I AM ASCA

MONICA BRYANT

Linda Rankin Givens Elementary School School Counselor, Las Vegas, Nev.

WHAT WORDS DO YOU LIVE BY? Don't let the fear of "no" stop you from chasing your dreams.

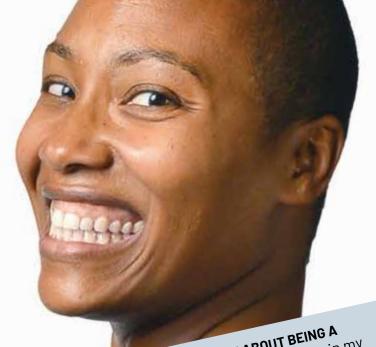
WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU WEREN'T A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? I would be in any career that allows me to travel the world.

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? Learning about my students and colleagues' diverse backgrounds and stories. It helps to connect us on a more empathic level.

WHAT MAKES YOU UNIQUE AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? I find innovative ways to bring experiences to my students, whether we're in-person or virtual.

FAST FACTS > WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG? "MY POWER" BY BEYONCE > WHAT'S YOUR COFFEE ORDER? DON'T DRINK IT > WHAT'S YOUR GUILTY PLEASURE? NACHOS AND TRUE CRIME SHOWS > WHAT SUPERPOWER DO YOU WISH YOU HAD? TELEPORTATION > WHAT'S ONE THING YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT CRAFTING > WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU THINK MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? I'M SECRETLY PRETTY INTROVERTED.

READ MORE ABOUT MONICA WWW.SCHOOLCOUNSELOR.ORG/IAMASCA



WHAT INSPIRES YOU ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? Resiliency in my students - when I see them come to school, perform the best they can despite what is happening in their personal lives, use coping skills and find ways to overcome barriers, it inspires me.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TOOL YOU USE IN YOUR WORK AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? Worry stones - I've been using them for years. They're a great coping tool for students, and teachers don't mind them because they are quiet and not distracting.

WHY ARE YOU A MEMBER OF ASCA? Being an ASCA member means I have a built-in network of school counselors globally who help me grow, learn and foster my leadership and advocacy skills.

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU NEED INSPIRATION TO TACKLE ANOTHER DAY WORKING ON BEHALF OF YOUR STUDENTS? I usually look no further than my office. There are always crafts from kids on the walls, a gift from a teacher or family on display and letters of appreciation in my desk drawer. They help me see the bright spots when I'm having a tough day.