

## **International Network for School Social Work**

**<http://internationalnetwork-schoolsocialwork.htmlplanet.com>**

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#### **The International Network**

The International Network is an interconnected system of school social workers and school social work associations that provides opportunities for international communication and sharing of information. Individual school social workers and representatives of their professional associations offer and receive information, form professional relationships, exchange ideas and develop alliances.

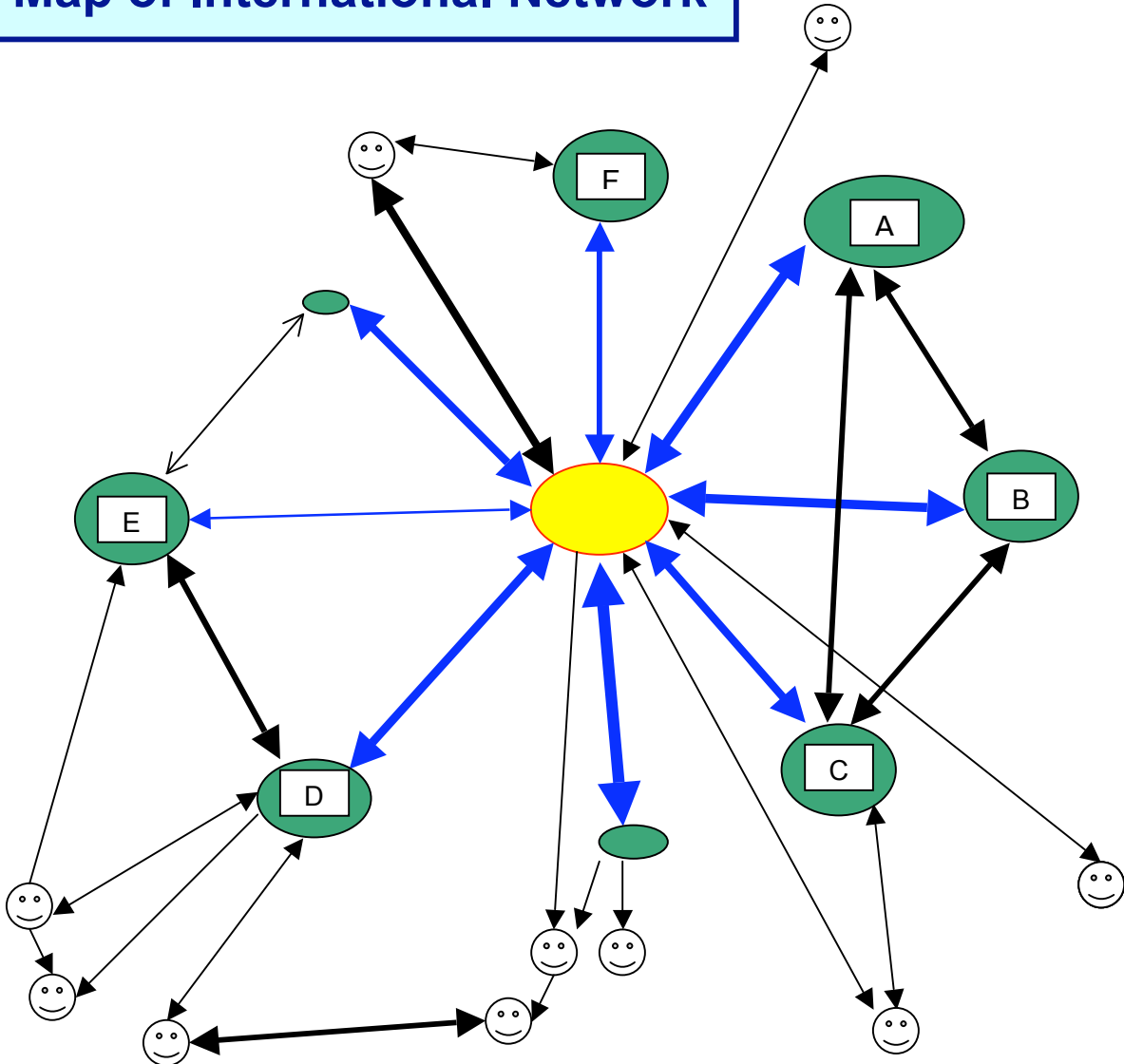
The Network is flexible and open, allowing various connections that can be brief and superficial or ongoing and more substantial. For example a brief connection could involve a query from a school social worker requiring a single answer from an individual in another country. A stronger connection could provide frequent communication and extensive sharing of information between larger numbers of school social workers in several countries over an extended time.

The map on page 2 shows some of the different patterns of communication that are possible in the International Network.

- Some national school social work associations have strong communication with the International Network, with their members and also with other national associations (D)
- Some national associations have formed a regional network (A, B, C)
- Some individuals communicate with the International Network, but not with any national association.
- Some national associations communicate effectively with their members about international issues and the members use the information to communicate with school social workers in other countries (D).

Technology has made networks such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and MySpace easy to use and effective in connecting millions of people. The International Network has similarly made it easy for school social workers around the world to link up. An e-mail to the International Network can connect you with a school social work association or school social worker who can answer your questions. As in any social network, one connection can lead to many more. The International Network's Web site <http://internationalnetwork-schoolsocialwork.htmlplanet.com> has links to several national school social work associations, many of which have a link to the International Network.

# Map of International Network



**The International Network promotes communication:**

- The International Network communicates directly with both national school social work associations and individual school social workers around the world.
- National associations communicate with their members and with each other, sometimes forming regional networks.
- School social workers communicate with national associations of other countries.
- School social workers communicate with peers in other countries.

	<b>International Network</b>
	<b>National Association</b>
	<b>School social worker</b>
	<b>One-way communication</b>
	<b>Two-way communication</b>