



OUR TEAM

NATALIE EDIRMANASINGHE, NCC, Ph.D

Professional Learning Specialist



BIOGRAPHY

"I have been a school counselor who wanted to provide social justice-oriented practices for youth. I know it can sometimes feel like the odds are stacked against you. I choose to focus on centering student voice and providing antiracist practices in schools because I want school counselors committed to social justice work to know they are not alone."

Dr. Natalie Edirmanasinghe is currently an assistant professor at California State University, Long Beach. Formerly, Dr. Edirmanasinghe was a school counselor, predominantly serving students in the greater Atlanta, GA area. Her research has focused on school counseling practices to leverage youth voice in schools, culturally sustaining and antiracist practices in school counseling and counselor education, and advocacy for immigrant populations in K-12 settings. She has presented extensively and published articles using Youth Participatory Action Research (YPAR) as a foundation to a comprehensive school counseling program.

She is also one of the authors of the American School Counselor Association's (ASCA) publication *Culturally Sustaining School Counseling: Implementing Diverse, Equitable, Inclusive Programs*. She is one of the co-chairs for the School Counseling Interest Network in the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision (ACES) and serves on the advisory council for the Evidence-Based School Counseling Conference. Her greatest accomplishment, however, is raising her child, Victor.

PROFESSIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-author of *Culturally Sustaining School Counseling* (2020)
- Presented multiple trainings and presentations on engaging student voice in a comprehensive school counseling program

FUN FACTS

- Natalie recently moved back home to California with her toddler, spouse, and Bassett Hound rescue
- Natalie has lived in five different states, been a school counselor in two states, and a faculty member in two states

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