Dear J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy Community:

The Governor's Educator of the Year Program highlights educational innovation, student achievement, exemplary teaching, and important services outside the classroom environment that lead to student success. This celebratory program recognizes our state’s best teachers and educational services professionals who will be recognized at the Union County Office of Education.

We are proud to announce the 2019 Governor’s Teacher of the Year for J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy was awarded to Ms. Alyssa Milanes. With enthusiastic unanimity from the students and equally unilateral support from colleagues, Ms. Milanes is deserving of this recognition for all she does for her students, academically, socially, and emotionally. As described by a student, Ms. Milanes “pays attention to every kid in the classroom. Even with college stuff, she has been there for each of us. She is very supportive with what we want to do and why we want to do it”. Ms. Milanes attends every student function outside of school hours and devotes herself all day to her students. They see her as a role model and her attention to them inspires them to be better people. For these reasons and so many more, Ms. Milanes deserves to be Bollwage Finance’s Teacher of the Year.

This year’s Educational Service Provider of the Year for J. Christian Bollwage Finance Academy was awarded to Ms. Briana Helm. A guidance counselor in our building for three years, Ms. Helm has become a quintessential team member. Unanimously voting for Ms. Helm, students appreciate the time and energy that she devotes to each student’s success, academic and otherwise. Ms. Helm’s door is always open and her office filled with students benefiting from her guidance about college and life. She led our community service club in fundraising efforts for the WE Read initiative and worked tirelessly to provide our students with an overnight of fundraising fun at our school. Ms. Helm promotes focus and drive through her actions and strives for excellence from her students and herself. Serving as a model of commitment to her school and her students, Ms. Helm deserves this recognition as Bollwage Finance’s Educational Service Provider of the Year.

Please join us in celebrating these two amazing professionals for the work they have done, and continue to do, for our school community and district.

With Celebration,

Dr. Megan Marx