

For Immediate Release
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Oxnard School Psychologist Honored by Statewide Association

Adrienne Lostaunau, school psychologist for Oxnard Elementary School District and Mental Health Services Specialist with the Special Education Local Planning Agency (SELPA) in Ventura County, was honored as the Outstanding School Psychologist for the Central California Coastal Region by the California Association of School Psychologists.

This award is presented to the school psychologist in each of CASP's 10 regions who does work on behalf of California's students, school districts and communities that goes far beyond his or her job description. A licensed social worker and bilingual school psychologist, Ms. Lostaunau was described by colleagues as someone who provides services outside of her school psychologist job through her involvement in many community agencies and professional organizations.

She provides parenting classes, educationally relevant parent workshops, and parent and child groups, for all communities but especially for the Spanish-speaking community. Ms. Lostaunau has organized workshops on new education interventions and strategies for administrators and teachers of her district. She also leads youth groups devoted to anger management, depression, Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder, self-mutilation and many other topics.

"Adrienne has a wonderful way of getting students to open up and participate. She is creative and resourceful in developing activities to engage them," wrote Fran Arner-Costello, assistant director of the Ventura County SELPA. "She is calm and unflappable when students try to upset her. She has an excellent way of getting youth to take responsibility for participation in their own treatment."

A school psychologist since 1990, and a mental health clinician and social worker before that, Ms. Lostaunau is an Oxnard resident. She is also active in her local school psychologist association.

Ms. Lostaunau represented the best in the central coast region, which includes Santa Barbara and Ventura counties and a small area of northern Los Angeles County.

CASP, with 3,000 members, is the largest state association of school psychologists in the nation. For more than 55 years, CASP has advocated on behalf of all of California's students. School psychologists offer student assessments, classroom management, program development for at-risk students and many other education and mental health services to schools and their communities.

For more information about school psychology, visit the CASP web site at www.casponline.org. For a photo of Ms. Lostaunau, please contact Heidi Holmblad at communications@casponline.org.