



ASSOCIATION FOR POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

# Newsletter

Volume 5, No. 3

2007

## Association for Positive Behavior Support

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Medical Center

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**Don Kincaid**  
**Bobbie Vaughn**

## APBS Board Update

I have enjoyed my first six months in the President's chair and am proud to say that the Board of Directors and our members have continued to work hard toward several important goals. I'd like to take this opportunity to describe a few of these activities.

## APBS Standards of Practice— Individual Level

Jacki Anderson, Fredda Brown, and Brenda Scheurmann have worked diligently over the past two years to develop a document that the Board felt epitomized the practices of PBS at the individual level. Thus, the APBS Standards of Practice – Individual Level was born. The final version of the Standards can be found on our Web site (<http://www.APBS.org>). Thanks go out to Jacki, Fredda, Brenda, and their committee members for all their hard work.

## New Family Representatives

We are proud to announce that our goal of having better family and parent representation on our Board has come to fruition. Three (yes, three) family representatives have been added to our Board of Directors to help us develop an action plan regarding the role of families within the context of APBS. So, we'd like to welcome Nila Benito, Lisa Fleisher, and Shari Krishnan to our Board. We look forward to gaining their input as APBS continues to grow.

## 2008 APBS Conference

Finally, we are working toward having another fabulous conference in March 2008

in Chicago. Towards that end, we have two new Conference Chairs (Don Kincaid and Lucille Eber) working hard with the conference committee to put on a great conference. In addition, we have a new conference coordinator, Ilene Alvarez at the University of South Florida, who has taken over for Kristin Tate (who was kind enough to pinch hit as Conference Coordinator for us last year). We are happy to have Ilene join our group and she has been working hard for months already on the conference. We look forward to seeing everyone at the conference in March and always be sure to check the Web site for new developments in the organization.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Zarcone, President APBS

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## APBS Board Elections

APBS Board Elections are upon us. We will be electing four new and/or returning members to serve on the APBS Board of Directors. Please carefully review the statements that follow and use the attached ballot to indicate your preference. Ballots must be received by October 25, 2007.

## Nominees

**Linda M. Bambara, Pennsylvania**

I would be honored to serve a second term as board member of APBS. I'm a Professor of Special Education at Lehigh University

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(“APBS Board Elections” continued from p. 1)

in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. As a teacher, consultant, and researcher, my area of expertise is in designing individualized positive behavior supports (PBS) for adults and children with developmental and severe disabilities. As a long-time PBS advocate, I've served on several national advisory boards on PBS and on Pennsylvania's positive approaches committee, which was instrumental in changing state regulations on the use of restrictive interventions in community agencies. My research has focused on choice and other self-determination interventions for helping adults with severe disabilities speak out and do more for themselves. More recently, my research interests have focused on understanding systemic issues that affect the long-term adoption of individualized PBS in school settings and the supports needed by team members to sustain their commitment to people who engage in challenging behaviors. In addition to my academic focus, I'm also Executive and Co-Executive Director of two university programs that provide individualized supports to adults and transition-age youth with developmental disabilities in inclusive community settings, including college campuses. In addition to publishing numerous articles and book chapters in my areas of interest, I serve on the editorial board of five journals, am past Editor-in-chief of *Research and Practice in Severe Disabilities* (formerly JASH), and have co-authored or co-edited several books on individualized PBS, most recently Bambara and Kern *Individualized Supports for Students with Problem Behaviors: Designing Positive Behavior Plans*.

### **Randall L. De Pry, Colorado**

The Association for Positive Behavior Support (APBS) is growing into a highly respected and influential international organization; yet more work needs to be done to ensure the viability of APBS for the 21st century. For the past three years it has been my great privilege to serve as a member of the APBS Board of Directors and currently as Secretary of the board. If re-elected, I will continue to work collaboratively with my colleagues on issues related to organizational sustainability, as well as provide continued leadership on APBS membership issues and goals (e.g., member benefits, resource development, networking, local chapter development, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), and communication). I believe that more work needs to be done to support current members and to attract prospective members to our organization (e.g., international members, family members, student members, and agency memberships); therefore, I look forward to finding solutions for expanding and diversify-

ing our membership base and the APBS resources that we can offer to our members. For more than a decade, I have worked collaboratively with a variety of persons and organizations toward implementation of PBS at the school and community levels in the states of Oregon and Colorado. If re-elected, I would be honored to serve an additional 3-year term as a member of the APBS Board of Directors and will look forward to representing all of our members as we endeavor to meet the organization's mission statement.

### **V. Mark Durand, Florida**

I have served as a major PBS researcher in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) and have synthesized applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) with Positive Psychology to produce novel approaches to family-based treatment. Joint efforts between University of South Florida and SUNY Albany: Center for Autism and Related Disorders have provided services to hundreds of families. I have been active at the national and international levels as an advocate for positive, constructive approaches to learning and behavior issues in autism. In addition, my extensive administrative service (Chair, Dean, Provost) indicate that I have skills relevant to contributing to a large national organization like APBS.

### **Kevin Filter, Minnesota**

I would be honored to serve a 3-year term as an executive board member for APBS, an organization that I believe has made great strides in advocating for effective, sustainable solutions to human problems. I first came to appreciate PBS from a technical perspective as I knew that it was an effective modality for the delivery of behavioral services. After having worked in schools and with the Minnesota PBIS Initiative I have come to appreciate the positive climates fostered by PBS. I believe that APBS must continue to grow and thrive so that more people can benefit from this effective model of behavioral services.

As a board member I would work with the leaders in the field to broaden the dissemination of PBS while ensuring that our work remains grounded in the science of behavior. I believe that it will be important for the leadership of APBS to encourage members to view PBS not as a new movement but as another step in the scientific process whereby basic research informs applied research, which ultimately informs service delivery. Therefore, I am invested in maintaining the scientific foundation of PBS in order that service delivery may continue to be effective and conceptually grounded.

My career has involved work in tertiary, targeted, universal, and broad systems (state-level) PBS. I hope now to be involved with national and international efforts in PBS to promote effective, sustainable solutions to human problems. Thank you for your consideration.

***Kent McIntosh, British Columbia Canada***

I would be honored to serve as a board member of APBS to give back to the organization that has served me for many years. In this position, I would represent the interests of teachers and K–12 students, as well as a research community working to further our understanding of how to provide more effective and efficient support to school-aged children and youth. I currently work with personnel in schools, districts, and a provincial network to provide technical assistance and conduct research to improve student support. My current research focus is the sustainability of PBS in schools, including showing effects in other areas (such as academics), exploring barriers to sustainability, and addressing these barriers with a dynamic, data-driven approach. This research also pertains to APBS and its current goals in maintaining and expanding effective, values-driven practices and systems to support all individuals. APBS is a vital organization to promote evidence-based practices in reducing problem behavior, promoting prosocial and adaptive behavior, and building communities of support. I believe that my experience supporting teachers and administrators in several states/provinces and applied research focus would help me contribute to an active, determined, and successful board of directors. I thank you for your important work with individuals and look forward to seeing you at the APBS Conference and in the schools!

***Martha (Marti) Snell, Virginia***

Since 1990 I have been teaching a graduate course on positive behavior support. Initially the course was a small seminar and now it is a distance education class serving students from five universities in Virginia. As PBS knowledge has expanded and evolved from behavior modification to behavior management and now to PBS, so too have my knowledge, thinking, and practices evolved. My graduate students include both experienced and preservice teachers of young children with disabilities and students with severe disabilities; and I strive to teach them to actively apply the concepts of PBS with children and in school settings. In addition, I have written several articles relevant to PBS and a text on PBS (see below). As a special educator with a focus on individuals with severe disabilities, I have been active in TASH, AAIDD, and NJC (National Joint Committee on the Communication

Needs of Persons with Severe Disabilities) over much of my career. Through these organizations and also in my role of preparing teachers and researchers in special education, I have been fortunate to interact with and learn from many people whose expertise has strengthened my own. I attended and participated in my first APBS conference in March of this year, though I have been an active and admiring reader (and a less active reviewer and author) of JPBI since its beginning. I think I could learn from and contribute to APBS as a Board member.

***Bobbie Vaughn, Florida***

My current interests as an Associate Professor at the University of South Florida involve Positive Behavior Support and its application with Latino families and the development of health curriculum that promotes health and wellness as a key component in Positive Behavior Support and how those curricula mitigate challenging behavior. As a board member of APBS, I am committed to the ongoing process of strengthening APBS to continue as the premier organization for Positive Behavior Support. As a fledgling organization, APBS needs the continuity of energetic and dedicated board members who are willing to serve multiple terms. I am one of those members. Previously I have contributed to the development of APBS sponsorship policy and occupied a small role on the conference committee. I will continue my collaborative efforts in previous activities but add a new thrust to the newly launched family work group with a mission of providing a greater family voice to APBS, bolstering family memberships, and developing APBS family resources.

***Jennifer Zarcone, New York***

I have been very fortunate to have served on the Board of Directors as Vice President and as the current President during a period in which the Association has been breaking new ground and developing a clear and comprehensive strategic plan to meet the diverse needs of our membership. With each year, the Association has been growing and extending its influence into many new areas and affecting new groups of professionals and I am anxious to help the association continue this trend. My training as an applied behavior analyst and my work at the Kansas Institute for Positive Behavior Support have shaped my professional outlook toward a balance between environmental systems and biological influences on behavior and between proactive and reactive strategies for intervention. More recently my work with children with autism with significant behavior disorders has helped me

("APBS Board Election" continued from p. 3)

refine my skills in functional assessment and individual positive behavior support. I have enjoyed my past three years serving as a member of the Board of Directors and I would appreciate being considered for reelection.

## Ballot for APBS Board of Directors

Due by October 25, 2007

Vote for no more than 4 people

- Linda M. Bambara
- Randall L. De Pry
- V. Mark Durand
- Kevin Filter
- Kent McIntosh
- Martha (Marti) Snell
- Bobbie Vaughn
- Jennifer Zarcone

Submit completed ballot to:

**Tim Knoster**  
**APBS**  
**PO Box 328**  
**Bloomsburg, PA 17815**

### STAY INFORMED!

Visit the Web site regularly for updates!

<http://www.apbs.org>



### APBS Newsletter

Please consider contributing to the APBS Newsletter. The newsletter is a mechanism for sharing perspectives on PBS. Please consider submitting:



- Innovative Applications
- Member Perspectives
- Training Events & Workshops
- Resources and Materials
- Success Stories

If you would like to submit to the newsletter, please contact:

**Carie English**, (813) 974-1898  
 or via email ([cenglish@fmhi.usf.edu](mailto:cenglish@fmhi.usf.edu))



**Become an APBS member now!**  
**See Web site for details. Contact Randall De Pry**  
**([rdepry@uccs.edu](mailto:rdepry@uccs.edu)) or Jennifer Zarcone**  
**([Jennifer\\_Zarcone@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Jennifer_Zarcone@urmc.rochester.edu)) for more information**  
**about the benefits of becoming a member.**