

Lifting Up Asian American and Pacific Islander Staff Voices



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"My parents were immigrants to the United States. My dad was in the US Navy and my mom was a teacher. They met in Long Beach, CA. As a military family, we moved a lot. I was born in San Diego, then moved to Guam, Hawaii, and Japan. We lived in Japan for over ten years and I was a Filipino kid that could speak, read, and write in English, Tagalog, and Japanese. Japan was my home until we moved back to California. I eventually graduated High School and went to Sacramento State University.

"I fought hard to not become an educator because I grew up around teachers my entire life. I ended up getting my degree in something else, but soon realized.... it was in my blood. I went back to school and got my credentials and my Master's Degree in Educational Leadership. I am also back in school and one year away from receiving my Ed.D. The fight to not be an educator was obviously a fight that I lost, but I have no regrets whatsoever. I love being an educator and am so lucky I had my mom guide me. I am in a field that I was born into. My mother, brother, aunts, and cousins are educators. It's who we are. I am proud to be an educator, but what I am most proud about right now is that my oldest son is one year away from graduating from the same college his dad and I attended. But the best part is that he is following my path. He will soon be an educator just like me."