

**Minutes for the TOPSS Committee Zoom Meeting
December 15, 2025, 7:30 PM Eastern time**

Participating on call: Natasha Alston, Michael Berndt, Stephanie Franks, Kari Hall, Joshua Viau, Virginia Welle, Jennifer Thompson, Frank Worrell, Emily Leary Chesnes, Christina Luzzi, Emily Polacek, Katie Hope Grobman

Unable to participate: Melissa Rogers, Jenni Redifer, Hideko Sera, Amber Roopan, Beth Schwartz

Approving November TOPSS meeting minutes

TOPSS approved minutes from the November 17, 2025, TOPSS Committee meeting.

Thanks and Goodbye to Off-going Members and Welcome to Incoming Members

TOPSS thanked off-going Committee members Virginia Welle, Melissa Rogers, and Jennifer Thompson for their outstanding service on TOPSS. Incoming members Emily Polacek, Christina Luzzi, and Katie Hope Grobman had been invited to join the call as observers.

APA 2025

TOPSS has three hours of programming at APA 2026 in Washington, DC. The Committee was asked to begin to consider several issues related to APA 2026, including how TOPSS can encourage more high school psychology teachers to attend APA. Natasha offered to write an update of an earlier PTN newsletter article by TOPSS member Nancy Fenton on why APA is “the greatest” professional development opportunity available.

TOPSS also discussed its goals for APA 2026 TOPSS sessions and brainstormed possible speakers. Committee members were encouraged to send speaker recommendations to Natasha.

Oregon State University Feedback

TOPSS considered recommendations for the two teacher presenters for the 2026 Oregon State University workshop and possible goals and topics of the workshop to share with Oregon State faculty. The Committee agreed that aligning workshop presentations to the National Standards has been helpful and that the teacher presenters should be able to shape the workshop topics.

Year-end Reflections

Committee members were invited to reflect on the past year for TOPSS and consider what went well or what could be improved.

Reminders

Committee members were reminded to encourage colleagues to apply for the RFP program (January 9 deadline) and/or to submit pacing calendars for their courses to Natasha or to TOPSS@apa.org.

January 2026 TOPSS Call

Committee members whose terms continue through 2026 were asked to consider a possible date for the first TOPSS call of 2026.