

**Hi! I'm Nicole.  
School Counselor, ASD**

**Thank you for supporting the BSA!**

# First-Generation AK Educators

Mark (AK Teacher: 30 years )

Joanie (AK School Nurse: 18 years)

- Moved from Washington to SE in 1976
- Drawn here by the retirement program





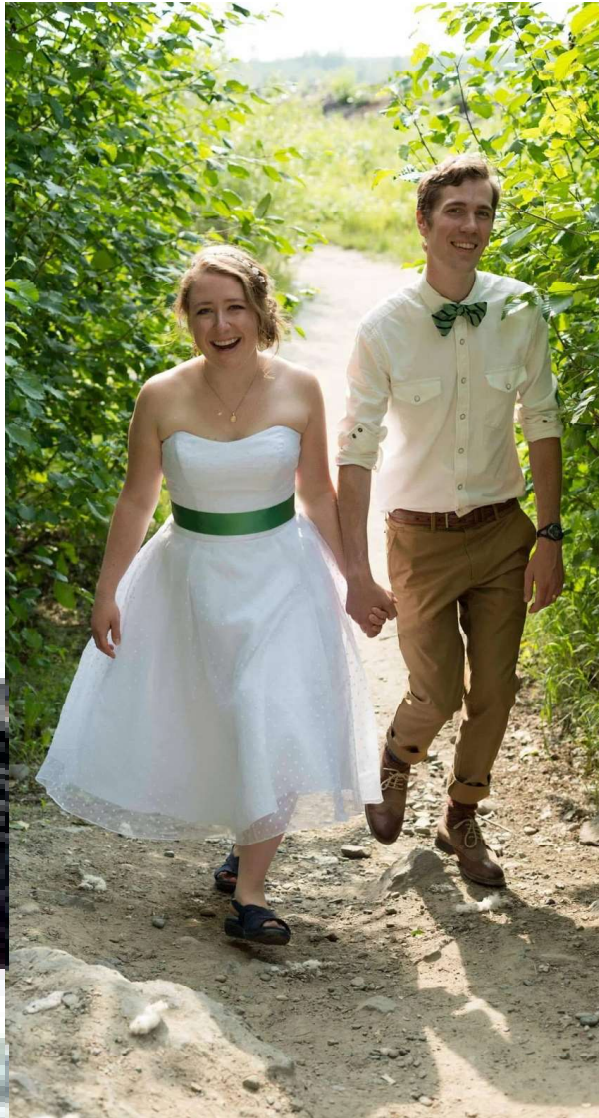
# Second-Generation AK Educator

## Brian (AK Teacher: 5 years)

- Born & raised in Anchorage, AK
- Loved his experience at Polaris K-12

## Nicole (AK School Counselor: 10 years)

- Born & raised in the suburbs of Detroit, MI
- Drawn to AK for the adventure, competitive salary & believing that there was a quality retirement system





# Third-Generation AK Educator?

## Addy (1st Grade)

- Loves: School, Biking, Collecting Treasures
- Dream Job: Art Teacher

## June (Pre-K)

- Loves: Sharks, Dinosaurs, Building
- Dream Job: Astronaut



**I want to highlight some of the  
exceptional work we are doing  
in Alaska, right here - right now.**

# Celebrating Klatt Elementary's School Counseling Program





# Celebrating Student Social/Emotional & Academic Growth Each & Every Day!

**Counseling Program Priorities**

## Self-Awareness

Executive Function  
Skill Development

Emotional Awareness  
& Self-Management Strategies

5th & 6th Grade Transition  
to MS Support

## Belonging & Respect

Focus on Building  
Relationships

Prioritizing  
School Climate

SEL Lessons based  
on ASD SEL Standards

School-Wide Community  
Building Initiatives

Attendance  
Support

Shop with a Hero

Small Groups &  
One-on-One Support

Good Inside PD

## Safety Needs

Peer Mediators

AK Safe Children's  
Act Lessons

Student Behavior  
Supports for Staff

Welcoming School  
Counseling Office

Big Problem, Small  
Problem Lessons

Identify Trusted Adults

## Physiological Needs

Title 1: Free Breakfast & Free Lunch

Children's Lunchbox: Free Dinner Boxes

Klatt Care Closet

Winter Gear + Clothing Closet

Community Resources



# The Klatt Care Closet provides students with hygiene products so that they may care for their bodies.

Having access to Klatt  
Care Closet means...

that all students have  
access to basic necessities  
and more!

Having access to Klatt  
Care Closet means...

Stress-free day

Having access to Klatt  
Care Closet means...

that I don't have to  
worry much if I/my family  
don't have much money then  
there is someone that I  
can go to

Having access to Klatt  
Care Closet means...

Whenever I forget something  
I always know the Care Closet  
has what I need.

Donations are  
provided by:

- Donors Choose
- Klatt staff
- Klatt community
- Kaleo Church





## Klatt Winter Gear & Clothing Closet



Donations are  
provided by:  
• Klatt staff  
• Klatt community  
• Kaleo Church

Ensuring all students have what they need to enjoy the great outdoors





# Establish Peer Mediators program to improve school climate & ensure student safety



0.68

seeking help from peers

0.73

help-seeking

Safety

Physiological

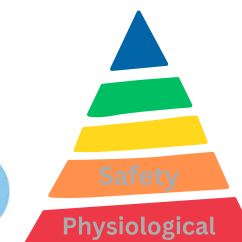


# Establish Universal Language & Understanding of Small Problems and Big Problems



**Small Problems:**  
Empower students with strategies to problem-solve

**Big Problems:**  
Students identify trusted adults at home, at school & in the community they can turn to for support



Once students’:

- basic needs are met

and they:

- feel safe,
- know that they are respected
- & know that they belong -

then they:

- are able to explore their strengths & struggles + access the supports they need.

This is when the magic happens:

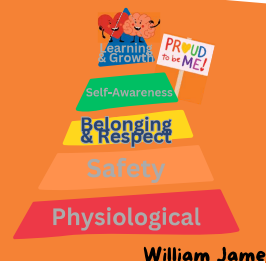
# Learning & Growth



# At Klatt, our team celebrates all learning & growth, big + small.



Let everything you  
do be done as if it  
makes a difference\*  
\*because it does



William James





# Back to that Third-Generation AK Educator

## Addy (1st Grade)

- Loves: School, Biking, Collecting Treasures
- Dream Job: Art Teacher

Addy's future in Alaska depends a lot on the decisions made here in Juneau today.



**Currently: Brian & I are both fully vested**

Eligible to take our 401Ks & experience elsewhere.

**Tier III:** No Defined-Benefit  
No Social Security

**Every other state offers a Defined Benefit plan or Social Security**

**Results:**



**Education Tourism:**

Educators come to AK for the adventure & to start their careers. After 5 years, they are “fully vested” & have no long-term financial incentive to stay. People will take their teacher bonuses & leave.

**High Turnover:**

Costs AK \$20+ million/year (2017 numbers)

Districts with the highest turn-over rates have the lowest test scores

**Financial Insecurity:**  
For families like ours.

**We are doing all of the things:**  
paid off our student loans, responsible spenders, Roth IRA, 457(b) Plan, AK 529 Plan for kids' college, Dependent Care Account (preschool costs \$1200/month) and we're worried it still won't be enough.

We want to stay, Alaska is home.  
& we need financial security.

**69% of retired Tier III educators, who've had a 30 year career, are projected to run out of money before they die.**

**Please help my family, & so many more, stay in AK.  
Please help my daughter's dream of becoming  
a third generation AK educator come true.  
Please pass SB 88.**





# Thank you.

