



School Social Work Week 2021 A Guide for Administrators/Supervisors



School Social Workers are a hard-working and humble group of professionals. They spend much of their work time advocating for others. A simple gesture of appreciation goes a long way to help them feel valued and appreciated. School Social Workers love their job and they appreciate the support and encouragement they receive from their administrators. School Social Workers do not work for the praise, they do their work with excellence because they value the students, families, schools and communities that they serve.

The theme for this year's School Social Work Week is **Beacon of Hope: School Social Workers - Lighting the Way**. Below are ideas of ways you can show your appreciation for your School Social Worker during School Social Work Week, March 7-13, 2021. Your School Social Worker will be so appreciative!

- Send them a personal than you note/card from you, the administrator – consider mentioning specific examples that exemplify what makes you grateful for them
- Make an announcement over the intercom or via email to all staff
 - Be mindful that some won't want a public "thank you"
- Promote thank you/appreciation notes from teachers to your School Social Worker
- Encourage cards/drawings or virtual messages from students (individually or as a classroom group)
 - "This year you taught me ..."
 - "Thank you for ..."
- In your daily announcements, remind students to show appreciation to their School Social Worker in a variety of ways
- Provide a stack of notecards and envelopes in the front office where students or parents can pick up a card and write a note to their School Social Worker. Or, put an online form on the school's website where students can write a note that can be delivered to the School Social Worker via email.
- Give a small gift, favorite drink, favorite candy (one day or each day of the week)
- Provide a virtual school social work lunch/celebration from the supervisor for all district School Social Workers, or at the building level, provide donuts in the staff lounge in honor of the School Social Worker
- Hang posters throughout the community publicizing School Social Work Week
- Submit information about School Social Work Week on a school calendar or community calendar
- Ask staff to wear the School Social Worker's favorite color on a specific day or during School Social Work Week to honor him/her
- Add a form to your school website and encourage parents and other website visitors to share appreciation for the School Social Worker (make it easy and convenient for people to say, "Thank you")
- Create a spotlight page on your school website, as well as your social media, to highlight your School Social Worker during the week

Regardless of *how* you decide to show thanks to your School Social Worker, the effort and sentiment will be deeply appreciated. People who feel valued and respected will be happier and more productive in their jobs, which ultimately leads to effective services and greater positive impact on student success. Best wishes for a wonderful School Social Work Week 2021!