



Terri Tchorzynski Named 2017 School Counselor of the Year



ALEXANDRIA, VA – Terri Tchorzynski, a school counselor at Calhoun Area Career Center (CACC) in Battle Creek, Mich., has been named the 2017 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 college and career readiness.

Tchorzynski is a graduate of Central Michigan University and Spring Arbor University. She began her career as a high school English teacher and has served as a high school counselor for seven years. Tchorzynski always had a desire to help people and realized early in her career that being a school counselor was the path for her.

“I have had the great fortune of serving as Terri’s principal at the Calhoun Area Career Center for the last six years,” said Tim Staffen, principal, Calhoun Area Career Center. “For students, Terri is a tireless advocate, who in every decision and action asks herself, ‘what is in the best interest for this student?’ For the profession of school counseling, Terri is dedicated to advancing the ideals of counseling, career and college readiness and ethics. The CACC school counseling department, as a direct result of Terri’s work, has earned the Career and Technical Education (CTE) 2016 Excellence in Practice Award for the Career and College Readiness Initiative at the CACC. Her passion for service to others, to her students, her integrity and her work ethic make her an invaluable member of our student services team.”

"I have known Terri for over eight years," said Tony Warren, education consultant counseling/career development, Calhoun Intermediate School District. "Terri's leadership has helped the Calhoun Area Career Center school counseling program receive both state and national recognition. Terri was an integral part of a team that helped 75 percent of seniors at the CACC complete a resume, a Free Application for Federal Student Aid, college application and a formal interview. Some would say she leads by example. I would say she leads with purpose."

"In the past two years, my school counselor, Terri Tchorzynski, has helped me in so many incredible ways," said Kyra A. McCune, student, Olivet High School/Calhoun Area Career Center. "My life would not be the same if I did not have Mrs. Tchorzynski. She helped me change my life for the better in all aspects. She has been my support system through my final years of high school. She held my hand through my hardest times. She has told me how proud she is of my progress in just the past two years. Mrs. Tchorzynski is my lifesaver."

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. Tchorzynski, along with the 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 (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.