



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

May 6, 2019

Dear Michigan Teachers,

Teacher Appreciation Month, and the specifically designated Teacher Appreciation Week of May 6-10, is a time to remember excellent educators of the past and to thank all teachers who currently motivate, inspire, and nurture tomorrow's future leaders. When looking back to our childhood, each of us can recall a special teacher who provided a positive impact on our life and helped us grow as a person. As teachers, you are now those role models for your students with the power to change the trajectory of their lives.

We at the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), along with the State Board of Education, would like to express our deepest gratitude for your outstanding contributions to your students, district, and profession.

Teaching is an extremely challenging occupation that requires you to raise the bar academically while meeting the needs of the whole child. Each of you rise to this task every day, demonstrating a clear devotion to deliver innovative, engaging, high-quality instruction while providing a consistent, positive, trustworthy presence in your students' lives. By embracing the diverse learning needs of all students, you help them meet their self-determined academic and personal goals to their highest potential. Michigan students are fortunate to have such dedicated educators.

We commend you for your commitment to building rewarding relationships within your classroom, school, and community to engage all stakeholders to be part of the education process. It takes all of us to reach the goal to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years.

The State Board of Education and the MDE supports all efforts, training, and resources available to our state's educators so that you may continue to have a tremendous impact on the children you teach. Please accept our heartfelt gratitude for the countless hours you commit to your profession.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheila A. Alles".

Sheila A. Alles
Interim State Superintendent

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