



Fred Assam Elementary School Receives RAMP Designation

For immediate release – February 22, 2016

ALEXANDRIA, VA. – Fred Assam Elementary School will receive the Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) designation during a special ceremony at the American School Counselor Association's annual conference in New Orleans, La. The schools will be honored on July 11 for making an exemplary commitment to comprehensive school counseling programs.

The RAMP designation, awarded to schools that align with the criteria set in the ASCA National Model, recognizes schools that are committed to delivering a comprehensive, data-driven school counseling program and an exemplary educational environment. More than 600 schools have been designated as RAMP since the program's inception.

Jill Cook, ASCA assistant director and RAMP coordinator, said this year's recipients are to be commended for their dedication to serving all students and demonstrating how effective school counseling programs can make a difference in students' lives.

"This year's RAMP honorees have shown their commitment to students and the school counseling profession," Cook said. "This designation distinguishes these schools and encourages school counselors nationwide to continue to strive for excellence."

"School Counselor Elizabeth Rus is an exceptional counselor who brings to her profession a rich background of experience and expertise and constantly demonstrates the traits of a caring, dedicated professional. She is warm and approachable to students, staff, and parents. Listening is one of Elizabeth's strengths and she establishes a natural rapport in her relationships with students and they sense her compassion and caring. Elizabeth is able to offer a wide variety of skills to our school and that's what makes her an effective and dynamic school counselor."

Susan Foster, principal of Fred Assam Elementary School

RAMP applications are reviewed once a year by a panel of school counseling professionals who assess a school counseling program in 12 different areas of program expertise.

About ASCA

The American School Counselor Association (www.schoolcounselor.org) is a worldwide nonprofit organization based in Alexandria, Va. Founded in 1952, ASCA supports school counselors' efforts to help students focus on academic, career and social/emotional development so they not only achieve success in school but are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society. The association provides professional development, publications and other resources, research and advocacy to school counselors around the globe.

Fred Assam Elementary School opened its doors in the fall of 2009. This 600 student school is located in the southwest portion of the Brandon Valley School District and the first school to be located in the city of Sioux Falls. Fred Assam Elementary celebrates the diversity of its students and their families, and prepares each student to succeed in a changing world.

Fred Assam Elementary School

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