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ASCA Announces Retirement of Executive Director Richard Wong

ALEXANDRIA, VA. – The American School Counselor Association (ASCA) announced today that Kwok-Sze Richard Wong, Ed.D., executive director, will retire in fall 2020.

ASCA and the school counseling profession have seen tremendous growth since Dr. Wong was named executive director in 2000. Some key accomplishments during his tenure include:

- Development of the ASCA National Model, which created a unified identity for the school counseling profession as vital members of the education community, helping all students improve academic achievement, career planning and social/emotional learning.
- Launch of the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP), which recognizes schools committed to delivering a data-informed school counseling program and an exemplary educational environment.
- Development of ASCA professional and ethical standards, which guide the profession and school counselors' work, and the ASCA Mindsets & Behaviors for Student Success, which outline student standards that lead to successful student outcomes.
- Recognition of the school counseling profession through the School Counselor of the Year program and National School Counseling Week.
- Growth of ASCA membership from 8,500 to nearly 37,000 members around the globe.
- Advancement of ASCA's influence among federal and state legislators, regulatory agencies and policy makers.

"Richard has been a transformative leader for our association and the school counseling profession. Over his 20 years with ASCA, he has worked with the board and staff to create a vision of what the association could become and has worked tirelessly beside us to make that vision a reality," said Katherine Pastor, chair of the ASCA Board of Directors and school counselor for Flagstaff High School in Flagstaff, Ariz.

After more than 33 years of service in the association field, Dr. Wong is looking forward to retirement and spending more time with his wife and children, who are familiar to ASCA members through Dr. Wong's Inside Insight column in *ASCA School Counselor* magazine. "Serving as ASCA executive director has been the most amazing

experience anyone could hope for. I know the next stage of my life will be just as amazing," Dr. Wong said. "When I joined ASCA 20 years ago, no one could have predicted what it would become, so the next stage of ASCA's development will bring growth and change we can't even imagine."

ASCA and the school counseling profession are indebted to Dr. Wong for the many contributions he's made to help shape the organization and the profession. ASCA's achievements during the past 20 years have built a strong foundation for continued progress and development for many years to come.

The ASCA Board of Directors will conduct a national executive search process and has retained Raffa – Marcum's Nonprofit & Social Sector Group, a national practice that specializes in nonprofit executive search and transition engagements for long-tenured executives. [Executive director position info.](#)

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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 36,000 school counseling professionals. For additional information on the American School Counselor Association, visit www.schoolcounselor.org.