

**Minutes for the TOPSS Committee Zoom Meeting
November 17, 2025, 7:30 PM Eastern time**

Participating on call: Natasha Alston, Michael Berndt, Stephanie Franks, Kari Hall, Melissa Rogers, Joshua Viau, Virginia Welle, Jennifer Thompson, Frank Worrell, Jenni Redifer, Emily Leary Chesnes, Beth Schwartz, Nicole Barnes, Amber Roopan

Unable to participate: Hideko Sera

Approving October TOPSS meeting minutes

TOPSS approved minutes from the October 20, 2025, TOPSS Committee meeting.

Questions for APA President-Elect Candidates

TOPSS considered which three questions it might want to ask the 2026 APA President-Elect candidates that reflect important issues related to APA's overall mission and strategic plan. Committee members reviewed and discussed the questions TOPSS asked in 2024. Four members volunteered to suggest edits to these questions by the December 5 deadline.

TOPSS Member Involvement and Engagement

TOPSS was asked to consider the following key step from its 2025 workplan: "Revisit discussion on strategies to increase TOPSS member involvement and engagement, and to increase diversity among TOPSS leadership." Committee members recommended continuing these discussions in 2026.

Dissemination Strategies

TOPSS was asked to consider the following key step from its 2025 workplan: "Discuss/identify potentially impactful dissemination strategies and engage in dissemination." Committee members wanted to continue current dissemination strategies and to discuss these efforts further in 2026.

Draft Award Calls and Presidential Initiative Reminder

TOPSS was asked to review the draft calls for the 2026 APF Professional Development Awards for High School Psychology Teachers and the 2026 APA TOPSS Charles T. Blair-Broeker Excellence in Teaching Awards and recommend edits to either call by November 19. Some of the award language in both calls needs to be updated and staff will share revised text soon.

Committee members were reminded that they can apply for funding for the Engaging Psychology's Future Presidential Initiative through December 5, for events that can take place by May 2026.

Pacing Calendars

Committee members discussed the collection of pacing calendars that are available online and were encouraged to consider submitting their own pacing calendars to post online. On-level pacing calendars were especially encouraged. The Committee agreed to aim to have five pacing calendars posted online by late February and to revisit the usefulness of this page at that time if this goal is not met.

2026 TOPSS Competition

Several committee members discussed the proposed topic for a 2026 student competition. The competition topic, rules, and rubric should be confirmed by late November 2025.

Next TOPSS Calls

A webinar for interested RFP applicants will be held on Tuesday, December 2, at 5:00 PM eastern. Committee members are invited to join this call if interested.

The final TOPSS call of 2025 will be held Monday, December 15, at 7:30 PM eastern.