California Association of School Psychologists

For Immediate Release
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CASP Announces 2026 Sandra Goff Award, Foundation Grants, and Other Honors

Sacramento, CA – October 22, 2026 – The California Association of School Psychologists (CASP) is thrilled to announce several prominent awards and grants at this year's Awards Luncheon during its annual convention. Among those honored was Dr. James Hiramoto, recipient of the *Sandra Goff Memorial Award*. The award recognizes an exemplary school psychologist who serves the profession not just in California, but nationally and beyond. CASP also presented Senator Steve Padilla with the *Advocate of the Year* award in recognition of his outstanding support for the school psychology profession.

CASP recognized multiple achievements at the luncheon:

- Dr. James Hiramoto, *Sandra Goff Memorial Award*
- Senator Steve Padilla, *Advocate of the Year*
- Patrick Beiswanger, Tong Chen-Ward, and Elizabeth Gallo, *Nadine Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist Award*
- "Identifying Key Predictors of Change in a Social Norms Campaign to Reduce Bullying and Sexual Harassment," *Contemporary School Psychology*, Article of the Year
- Serafina Chimienti, Loren Lay, Vhenus Belisle, *CSPF Mini-Grant*
- Fiona Gao*, Paul Henkin Scholarship*
- Jennifer Quintanilla, *Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Scholarship*

"What an honor to be recognized for such a prestigious award and as well as humbling. So many incredible colleagues have won this and were in the audience when I received it. To find out later that it was their actions that put this in motion...words cannot express." said awardee Dr. Hiramoto

In addition to the awards and grants, the California School Psychology Foundation (CSPF) also raised over $2,000 at its annual silent auction and through sales of Foundation merchandise. CSPF is a charitable organization committed to supporting the practice of school psychology through research, scholarships, and recognition of exemplary practices and programs.

"Every year our Foundation recognizes future difference-makers, and this year it was amazing to see grants awarded to students and school psychologists from around the state. They are already having an impact on their communities. Additionally, we debuted a T-shirt at our convention that raised money; it was fantastic seeing people wear the shirts throughout the week," remarked the CSPF Chair, Ellen Balsys.

The California Association of School Psychologists is a nearly 2,000-member, 75-year-old statewide professional association that represents school psychologists and licensed educational psychologists (LEPs) in California. The CASP mission is to foster the well-being of the children, schools, and communities it serves through legislative advocacy, professional development, communications, publications, ethics guidelines, and direct services to its members.

The California School Psychology Foundation (CSPF) is a private, nonprofit, charitable organization associated with, but independent of, the California Association of School Psychologists. The mission of the Foundation is to enhance and support the practice of school psychology through research, scholarships, and recognition of exemplary practices and programs.

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