

2018 Behavior Conference: Meeting the Challenge

The 2018 Behavior Conference, hosted by SWWC Behavior Services, was a success this year despite spring weather challenges. The conference was held in two locations on two consecutive days. Approximately 200 people attended in Marshall on April 9 and 80 people attended in Brookings (SD) on April 10. A new registration option this year was an online, web-based version, designed specifically to meet the continuing education credits for Board Certified Behavior Analysts (BCBAs). Over 60 individuals from 27 states joined us and were able to listen to the presenters, follow their presentation online and live chat with the online moderators. In total, we hit an all-time high attendance number of 340 people!

Our keynote speaker was Dr. Nancy Marchand-Martella, BCBA-D, from the University of Oklahoma. Spring weather challenges made her unable to travel, but that did not matter! With the assistance of SWWC's IT and Behavior Services staff, we successfully streamed the keynote speaker so both in-person and web-based attendees were able to hear her presentation. Other presenters included:

- Dr. Michele Traub, BCBA-D from St. Cloud State University
- Jamie Waldvogel, BCBA and Shanna Nseumen, BCaBA from Behave Your Best
- Josh Cobbs, parent, advocate, and founder of The Pier Center and Joyency, Sioux City (IA)
- SWWC Behavior Services staff Melissa Andree, Kari Tschida, and Jason Dybsetter, BCBA

SWWC extends a special thanks to the Brookings Convention and Visitors Bureau for providing a grant to help offset conference costs. We also thank our conference sponsor, Behavioral Dimensions, as well as SWWC's Recruitment Services and Cooperative Purchasing Connection for providing door prizes.

SWWC is looking forward to offering the conference again during the 2018-19 school year. In October 2018, we will be in Marshall and Rapid City (SD). We will head to Mankato and Sioux Falls (SD) in the Spring of 2019. More information about SWWC Behavior Services and the annual behavior conference can be found at www.swsc.org/behavior.



SWWC Behavior Services Staff

Note: Conference attendees represented the following school districts in southwest and west central Minnesota: Adrian, KMS, Lake Benton, Luverne, MACCRAY, Marshall, Minneota, Montevideo, Mountain Lake, Pipestone Area, Redwood Area, RTR, St. James, SWWC, Willmar, Windom and YME.