



# Westmoreland School Counselor Association Newsletter

Volume 10

Fall 2010  
Issue 1

WSCA is a division of PSCA, Pennsylvania School Counselors Association

Website: [www.wsca-westmoreland.com](http://www.wsca-westmoreland.com)

## Fall Meeting Agenda – October 28, 2010

*Highmark Caring Place - Organized by Andrea Lurier, Program Manager*

620 Stanwix Street  
Pittsburgh, Pa 15222

*\*\*Please complete attached questionnaire and bring to meeting!*



*"Think of the children first."  
~ Fred Rogers, Honorary Chairman*

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7:45-8:30	Registration/Breakfast /Parking Information / Assign members to Group 1 or 2
8:30-9:15	WSCA meeting
9:15-9:45	Welcome - Highmark Caring Foundation and Overview of Caring Place
9:45-10:00	Transition to first workshop
10:00-11:00	Workshop 1 / 2
11:15-12:15	Workshops 2 / 1
12:15-1:00	Lunch
1:00-1:30	"Children's Grief Awareness Day"
1:30-2:15	Panel discussion "Supporting Counselors who Support Grieving Students"
	Bring your Questions!
2:15-2:45	Explanation of resource materials
2:45- 3:00	Closing / Dismissal (4 Act 48 Credit Hours will be given)

Further details on *Workshops and Presenters* on page 2



*Help WSCA Go GREEN!  
Update your email on your application to receive valuable periodic information!*

## Dues/Applications

*Please read, important!*

Please send your \$25 dues fee and application or bring to the fall business meeting. Applications are attached to this newsletter and also available on the website [www.wsca-westmoreland.com](http://www.wsca-westmoreland.com). Dues MUST be paid in order to attend fall meeting. *Encourage your school counseling colleagues to join this important and wonderful organization!* Applications and dues should be mailed to **Cassie Moorhead at Crossroads School, 555 Rial Lane Greensburg, PA 15601.** *Applications must be submitted to update our database, please join!*

*Workshops and Presenters* from page 1

**Please complete the attached questionnaire and bring to the training.**

**Workshops:**

Workshop #1 - "The Reconciliation Needs of Grieving Children and Teens as Expressed Through the Caring Place Program"

Presenters:

- Eileen Birmingham, MSW, LCSW - *Eileen has been the Family Services since 2006. Prior to coming to the Caring Place, Eileen Birmingham was the Program Director for a community based outpatient mental health program for 6 years; spent 2 years as the Clinician for a Partial Hospitalization Program and 27 yrs as a Private Practitioner specializing in Family, Couple and Individual therapy.*
- Andrea Lurier, PhD, CT - *Andrea has been the Program Manager since 1998. She has been a child grief specialist for the Caring Place and is ADEC certified. She has presented on a range of topics related to children's grief and support group models to assist grieving children and families. Her dissertation focused on understanding the experiences of inner-city families who had experienced the loss of fathers who died in traumatic circumstances.*
- Sheena Shannon, DHA - *Sheena is a certified thanatologist. She has served as Volunteer Services Coordinator and Child Grief Specialist for the past 11 years. She has been spent the past 30 years as an advocate for children and families. In 2006, Sheena Shannon was selected as a Highmark Future Leader. Sheena also holds a doctorate degree in Health Administration. Sheena has done extensive research in elderly long term -care and continues to campaign for the elderly population.*

Workshop #2 - "The Grieving Student"

Presenters:

- Virginia Giannotta PhD, CT - *Virginia has been the coordinator of education and outreach and a child grief specialist since 2000. She has presented on a range of topics related to children's grief and support group models. Her background includes work in the areas child development, play therapy, adoption, school psychology and higher education. Her dissertation focused on the post-placement process in older child adoptions.*
- Pablo Salinas (possibly)

"Supporting Counselors who Support Grieving Students" - Panel Discussion

Moderator: Andrea Lurier

Panelists: Eileen Birmingham  
Virginia Giannotta,  
Fasy Greevy  
Sheena Shannon

"Children's Grief Awareness Day"

Fasy Greevy, MS - *Fasy is the Manager of Special Initiatives for the Highmark Caring Foundation. Prior to that, Fasy spent 4 years being the site manager for the Highmark Caring Place in Erie, Pa. Fasy is dedicated and committed in his current position to create an impact by advocating for the needs of grieving children and families.*

## Next meeting and Retirees

2009-2010 retirees will be honored at the Christmas meeting. Please email Cassie Moorhead at [moorheadc@hasdpa.net](mailto:moorheadc@hasdpa.net) if a counselor in your district retired last year. The Christmas meeting will take place in December and will be sponsored by Triangle Tech. More information to follow, check your emails!

**Get Involved with WSCA!** Please email Lisa Maloney @ [maloneyl@hasdpa.net](mailto:maloneyl@hasdpa.net) if you have ideas on speakers and topics for upcoming meetings. We would love to hear your input!

### BUS INFORMATION!

Bus will pick up at the following locations and times  
 Westmoreland Mall 6:50am  
 Kohls, Irwin 7:20am  
 Please indicate on your response if you are riding the bus. **Please be prompt!**  
 If not taking the bus, carpooling is recommended (parking vouchers will be given. Use Interpark Parking Garage on 625 Stanwix Street directly across from the Caring Place

### Registration Form

Detach and send to:

**Lisa Maloney,  
West Hempfield  
Elementary,  
469 Wendel Road,  
Irwin PA 16542**

(Or email at:

[maloneyl@hasdpa.net](mailto:maloneyl@hasdpa.net)  
**(RSVP's must be received  
by October 15, 2010).**

Name:

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School District:

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Phone #:

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Act 48 Credits ID #

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Bus Information:

Yes

€ Westmoreland Mall  
 € Kohls

No, I will carpool

*\*In order to get Act 48 credits,  
your number must be included  
on this registration form/email or  
brought to the fall meeting.*