



Media Contact

Kathleen Rakestraw
(703) 683-2722 • krakestraw@schoolcounselor.org

For immediate release – Nov. 18, 2022

Matthew K. Shervington-Jackson Selected as 2023 School Counselor of the Year Finalist



ALEXANDRIA, VA – The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) is pleased to announce Matthew K. Shervington-Jackson, school counselor and school counseling department chair, Susquehannock High School, Glen Rock, Pa., as a finalist for the 2023 School Counselor of the Year awards program (#SCOY23). Shervington-Jackson has been a school counselor since 2015.

Susquehannock High School serves 933 students, grades 9–12. Shervington-Jackson received his bachelor’s degree from Kutztown University and his master’s degree from Millersville University.

The first Black educator in the Southern York County School District, Shervington-Jackson helped to create several initiatives including Culture Con at his school and the Leadership Summit: Dialogues on Race in three counties in Pennsylvania. He’s also helped to create a Multicultural Student Club and Gender and Sexuality Alliance Club to better learn about students’ perspectives. “Through this initiative, alongside the networking opportunities for these programs to procure facilitators, I have also strengthened my knowledge and understanding/awareness of the experiences of minority students beyond my own personal frame of reference as a former student and now sole (prior to this year) educator of color in my district.” Students in leadership roles in the Multicultural Student Club have actively worked to address and change school disciplinary policy regarding racially or ethnically

biased/discriminative behaviors from peers ranging from microaggressions to blatant acts.

“In 16 years of being an administrator, I have yet to work with a school counselor who has demonstrated a better ability to meet the needs of students, the school community and positively impact the school climate as Mr. Shervington has done,” said Kevin A. Molin, Ed.D., principal, Susquehannock High School. “His high level of empathy and authentic concern for others shines through in this work. Students and families can sense his genuineness and trust him instantly.”

“ASCA’s School Counselor of the Year program shines a valuable spotlight on the school counseling profession, bringing attention to exceptional school counselors who are supporting K–12 students every day,” said Jill Cook, CAE, ASCA executive director. “School counselors are vital to students’ academic achievement, social/emotional development and plans for life after graduation. The 2023 finalists have demonstrated their commitment to the values and mission of the profession to help all students succeed.”

The School Counselor of the Year and finalists will be celebrated in Washington, D.C., in February 2023 and will participate in webinars and additional online events during National School Counseling Week, Feb. 6–10, 2023.

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About the American School Counselor Association

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 has a network of 50 state and territory associations and a membership of approximately 43,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.