



American School Counselor Association Supports Hillary Clinton's Better than Bullying Plan

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ALEXANDRIA, VA. – The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) applauds presidential candidate Hillary Clinton's proposed [Better than Bullying](#) prevention plan.

Clinton's proposal outlines specific national priorities that include the development of comprehensive anti-bullying laws, the expansion of behavioral health prevention and support for educators to help improve school climate. Better than Bullying also outlines possible statewide policy interventions and investments, including hiring additional specialized instructional support personnel such as school counselors, school psychologists, school social workers and school nurses. The plan also proposes \$500 million in funding to states that develop comprehensive anti-bullying programs.

"Bullying continues to be a serious national problem that affects thousands of students every day by undermining efforts to create a safe and supportive learning environment and possibly leading to more serious problems such as depression or suicide. Secretary Clinton's plan proposes comprehensive measures to ensure bullying prevention initiatives are in place nationwide to eradicate bullying in our schools," said Richard Wong, Ed.D., ASCA executive director.

"We are particularly pleased Secretary Clinton recognizes the importance of school counselors and other specialized professionals in bullying prevention and other programs that contribute to a positive and inclusive school climate for all students," Wong said. "ASCA strongly supports the Better than Bullying proposal."

The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) professional organization based in Alexandria, Va. ASCA promotes student success by expanding the image and influence of school counseling through leadership, advocacy, collaboration and systemic change. ASCA helps school counselors guide their students toward academic achievement, career planning and social/emotional development to help today's students become tomorrow's productive, contributing members of society. Founded in 1952, ASCA, the school counseling division of the American Counseling Association, has a network of 50 state associations and a membership of nearly 32,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.

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**ASCA Contact: Lachelle Metcalf, ASCA, (571) 329-4199,
lmetcalf@schoolcounselor.org**