



**#025-22**

**Commonwealth of Virginia  
Virginia Department of Education  
Superintendent's Memo #025-22**

DATE: January 28, 2022  
TO: Division Superintendents  
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction  
SUBJECT: **National School Counseling Week, February 7-11, 2022**

The Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) would like to recognize **professional school counselors** during the week of **February 7-11, 2022**, as we celebrate **National School Counseling Week**.

School counselors are school-based mental health professionals with a master's degree in school counseling. The combination of their training and experience makes them a unique and integral part of the total educational program. Through comprehensive, data-informed school counseling programs, school counselors are improving a range of student learning and behavioral outcomes. They support both the closing of achievement gaps and help maximize student success by providing counseling, academic and career development interventions, and mental health supports.

The [American School Counselor Association](#) (ASCA) has resources for those looking to celebrate and acknowledge the work school counselors do on behalf of students. School divisions are encouraged to join VDOE in recognizing Virginia school counselors for their dedication to students' educational success.

## For more information

For questions related to National School Counseling Week or school counseling services in Virginia, please contact Sarah Bazemore, School Counseling Specialist, Office of Student Services, by email at [Sarah.Bazemore@doe.virginia.gov](mailto:Sarah.Bazemore@doe.virginia.gov), or by telephone at (804) 225-4024.

JB/SB/rge