



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Sage Day Hosted Successful Conference Featuring Rick Lavoie

New Jersey – March 25, 2015 – Sage Day hosted a conference on Friday, March 20, at the Hilton in Parsippany, New Jersey. More than 200 school professionals, mental health professionals and parents participated in learning together as a community and listening to renowned Special Education Speaker, Rick Lavoie.

Lavoie presented two powerful workshops, *Motivation Breakthrough: Secrets to Turning On The Tuned-Out Child* and *Fairness: The Key to Effective Behavior Management*.

“Rick Lavoie made a stimulating presentation which challenged misconceptions about students who are perceived as unmotivated or turned off,” said Kim Ventresco, LCSW, a non-attorney advocate who attended the conference. “He provided rich insight into the struggles of children with a history of ‘chronic success deprivation’, especially those with disabilities, who suffer from the impact of learned helplessness and would rather appear ‘bad’ or ‘lazy’ versus ‘dumb.’ She added, “He challenged educators to teach kids to want to learn by identifying a response that is targeted to the student’s specific need. Sage Day Schools provide a safe therapeutic environment, offering support to both students and their families, to help them take risks and re-engage in educational opportunities.”

This conference added to the series of successful workshops Sage Day has hosted over the years. Past topics have included: working with adopted teens, interventions with inflexible students, and understanding psychotropic medications.

All attendee’s received Sage Day’s newly published book, *Sage Advice: For Educators & Parents* along with five continuing education units.

“We believe it is a vital part of our mission to host conferences and provide key resources to school districts. We hope that everyone gained some valuable information and found the conference informative and worthwhile,” said Executive Director, John Reilly, LCSW, NCPsyA.

###

**About Sage Day Schools:** Sage Day is a private, accredited, therapeutic school in Northern, New Jersey for student’s grades 4 through 12 who need a small, personalized learning environment. Sage Day has three campuses: Sage Day Mahwah Lower & Middle School, Sage Day Rochelle Park High School and Sage Day Boonton High School. Academically, Sage Day has adopted the Common Core States Standards initiative and meets the rigorous standards of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools Commissions on Elementary and Secondary Schools ([www.msac.org/](http://www.msac.org/)). We complement our strong academics with a comprehensive clinical program in which intensive individual; group and family therapy are fully integrated into the school day. For more information, please visit [www.sageday.com](http://www.sageday.com).

Contact: Yael Adler, Marketing Coordinator, [Yadler1@sageday.com](mailto:Yadler1@sageday.com) 973.334.0772