

# I AM ASCA

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**WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE THING ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR?** Student and staff stories and perspectives. One can't help but feel alive every day when you are exposed to the unique qualities of all people.

**WHAT WORDS DO YOU LIVE BY?** To give anything less than your best is to sacrifice the gift - *Steve Prefontaine*

**WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN YOU NEED INSPIRATION TO TACKLE ANOTHER DAY WORKING ON BEHALF OF YOUR STUDENTS?** Remind myself that I've been resilient in other ways before, and I can do it again. Students are working as hard as I am to make it to the next day; I feel compelled to meet them with that same effort.

**FAST FACTS > WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE SONG? THE SOUND OF A WINTER FOREST (NOT REALLY A SONG)**  
**> WHAT'S YOUR COFFEE ORDER? WITH HALF AND HALF** **> WHAT'S YOUR GUILTY PLEASURE? GEAR** **> WHAT SUPERPOWER DO YOU WISH YOU HAD? FLIGHT**  
**> WHAT IS ONE THING YOU'RE REALLY GOOD AT? KAYAKING** **> WHAT'S SOMETHING YOU THINK MOST PEOPLE DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU? COLDER THE BETTER**

READ MORE ABOUT BEN

[WWW.SCHOOLCOUNSELOR.ORG/IAMASCA](http://WWW.SCHOOLCOUNSELOR.ORG/IAMASCA)

**WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO YOU TO BE PART OF THE ASCA COMMUNITY, ALL WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE BENEFIT OF ALL STUDENTS?** Math. More brains = more ideas. I'd like to think of myself as someone who is smart enough to listen.

**WHAT INSPIRES YOU ABOUT BEING A SCHOOL COUNSELOR?** The ingenuity, resilience and creativity of children. I have yet to make it through a day working where I'm not forced to pause and consider the brilliance of kids. All I have to do is ask what they think, and they always deliver.

**HOW DO YOU DECOMPRESS AND REFUEL FOR THE NEXT DAY?** Find my favorite way to produce perspiration outside. It changes during the seasons but typically involves running, tennis, ultimate frisbee, spikeball, kayaking, and nordic and alpine skiing.

**WHAT'S SOMETHING IMPORTANT YOU LEARNED FROM YOUR STUDENTS?** Caring less about the outcome and more about the process of learning. Elementary schools are great reminders of how easy it is to learn when we are unencumbered by the burden of mistakes.

