School Social Work Association of America

"Amplifying Gratitude and Recognizing Impact: National School Social Work Week"

March __, 2024

Dear Superintendent _____,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the President of the School Social Work Association of America, I am writing to express heartfelt gratitude for your steadfast support of your School Social Worker(s).

From March 3rd to March 9th, we celebrate National School Social Work Week, a dedicated time to acknowledge the exceptional contributions of School Social Workers in enhancing the well-being of our students, families, and communities.

These master–level trained mental health professionals play a vital role in addressing barriers that impede student learning on a daily basis.

Research underscores the significance of their work, revealing that 18 -20% of students grapple with mental health issues affecting major life functions (Dore, 2005). School Social Workers leverage student, school, and community data to devise comprehensive plans that extend beyond the school environment, reaching families, communities, and district personnel.

As integral members of our school teams, School Social Workers contribute to strategic plans, advocating and collaborating on issues ranging from attendance and dropout prevention to mental health and community violence. Their expertise spans diverse areas, including human growth and behavior, family dynamics, cultural diversity, social justice, and resource optimization.

In alignment with the theme of Social Work Month "Empowering Social Workers" this campaign serves as an opportunity to educate the public about the invaluable contributions of Social Workers. It's a moment of reflection on our history and a chance to express gratitude to those who tirelessly advocate for children and families.

Despite the challenges of meeting the extensive needs of our school districts, School Social Workers continue to serve students with unwavering dedication. Your recognition of their hard work is truly appreciated.

As we navigate Social Work Month, let us collectively acknowledge the exceptional efforts of School Social Workers in your system.

Your continued support plays a pivotal role in celebrating and elevating the remarkable work we do for the advancement of every young future stakeholder we have the privilege to serve.

Thank you once again for your commitment and support.

Best Regards,
Dr. Terriyln Rivers- Cannon
President School Social Work Association of America
National website: **www.sswaa.org**