



Cory Notestine Named 2015 School Counselor of the Year



ALEXANDRIA, VA – Cory Notestine, a school counselor at Alamosa High School in Alamosa, Colo., has been named the 2015 School Counselor of the Year. The 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 career and college readiness.

Although he’s been a school counselor since 2008, Notestine was new to Alamosa High School for the 2013–2014 school year. “In one short year, Mr. Notestine has lead a cultural shift in the counseling department in Alamosa High School,” said Julie Ann Mordecai. “My son was a senior last year, and he commented on the changes that were evident in the programs provided by the counseling department under Mr. Notestine’s leadership. I served on the high school accountability committee as well as on the counseling advisory board, and I was able to observe Mr. Notestine’s level of excellence.”

“As I read his application and listened to his interview responses, I recognized in Cory a deep understanding and passion for school counseling and his ability to articulate the value of school counselors for all grade levels,” said Jeff Sherrill, School Counselor of the Year Selection Committee member and associate director, National Association of Student Councils at

the National Association of Secondary School Principals. "Cory's vision for his students is reflected in his initiatives that have successfully connected a unique student population to college and career opportunities, and his diverse experience of serving as a school counselor in both large urban and rural schools has shaped his understanding of the needs and challenges school counselors have on a national scale."

"Cory has a passion for students," said Heidi Morgan, school counselor, Alamosa High School. "He takes the time to relate to each of his students on a personal level. I have seen several students' lives changed because of him. He has a way of reaching students when no one else can."

The School Counselor of the Year winner and finalists were judged on: creative school counseling innovations, effective school counseling programs, leadership skills and contributions to student advancement. Notestine, along with the four School Counselor of the Year finalists, will be flown to Washington, D.C., in late January 2015. The honorees will have meetings with their members of Congress, attend a congressional briefing, 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.