



Muscogee County School District

P.O. Box 2427 • Columbus, Georgia 31902

For Immediate Release

Valerie Fuller

Director of Communications

Telephone: (706) 748-2034

www.mcsdga.net

Date: January 29, 2010

NEWS RELEASE

MCS D Celebrates National School Counseling Week

(Columbus, GA)—Professional School Counselors in the Muscogee County School District (MCS D) are teaching personal social lessons in observation of National School Counseling Week (NSCW). National School Counseling Week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), is celebrated February 1 - 6, 2010, to focus public attention on the unique contribution of professional school counselors within the United States school systems. National School Counseling Week highlights the tremendous impact counselors can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career.

The special week honoring school counselors provides recognition for school counselors who "implement comprehensive school counseling programs, a vital part of the educational process for all students as they meet the challenges of the 21st century. Professional School Counselors are cited for being actively engaged in helping students examine their abilities, strengths, interests and talents, working in a partnership with parents as they encounter the challenges of raising children in today's world, focusing on positive ways to enhance students' social/personal, educational and career development, and working with teachers and other educators to provide an educational system where students can realize their potential and set healthy, realistic and optimistic aspirations for themselves. Professional school counselors are certified, experienced educators with a master's degree in guidance and counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them an integral part of the total educational program.

-Continued-

“Every day, school counselors work with school counseling programs that address the personal/social, academic and career needs of all students,” said Dr. Betty McBride, Director of Guidance Services. “Their ultimate goal is to enable all students to achieve success in school and to become responsible and productive members of our society.”

More than 18,000 school counselors nationwide will be participating in the week's festivities. Many school counselors will be hosting special events and activities to call attention to the benefits of a comprehensive school counseling program.

Parents or other community members who have questions or concerns about school counseling programs should contact the individual counselor at his/her child's school. More general information can also be found on the ASCA website, www.schoolcounselor.org.

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a worldwide nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va. Founded in 1952, ASCA supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social and career development. They not only achieve success in school, but are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. The association provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to more than 18,000 professional school counselors around the globe.

For more information, contact Dr. Betty McBride, bjmcbride@mcsdga.net , (706) 748-2226, or to schedule an interview, contact communications@mcsdga.net .

###