

Olga Hugelmeyer Superintendent of Schools

May 10, 2024

Dear Elizabeth Public Schools Team Members:

As Teacher Appreciation Week comes to a close, I felt it was appropriate to thank and show appreciation to my favorite and most influential teacher in my life.

Though she was an elementary school teacher for many years, including while I was in elementary school, I never had the privilege of having her as a classroom teacher. However, I often had the opportunity to see how she prepared her lessons, her attention to detail, her knowledge of the lessons and subjects she taught, and the passion that she had for teaching and learning.

While I never stepped foot into her classroom as a student of hers, throughout my life I heard many great stories from people about her time as a teacher. Those stories and those many chances I had to see her demonstrate her love for teaching were certainly moments of inspiration for me to pursue my own career in education.

I was never lucky enough to receive any of her lessons in the classroom, but I was blessed with an even greater gift. She was my teacher at home, and she provided me with countless lessons both academically and in life. As I have grown and have built my own career in education and my own family, I can reflect on the lessons that she provided that have even greater clarity today than when I first received them. I still look up to her today as a wonderful source of wisdom and she will always be my favorite teacher. Thank you, mom, for your endless and unwavering love, guidance, and support.

In honor of Mother's Day, I would like to thank all our mothers who are part of our Elizabeth Public Schools family and those who take on a maternal role in their lives for the various lessons and influence you provide that make a difference in our students' lives. Your sacrifices and tireless work both here at Elizabeth Public Schools and at home are commendable and truly appreciated.

Best wishes for a Mother's Day that celebrates you and all the wonderful things you do.

Sincerely. a Hugelmeyer

**Office of the Superintendent of Schools**