as-part-of-nspw?utm_source=delegate_message&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=DM_VA_1020), to highlight the important contributions of school psychologists and to collaborate with families and the school community on ways to support the growth and development of all students.

One way to bring awareness to the role of school psychologists is the [NASP Exposure Project](https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/diversity-and-social-justice/cultural-competence/multicultural-affairs-committee/nasp-exposure-project-%28nasp-ep%29). Now in its fifth phase, this project seeks to expose high school and undergraduate students, especially those of diverse backgrounds, to school psychology as a career. By presenting at least once each semester using NASP Exposure Project materials, school psychologists can help to effectively remedy critical workforce shortages and increase diversity throughout the profession.

The VDOE and VASP recognize that Virginia’s school psychologists are working hard to adapt and change practice models to meet the needs of students, families, and teachers in the face of COVID-19. Across the Commonwealth, regardless of instructional delivery methods, Virginia’s School Psychologists remain a resource for our communities. Now more than ever, school psychologists are focused on helping all students grow, thrive, and bloom.

Questions regarding National School Psychology Week and school psychology services may be directed to Martha Montgomery, School Psychology Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at Martha.Montgomery@doe.virginia.gov, or by telephone (804) 692-0396.

JFL/MM/rge