



Dawn Mann Named 2017 School Counselor of the Year Finalist



ALEXANDRIA, VA – Dawn Mann, a school counselor at Harrison High School in Kennesaw, Ga., has been named a 2017 School Counselor of the Year finalist. Mann, a graduate of Mississippi State University, has been a school counselor for 16 years. The School Counselor of the Year award, presented by the American School Counselor Association, honors the professionals who devote their careers to serving as advocates for the nation’s students and addressing their academic and social/emotional development and college and career readiness.

“Mrs. Mann requires from herself and team, excellence and hard work,” said Jennifer Allen, parent. “She consistently displays a high degree of integrity, responsibility and ambition. She is definitely a leader who knows the value of empowering others to lead, grow and be creative. She is the passion and energy required to motivate and lead our students from high school graduates to aspiring future leaders or technical school graduates.”

“Dawn is a trailblazer,” said Julie O’Meara, assistant principal, Harrison High School. “I have known Dawn for 13 years, first as a colleague and fellow school counselor and now as an assistant principal. As a former school counselor, I understand the expectations and demands of the profession and know that Dawn continually exceeds the bar. Dawn is always pitching new ideas to meet the diverse needs of all students. She has high expectations for herself, as well as her colleagues and students.”

“Dawn possesses a tremendous leadership skill that comes from her willingness to listen and serve,” said Paul Gillihan, Ed.S., principal, Griffin Middle School. “She can be seen early on Friday mornings participating in pep rallies as well as late at night cheering on the students in whatever sport of activity they are participating in. Dawn’s passion has her at school on weekends helping to develop videos on various subjects in hopes that one such video might reach and transform a student’s life. When I think of Dawn, a smile comes across my face as I know she is somewhere helping someone.”

The School Counselor of the Year finalists were judged on: creative school counseling innovations, effective school counseling programs, leadership skills and contributions to student advancement. Mann, along with the additional four School Counselor of the Year finalists, will be flown to Washington, D.C., Jan. 4–6, 2017. The honorees will be honored in a White House ceremony and be formally recognized at a black-tie gala.

About the American School Counselor Association

The American School Counselor Association is a nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va. ASCA promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of professional school counseling through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic, career and social/emotional development to help today’s students become tomorrow’s productive, contributing members of society. Learn more at www.schoolcounselor.org.