Theresa Mourey, M.A., CCC-SLP Candidate Statement

Theresa Mourey, M.A., CCC-SLP earned a Bachelor of Science in Special Education and Master of Arts in Speech & Language Pathology from the University of Connecticut.

Theresa describes her professional experiences as follows:

I have been a speech and language pathologist with 32 years of experience in both Connecticut and Nebraska school systems serving Birth through 21 years of age. In Connecticut, I served on the Department of Education's committee to develop the Speech & Language Special Education Entrance/Exit Criteria along with chairing the Connecticut Speech-Language-Hearing Association Early Childhood Committee. I am currently working in the Elkhorn Public School District with both the preschool and elementary populations. I am the Department Head for the Elkhorn Speech and Language, the Chair of the District Autism Team who provides professional development and consultation to schools with students on the autism spectrum and have participated in the development of the writing curriculum, preschool curriculum and dyslexia assessment and program planning. In addition, I am the chair of the NSLHA School Issues committee and the Nebraska Seal Representative for ASHA. Our NSLHA's School Issues committee has worked on the following: developing state guidelines for Telepractice in the school systems; assisting and sharing in the development of language verification guidelines; and participating in discussions related to universal licensure, speech & language MTSS process, SLP-A state programs, workload vs. caseload, SLP shortage, ESSA, and role of SLPs in dyslexia. My committee has been able to successfully work with the Nebraska State Department of Education on these issues and concerns. I have developed and conducted numerous workshops in a variety of areas including story narrative skills (both oral and written), language tools and interventions to be used both in the regular education setting and intensive language therapy.   My expert training and background include: Visualizing and Verbalizing; Lindamood Phoneme Sequencing (LIPS); Expanding Expression Tool (EET); Mindwing's Story Grammar Marker/Story Braidy; Verbal Behavior; Pivotal Response Training; Ziggurat; Wilson Reading;

Dyslexia Assessments; Lively Letters; Hanen Approach; PECS; CPI; and ABA training. I have received the Good Apple Award; Connecticut Board of Education Excellence Award and Celebration of Connecticut Elementary Schools' Success. I still maintain my level of clinical expertise through my per diem work at Lakeside Hospital for CHI.

Theresa said, "It has been my pleasure to be a member of NSLHA since I moved here almost eight years ago. I would like to continue to be an advocate for my field of speech and language especially in the area of school-based issues and feel I can represent the population as a whole based on my experience and involvement with NSLHA. The diversity of my background, practicing in two states, and broad spectrum of experience helps to contribute to making me a good candidate for the NSLHA Board of Directors."

Please review <u>NSLHA's Long-Range Strategic Plan</u> and describe how you would like to be involved in using your experience and expertise to help achieve the goals in the plan.

"My strategic view is fueled by my diverse background and makes me uniquely qualified to develop strategies in a changing educational environment. I have had the opportunity to work with Steve Milliken and Amy Rhone at the state department regarding several issues pertaining to school based speech & language pathologists and look forward to continuing this relationship. My role as a mentor within my district, region and state have been part of the NSLHA's strategic plan along with my role as the Nebraska SEAL Representative to ASHA. It has been my pleasure to present at the NSLHA convention in the past and are scheduled to present this fall on the topic of MTSS."