

**Lisa Backman**

**I hold the following degrees and credentials (Candidates must hold an active 093 Certificate from the Maine DOE):**

MS/Specialist, NCSP, 093

**How long have you been a member of MASP?**

Consistently since 06/25/2016.

**Please provide a brief summary of your professional experience.**

[Lisa Backman Resume.docx \(3\)](#)

**How would you describe your leadership style?**

My goal is to lead by example while recognizing and learning from other effective, confident leaders. Professionally, I attempt to approach each responsibility in a student-focused, ethical, resourced, and collaborative manner. As a school psychology and MASP leader, I would add that I am a diverse thinker, self-reflective, and value constructive feedback. I appreciate structure, fresh ideas, and active progress toward positive outcomes.

**Please write a brief statement indicating why you are interested in serving as President of MASP.**

My first year as MASP President is quickly coming to an end. The year has been full of new experiences and opportunities to challenge myself. One of the new experiences included building professional relationships and visualizing shared goals with Maine, regional, and national school psychology colleagues. I have also had the opportunity to broaden my hopes for our profession through creating professional development for our members and reinforcing our NASP Practice Model with stakeholders. With the year behind me, my growth in knowledge and confidence as a school psychology leader have built a foundation for future advocacy. I feel more time in this leadership role will be beneficial and necessary to make greater strides for our profession, members, families, and students in Maine.

**What do you believe the top three priorities of MASP should be going forward?**

This year, MASP has focused on three strategic goals that included enhancing our roles as school psychologists, fostering students' social-emotional and behavioral-mental health, and addressing shortages in the profession. I believe these continue to be three top priorities for our association. With the overarching goals, one of my focuses will continue to expand shareholders' understanding of our vast competencies beyond evaluations. Through continued professional development and legislative advocacy, I hope to enhance the importance of social-emotional learning and social justice for our students. Lastly, my goal will be to continue my personal and professional support for the future professionals who are enrolled in school psychology graduate and doctorate programs.

**What are some ways in which you believe MASP can improve service to members?**

A NASP keynote speaker once shared the quote, "A vision without execution is a hallucination." MASP's vision is that "All students access effective learning, behavior, and mental health supports

necessary to thrive in school, at home, and throughout life.” To execute this vision, our strategic plan needs to be the focus of our work. To improve service to our members, I believe we continue our work toward the identified action steps with transparency and openness for feedback. Connecting our community will be my focus by providing professional support, resources, and celebrations through such things as use of high-quality professional development gatherings, use of social media networking, and opportunities for peer consultation. Recognizing we all have robust personal and professional lives, I hope to continue to increase our membership and expand member participation in MASP committees and workgroups. With a larger and more diverse membership participation, our association can have many voices that represent the varied needs and regions in Maine.