

# 2011 WSPA Convention Fall

## The Neuropsychology of Emotional Disorders | Steven G. Feifer, D.Ed., NCSP

This workshop will explore the neural architecture of emotional behavior by examining various brain structures laying the foundation for higher level social skill functioning. Specific biological factors related to the development of social competence and emotional self-regulation will be explored. There will be a detailed discussion on bipolar disorders, anxiety disorders, and depression from a brain-based educational perspective, including cutting edge interventions such as neurofeedback. Schools can enhance emotional wellness in children through early prevention efforts, appropriate assessment strategies, and an improved school climate to foster emotional growth for all children. The specific learning objectives include:

1. Discuss the neural architecture of emotion by detailing key brain regions responsible for the development of empathy and emotional regulation.
2. Discuss the pitfalls of over-relying upon behavior management plans or psychopharmacology to address mental health conditions in children.
3. Explore the neurobiological correlates and treatment options for bipolar disorder, depression, and anxiety disorders in children.

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### BIO:

**Steven G. Feifer, D. Ed., NCSP, ABSNP** is a nationally renowned speaker in the field of learning disabilities and has conducted nearly 200 professional seminars for educators and psychologists. He is dually trained as both a Nationally Certified School Psychologist from James Madison University, and is also a diplomat in school neuropsychology. His doctorate work was conducted at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, with research stints at the National Institute of Health (NIH). Dr. Feifer has co-authored six books on learning and emotional disorders in children. He currently works as a school psychologist in Frederick, MD, and is a course instructor for the ABSNP neuropsychology training program. Dr. Feifer was voted the Maryland School Psychologist of the Year in 2008, and also awarded the 2009 National School Psychologist of the Year by the National Association of School Psychologists.