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Three schools add national recognition to counseling program

Three Gwinnett County schools – Grayson Elementary, Mason Elementary, and Jones Middle – earned national recognition for their efforts to “ramp” up their counseling program. The schools earned the American School Counselor Association’s (ASCA) “Recognized ASCA Model Program (RAMP) Designation.” The RAMP designation, awarded to schools that are aligned 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.

The American School Counselor Association believes that the implementation of comprehensive counseling programs in all schools across the nation is a vital step in the transformation of the American education system, as it removes students’ barriers to academic success. Since its inception in 2004, only about 300 schools from across the country have received this national recognition. That includes four other Gwinnett schools—Berkeley Lake Elementary, Peachtree Elementary, Radloff Middle, and Collins Hill High.

The counseling teams at Grayson Elementary, Mason Elementary, and Jones Middle, were selected for the honor by a panel of school counseling professionals. The schools’ RAMP designation is valid for three years. The schools will be honored at a recognition dinner on Monday, July 5, 2010, in Boston, as part of the ASCA National Conference.

The American School Counselor Association is a worldwide nonprofit organization which supports school counselors’ efforts to help students focus on academic, personal/social, and career development so they not only achieve success in school but are prepared to lead fulfilling lives as responsible members of society.

For more information or about the counselor’s role in GCPS, contact
Dianne Thompson, director of advisement and counseling, at 770-277-4488, or visit www.schoolcounselor.org

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