



DCPS Community,

In the peaks and valleys of any school year, our teachers strive every day to provide students with rigorous and joyful learning experiences. This year's Teacher Appreciation Week is particularly special and I am especially grateful to our educators for persevering through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To our teachers: While new stay at home routines are required to keep us all physically safe, you have taken on a critical role in providing emotional safety through regular connections with students. During a period marked by significant change, we thank you for continuing to be a steady and trusted presence in our students' lives.

[I ask the entire DCPS community to join](#) me in wishing our educators a **Happy Teacher Appreciation Week!**

From creating videos to guide students through virtual lessons to holding daily office hours as families navigate learning at home, below are just a few examples of how our teachers are shining a light on students and demonstrating why learning matters now more than ever.

To help our youngest learners keep up their literacy skills, teachers like Crystal Seaborn of King Elementary School and Celestina Lee of Garrison Elementary School are leading [Fun with Phonics](#) video lessons that air on local cable TV and DCPS' YouTube Channel. While Joe Martin, a Kindergarten teacher at Lafayette Elementary School, [helps students maintain](#) their sense of community through virtual greetings full of song and joy.

Educators at Browne Education Campus [use individual teaching pages](#) on the school's website to ensure that students have the learning materials and support needed to complete work at home. At McKinley Middle School and McKinley Tech High School, teachers are exploring creative ways to [show students](#) that they care.

Through a series he calls #QuarantineKitchen, Chef Wiggins of Roosevelt High School guides culinary students and staff [through cooking lessons](#) from his home. Similarly, Jonte Lee, a chemistry teacher at Calvin Coolidge High School, dons a lab coat and [teaches science lessons from his kitchen](#).

Our educators continue to encourage students to bring their best selves to the virtual classroom, and we wish them a safe and happy week. You can help celebrate by sharing what you love about DCPS teachers on social media. Use the "I Love My DCPS Teacher" graphic along with #ThankaDCPSTeacher when sharing your shout outs.

This is also a good time to share how learning at home is going for you by taking our [family survey that closes tomorrow](#). Families may also take the survey over the phone by calling 202-671-2617 before 5:00 pm.

With appreciation,

Lewis D. Ferebee, Ed.D.
Chancellor
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