

I AM ASCA

NICOLE BLOMBERG

School Counselor
Pohakea Elementary School
Ewa Beach, Hawaii

WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? At our school, we stay with the same group of students from kindergarten to sixth grade. I get to be that constant adult on campus for them. It amazes me how much they grow as their own person.

WHAT WORDS DO YOU LIVE BY?
"Happiness can be found, even in the darkest of times, if one only remembers to turn on the light." – Albus Dumbledore, "Harry Potter & the Prisoner of Azkaban"

WHAT WOULD YOU BE DOING IF YOU WEREN'T A SCHOOL COUNSELOR?
I would probably be working with and caring for animals.

WHERE DO YOU GO WHEN YOU NEED TO SOLVE A PROBLEM IN YOUR WORK?

I have a strong support system at school. Colleagues have become friends who not only care about the job but truly care about how I am doing. I know I can depend on them for advice, good ideas and moral support.

WHAT'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT YOU LEARNED FROM YOUR STUDENTS?

Behaviors do not make you who you are. I've learned that taking the time to really understand someone else can be the difference they need.

WHAT DO YOU DO TO DECOMPRESS/ELIMINATE STRESS/REFUEL FOR THE NEXT DAY?

I like watching my favorite shows, "The Office" or "The West Wing," and taking walks while listening to podcasts.

WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE TOOL YOU USE IN YOUR WORK AS A SCHOOL COUNSELOR? Board games help break the ice with reserved students and help our energetic ones practice social skills such as taking turns, fair play and sportsmanship.

FAST FACTS > WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG? "I WANT IT THAT WAY," BACKSTREET BOYS > **WHAT'S YOUR COFFEE ORDER?** TEA > **WHAT'S YOUR GUILTY PLEASURE?** WATCHING CUTE ANIMAL VIDEOS OR TRUE CRIME DOCUMENTARIES > **WHAT SUPERPOWER DO YOU WISH YOU HAD?** INVISIBILITY > **WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT?** LAUGHING > **WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU THINK MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU?** EVEN THOUGH I GREW UP IN HAWAII, I ONLY LEARNED TO SWIM ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO.

READ MORE ABOUT NICOLE
WWW.SCHOOLCOUNSELOR.ORG/IAMASCA