May 4, 2020

Dear Students, Families, Colleagues, and Partners,

This week is Teacher Appreciation Week. On behalf of everyone at Circle of Life Academy, I would like to express my deep gratitude to our teachers for the work they do each day to ensure the success of all our students.

Our teachers provide the high-quality instruction and support that our students need to graduate ready for college and career. They deliver culturally relevant teaching and learning designed to keep our students engaged and on track.

But we all know teachers do so much more. In partnership with administrators and staff, teachers serve as mentors and a vital part of the support system to meet the needs of the whole child. They collaborate with parents and caregivers to keep families informed and contribute to a school climate that makes our students feel safe and valued.

Since schools closed in March, our teachers have also gone above and beyond to quickly learn and adapt to distance learning. Many of them have found creative and caring ways to stay connected to students, extending a culture of kindness and respect beyond our buildings and into our students' homes. We know they have done so while also tending to their own children and families.

We can all look back and remember a great teacher who touched our lives. With that in mind, please be sure to thank our teachers and celebrate them this week and beyond. You might also say hello when you see them wearing their newest COLA gear (see picture below), gifted out of appreciation by the administrators of our school.

With gratitude,

Jenna Leadbetter

Superintendent

Circle of Life Academy