For: Teachers, Special Educators, Psychologists, School Mental Health Professionals, Counselors, Guidance Directors, Principals, Assistant Principals, Department Heads, Team Leaders, District Leaders, and Support Services Coordinators



Reaching the Classroom:

Administrators Empowering Teachers to Understand and Teach Students with Anxiety-Related and Oppositional Behavior



Featuring Presenter

Jessica Minahan, M.Ed, BCBA

Wednesday, October 28, 2015 at the MSSAA Office, Franklin

Sign-In/Registration: 8:00 am to 8:30 am

Workshop: 8:30 am to 3:00 pm

Fees: Member \$195/Non-Member \$260

6 Professional Development Hours

PD Content Area:
Safe and Supportive Learning Environments

Mental health challenges are prevalent among school-aged children in this country. An estimated 21 percent of American teenagers have struggled with a serious and debilitating mental health problem at some point during their school-age years. Teachers are overwhelmed as they heroically face this challenge with little to no training in mental health and behavioral principles. Administrators are in the difficult position of mentoring teachers who may be struggling to support a student with anxiety-related and oppositional behavior. It is optimal for administrators to be able to analyze how the environment may unintentionally reinforce the student's negative behavior and to know how to suggest practical and effective interventions that may allow students to gain competency and reduce inappropriate behavior. This workshop will translate clinical information into doable and easy-to-implement strategies, tools and interventions that can be implemented effectively by any teacher.

Upon completion of the program participants will:

- Understand the impact of anxiety on a child's learning and behavior.
- Describe why common teacher practices and interventions may not work for students with challenges such as anxiety-related and oppositional behavior.
- Learn effective interventions that are easy to implement in a busy classroom.

Jessica Minahan, MEd, BCBA, is a board-certified behavior analyst and special educator, as well as a consultant to schools nationwide. Jessica has over 17 years of experience supporting students who exhibit challenging behavior in urban public school systems. She is an adjunct professor at Boston University, a blogger on The Huffington Post, as well as the author of The Behavior Code: A Practical Guide to Understanding and Teaching the Most Challenging Students, with Nancy Rappaport (Harvard Education Press, 2012) and The Behavior Code Companion: Strategies, Tools, and Interventions for Supporting Students with Anxiety-Related or Oppositional Behaviors (Harvard Education Press, 2014) (www.jessicaminahan.com)

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