



School Counselors in Michigan,

The Michigan School Counselor Association (MSCA) and the Association of Michigan School Counselors (AMSC) are beginning the steps to unification. This unification will result in one school counseling organization, The Michigan School Counselor Association, the original affiliate of school counselors in Michigan. The benefits to this unification are great for all school counselors in Michigan, regardless of their professional affiliation(s). Benefits include but are not limited to:

- First and foremost – One Vision, One Voice
- Greater voice in legislation
- Financial strength
- Common Goals in this time of economic uncertainty
- Larger collaboration for serving students and membership
- Affiliation with ASCA, the American School Counselor Association
- Increased Leadership potential
- Increased interprofessional relationship opportunities
- Increased Membership
- Instant chain of command established to help members

The steps towards unification began two years ago when MSCA and AMSC established a task force to investigate the rationale and benefits for joining our organizations. Numerous meetings of this task force have taken place over this time span. We moved forward from our discussions to jointly hosting our Spring Conference last year. We are co-hosting our Spring Conference this April also.

The Michigan Counselor Association (MCA) is reorganizing at this time. As they plan for their future, the school counselor organizations must also plan for theirs. As MSCA and AMSC are unified, our vision is that we will forge a relationship with MCA as with all professional organizations within our state. We believe these interprofessional opportunities will be extremely valuable to our members and to our professional growth and we acknowledge this as a benefit to our unification.

Please contact the leadership of MSCA, Patty Horning at patty.horning@jcisd.org or the leadership of AMSC Ruth Sochacki at RSochacki@berkley.k12.mi.us for further questions and input.

We are excited about One Vision, One Voice for our school counselors in Michigan. As our economy results in major reductions in schools, school counseling is becoming more uncertain. We want to offer our colleagues support, information and access to all resources that we can make available.

Thank you for supporting us in this unification process and thank you for all of the hard work that you do each day with/for our students in Michigan.

Sincerely,

Patty Horning, MSCA President

Ruth Sochacki, AMSC President