***RETHINKING Behavior* Prospectus**

*RETHINKING Behavior* is an online publication of the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders for professionals serving children and youth with behavioral needs publishing material presenting diverse perspectives on behavior in schools and other settings.

**Goals**

The goals of *RETHINKING Behavior* are to:

* Lend support and affirmation to and develop a sense of collegiality among those who work with students with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs;
* Provide thoughtful and simulating discussion across disciplinary boundaries;
* Provide a source of analysis and commentary on issues and new directions and ways of thinking about behavior in our schools and other settings;
* Provide current news and information about practice, policy, and research;
* Present personal stories and perspectives of children and youth, their families, service providers, educators, and other interested individuals; and
* Provide a unique online publication presenting edgy and provocative information that may challenge typical viewpoints, with the addition of humor, parody, and fiction.

**Content**

*RETHINKING Behavior* will follow a magazine format, rather than a journal format, publishing articles of interest to a variety of readers and increasing readability through minimal use of technical or discipline specific language. All content will be focused on information and perspectives relating to working with children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs. *RETHINKING Behavior* will include the following departments: Notes, Thoughts, Voices, Features, Strategies, Policies, Media, After Hours, and Events. Further descriptions of expected content can be found in the “structure” section below.

**Audience**

Important audiences will include educators who work with students with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs including special, general, and alternative education teachers and support staff, paraeducators, school administrators, and mental health professionals. Families, community members, juvenile justice personnel, and individuals in the general public may also find *RETHINKING Behavior* of interest.

**Structure**

While not all departments will appear in each issue, the structure of *RETHINKING Behavior* will consist of the following departments: Notes, Thoughts, Personals, Features, Results, Policies, Books, After Hours, and Events.

**Notes** (Editor’s Page)

*Notes* will present the editor’s/s’ or guest editor’s/s’ viewpoints related to magazine content which will not necessarily reflect the position of the MSLBD or of *RETHINKING Behavior*. Editors may explain or clarify content within the particular issue, make note of new ways of thinking that are presented, and/or point out topics for discussion across articles. *Notes* does not have to be tied to any particular article nor written in any particular voice. It will be concise and brief, one-half to one magazine page, up to 700 words. *Notes* will be published in every issue.

**Thoughts** (From Our Readers)

Periodically *RETHINKING Behavior* will solicit feedback from and promote discussion among its readers through online polling and emails which will be published in *Thoughts. Thoughts* will be published in some issues.

**Voices**

The *Voices* section will present personal perspectives. *Voices* will include a wide range

of articles.

* Professional Profiles/Interviews with individuals currently working in the field about their career and ideas
* Most Memorable Students. First-person accounts by teachers and support staff of their most memorable student. This content may come from the approximately 75 accounts currently available on the MSLBD website.
* Interviews with leaders in the field as collected through the JANUS Project as taken from the 60+ video interviews available on the MSLBD website.
* Personal Accounts written by individuals about issues, experiences, reactions, or opinions will be accepted. Educators, administrators, paraeducators, support staff, students, families, mental health professionals, community members, and others interested in children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs are invited to submit articles written in a first-person point of view.

Articles will range from one or three magazine pages, approximately 600 to 1,800 words. Two or more *Voices* articles will be published in every issue.

**Features**

As the name implies, *Features* will include two or three longer feature articles. These feature articles can include several writing styles:

* Journalistic, involving a number of sources to capture an overall point of a subject;
* Essays incorporating personal observations or experiences with research;
* Interviews with an individual/ individuals in the field;
* Review of literature; and
* Best practices articles, presenting effective strategies for working with students with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs.

Feature articles should range from four to six magazine pages, approximately 2,000 to 4,000 words. Two or more *Features* articles will be published in every issue.

**Strategies**

The major purpose of *Strategies* will be to present effective strategies, interventions, practices for students, teachers, schools, support staff, and parents related to the behavior of students. Articles could include

* Best practices articles, presenting effective strategies for working with students with emotional, behavioral, and/or mental health needs,
* Summaries of lines of research, effective classroom practices, curricular materials or other media and/or behavioral interventions,
* Excerpts of keynote presentations from past MSLBD, and
* Reviews or links to resources or materials on strategies/issues related to behavior

*Strategies* may include one or two longer articles or several shorter articles. Articles published will be “reader friendly” with minimal use of technical or discipline specific language. *Strategies* articles should range from three to five magazine pages, approximately 2,000 to 3,500 words. One or more *Strategies* articles will be published in every issue.

**Policies**

*Policies* will present legal updates, highlighting current key policy issues. Topics might include court cases, letters to colleagues, or state or federal laws and related issues.

*Policies* articles will range from one or three magazine pages, approximately 600 to 1,800 words. One or more *Policies* articles will be published in every issue.

**Media**

This section will focus on several types of media initially to include podcasts, books, film/documentary, television, news, and the Internet. *Media* articles can present media related to children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs, their educators, families, service providers, and communities, discuss new and/or classic works, and engage readers in discussion.

*Media* articles will range from one or two magazine pages, approximately 600 to 1,400 words. Two or more *Media* articles will be published in every issue. Where appropriate connections will be made to the approximately 60 book reviews submitted to MSLBD website.

**After Hours**

*After Hours* will explore the lives of students and professionals within and beyond the school day. *After Hours* can include fiction, poetry, humor, art, and narrative. Selections will range from light and whimsical to emotional and tragic related to behavior beyond and supporting the goals of *RETHINKING Behavior*. Original material, in addition to excerpts from classic works or literature will be included. While most submissions will come from individuals interested in children and youth with emotional, behavioral, and mental health needs, student writings will also be considered for *After Hours*.

These articles will range from one or three magazine pages, approximately 600 to 2,000 words. One or more *After Hours* articles will be published in every issue.

**Events**

This section would list a calendar of events including the MSLBD conferences, PBIS, CCBD and other key conferences and events in the field.

**Submitting Manuscripts and Other Materials**

Initially most content of *RETHINKING Behavior* will be invited works, works prepared by the editors, and content available on the MSLBD website. Manuscript submissions are also welcomed if they fit the style, length, content, and goals of *RETHINKING Behavior*. Previously published work may also be considered for reprinting with permission. Editor approval of a concept proposal in advance of submitting a manuscript is encouraged but not required. Individuals who wish to submit material should be prepared to work with the editors on editing their manuscripts to meet style, layout, and length requirements. APA style will be used where appropriate. See the Concept and Manuscript Submission Form attached to this document.

**Subscriptions**

*RETHINKING Behavior* will be published as an online magazine three times per year, in the Fall, Winter, and Spring, by the Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders, PO Box 202, Hickman, NE 68372. A one-year online subscription will be provided to all attendees of the annual Midwest Symposium for Leadership in Behavior Disorders (MSLBD) or the MSLBD School Leaders’ Conference. Yearly online subscriptions can be purchased for $20 (individuals) and $35 (agencies or institutions). Subscription information can be found at the MSLBD website, [www.mslbd.org](http://www.mslbd.org).

**Contact Information**

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***RETHINKING Behavior* Concept or Manuscript Submission Form**

**11/15/2017**

Complete this form to submit your concept or manuscript to *RETHINKING Behavior*.

Email to Sharon Maroney at [sa-maroney1@wiu.edu](mailto:sa-maroney1@wiu.edu)

**Your name & email:**

**Working Title or Topic:**

**Brief Summary of the Content:**

**Which column is this intended for?** Descriptions of each are included in the prospectus and author’s guide

\_\_\_\_\_ Voices \_\_\_\_\_ Features \_\_\_\_\_ Strategies

\_\_\_\_\_ Policies \_\_\_\_\_ Media \_\_\_\_\_ After Hours \_\_\_\_\_ Unsure

**For Manuscript Submissions.** All authors will work with a *RETHINKING Behavior* editor to develop the draft which will be sent out to three reviewers for a blind peer review, respond to the reviewers’ suggestions, and submit graphics and callouts for magazine layouts.

**Are you willing to collaborate with an editor to develop this manuscript?**

**Please attach any graphics, photos, art work that you suggest to support this article.**

**For Concept Proposals.**

**What would be your estimation of length?**

\_\_\_ Approximately 350-500 words/One magazine page

\_\_\_ 550-1500 words/Two-three magazine pages

\_\_\_ More than 1500 words

\_\_\_ Unsure.

**Would you be willing to be the person to create a first draft of this item?**

\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ Uncertain

**If yes, when could you submit your first draft**? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have someone you would like to collaborate with to prepare this article?**

All authors will work with a *RETHINKING Behavior* editor to develop the draft which will be sent out to three reviewers for a blind peer review, respond to the reviewers’ suggestions, and submit graphics and callouts for magazine layouts.

**Are you willing to collaborate with an editor to develop this manuscript?**

**Please attach any graphics, photos, art work that you suggest to support this article.**