

I AM ASCA

MELINDA CALDWELL

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WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU WEREN'T A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? An industrial organizational psychologist. I'm intrigued by exploring ways to maximize positive relationships in a work setting.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TOOL TO USE AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? "Make Lemonade," by Virginia Euwer Wolff. I reference this book each year, particularly with my girls group.

FAST FACTS > WHAT TV SHOW ARE YOU CURRENTLY BINGE WATCHING? "OZARK" **WHAT'S YOUR TYPICAL BREAKFAST?** COFFEE, EGGS, FRUIT, TOAST **WHAT'S YOUR COFFEE ORDER?** DUNKIN' DONUTS, EXTRA-LARGE COFFEE WITH EXTRA CREAM AND FOUR SPENDAS **WHAT SUPERPOWER DO YOU WISH YOU HAD?** TO BE ABLE TO TALK MY STUDENTS OUT OF MAKING A POOR DECISION. **WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT?** BUILDING A RAPPORT WITH A DIVERSE GROUP OF STUDENTS **WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU THINK MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU?** MUSIC IS MY FIRST LOVE

READ MORE ABOUT MELINDA

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WHEN DID YOU KNOW YOU WANTED TO BE A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? I knew I wanted to be a counselor in 10th grade at Phoebus High School in Hampton, Va. However, it wasn't until I earned my bachelor's degree and worked as a residential counselor for two years that I discovered I could have an impact on many students as a school counselor.

WHAT INSPIRES YOU ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? I'm always inspired by watching students mature. Often, former students share something they learned as a middle school student and how it affected their life choices. That's inspirational.

WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO YOU TO BE PART OF A COMMUNITY OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS?? My experience is limited to my building. I experience growth when I rely on the expertise of my colleagues in different settings.