

## October 2018 Behavior Conference: Meeting the Challenge

The Behavioral Health Services department at Southwest West Central Service Cooperative (SWWC) hosted its annual behavior conference on October 17 in Marshall. There were approximately 225 special education teachers, professionals and paraprofessionals in attendance.

The conference keynote speaker was the well-known “Behavior Guy”, also known as Corey Robertson from Orlando, FL. His presentation for the entire group focused on lessons he has learned as a special education teacher and behavior analyst. After the keynote, there were two tracks offered - one for paraprofessionals and one for teachers/other educational professionals. Corey Robertson conducted a breakout session specifically for paraprofessionals, as did SWWC’s Melissa Andree and Hazel Ashbeck. In the teacher track, Dr. Kevin Filter from Minnesota State-Mankato, and a member of our Southern Regional Implementation Project for PBIS, was the presenter.

After the Marshall conference, part of our behavior services staff headed west to Rapid City, SD, to host a day of professional development on October 19. The keynote speaker for this conference was Dr. Kathleen Cook from Augustana University. After her keynote presentation, SWWC’s Robert Beringer, Jason Dybsetter and Melissa Andree presented two sessions in the afternoon. A special thanks to the Holiday Inn-Rushmore Plaza for being a generous host and sponsor for the Rapid City event.

For more information about the Behavioral Health Services offered at SWWC, visit [www.swsc.org/behavior](http://www.swsc.org/behavior).



**Note:** Attendees at the Marshall conference represented the following school districts: Benson, Edgerton, KMS, Lake Benton, Luverne, Montevideo, Mountain Lake Christian, Northfield, Renville County West, Westbrook-Walnut Grove, Willmar and Harrisburg (SD). In addition to these districts, all of the SWWC Educational Learning Center staff attended the conference.

At the Rapid City conference, attendees represented the following districts in South Dakota: Box Elder, Custer, Hill City, Parker, Rapid City, Spearfish ... and the following districts in Wyoming: Gillette and Newcastle.