

The Power of Community

We recently asked you to tell us about what you are grateful for within your professional community of colleagues. We received more than 2,400 responses, many of which were (no surprise!) enormously similar. Here are 101 of your responses, which represent the thoughts and feelings of so many of you.

At my school we pull together as a team. We support each other in every way we can. Our administrative staff is kind, supportive, and understanding. They enhance our working and learning experience.

Everyone shares the same passion in caring for our children!

I am thankful that if I face a challenge that there are others who can give me advice to try something different to see if that works.

Somos un equipo y trabajamos en colaboración y unión.

I am grateful for the good friends that I have.

Teamwork, support, collaboration.

I am grateful that I am able to get up every day and work with wonderful people who I can learn from, grow with, and laugh with.

A great resourceful, support group, with a strong sense of humor.

Eagerness to learn new things about our profession. Passion for learning.

I am grateful for being able to talk to my colleagues and them being understanding and them showing empathy.

That we are here to teach the children and that we love doing it!!

One thing I am grateful for within my community of colleagues is their passion to continue professional development that will support and foster development of children and families.

I am grateful for teamwork.

We're a family, helping one another when needed.

That we are a team, we support one another. We are there for the children and can hear the sound of laughter every day.

I am grateful that we can work together, even in stressful situations.

I am grateful that I have wonderful colleagues that I can share teaching challenges with and ask for their input and get different ideas and ways to enlighten my situation.

Wisdom from those who have been doing this for many years.

Dentro del grupo de colegas y más aún mi directora he podido sentir el apoyo, la empatía, carisma, comprensión y ayuda para poder tener el apoyo necesario, para cada día enfrentar los desafíos que se presentan.

That they encourage you to keep on educating yourself to keep your mind sharp.

Support, collaboration, encouragement.

I'm so thankful for having a group of teachers that keep me laughing and smiling. On the days when I feel like I can't do another thing, these people have my back.

I have been blessed by an AMAZING supportive administration team!!!!

Our team is close-knit at the center level and works through even the toughest problems.

Support, friendship, and understanding.

I'm grateful to have such an amazing group of people to work with!

Soporte y guía en cómo resolver o usar la mejor estrategia para ayudar a los niños pequeños a superar desafíos y aprender nuevas cosas que le ayudarán en una vida futura.

We're a great team. Whatever we may be facing individually, we know we can turn to one another for support or new strategies to help one another.

Compassion, respect, a listening ear.

I am grateful for collaboration. I am also grateful for people I can laugh with.

The comradery.

Willingness to step up when there are staff shortages.

I am grateful for their helpfulness and friendship.

Apoyo inicial, muy importante, no importan los años de experiencia, siempre hay algo que aprender.

I am grateful for my team who are passionate in what we do each and every day. No matter how challenging it gets some days, we are always working together to help children succeed and better the future.

They all have good hearts.

The family bond we have.

I am grateful for my colleagues' support and expertise in the field.

I am grateful for a great group of people who help each other through the hard days and work together to make sure the students are healthy and happy.

I am grateful that I not only have a great friend but a mentor. I don't know where I would be if I didn't have her support.

My colleagues are very helpful and always wanting to lend a hand when needed. They are also fun and uplifting. I am grateful for them every day.

My assistant's unlimited support.

Knowing that you have a group of individuals you can call on for support and who understands your role as an early childhood educator.

I am so very grateful that I work with people who are committed to the children and families we serve. Rarely is there a teacher absent, and we work together as a team.

I am grateful for the strength and perseverance of the women and men I work with.

Guidance in difficult situations.

My management team supports me even when I make a mistake or come up short. Mistakes are viewed as opportunities to grow. I am so grateful for understanding leadership within my agency.

I love how my coworkers and others from our organization really care about one another and support each other.

The phenomenal team I work with.

My co-workers are great listeners. We motivate each other in our toughest moments. We celebrate the success of others.

I am grateful for the love and positive energy that they give out.

Always having someone there to talk things through with and have my back.

I'm grateful that we all enjoy our time with the children during the day!

I am grateful for having such a great group of colleagues to work with. They are very supportive and will go out their way to help out when needed.

The family dynamic we have going on. We care about each other and help each other be our best.

I am grateful for teamwork and communication. Without both of those you have no team. I am very fortunate to work with a wonderful education team that provides excellent and quality education and care to all students.

The group of caring individuals I work with always try to uplift each other on tough days.

I am thankful for all who stand beside me in this journey.

That we all share a common goal, caring for the well-being of children and families, providing love and support for the whole family.

One thing I am grateful for in my community of colleagues is us being able to pull together and get things done to help the children we serve.

El poder juntas transformar vidas para bien.

Estoy agradecida de tener compañeras tan amables, inteligentes, responsables y respetuosas, ¡en verdad estoy muy agradecida de poder aportar un poco a este gran equipo que formamos!

My co-teacher! In my 20+ years in education, she is the best!

Their knowledge and willingness to share it with me

I am grateful that at the end of the day I have a friend with an ear that is willing to listen...truly listen, diffuse, calm and even help reflect on what I can do next time.

We are awesome!! I am glad we have each other's backs!

I am grateful for the bond that we have with each other, the daily inspirational messages that I receive when entering the building.

Cuando uno comparte dificultades en el trabajo y un colega da ideas constructivas de cómo sobrellevar lo que está pasando.

I'm grateful for how we pull together and get the job done even in difficult times in our lives.

We all support and help each other the best we can. We are kind to each other and have respect for one another.

The diversity of thinking within the community of my colleagues benefits each of us. We combine the wisdom of our experience and different strengths as we work together to create lesson plans which support the standards creatively.

Everyone shares the same passion in caring for our children!

I am thankful that if I face a challenge that there are others who can give me advice to try something different to see if that works.

At my school we pull together as a team. We support each other in every way we can. Our administrative staff is kind, supportive, and understanding. They enhance our working and learning experience.

I have a great team in my classroom. We work together and get things done.

I am grateful for an awesome team who are consistent in their caring for children and the environment in which we work.

My colleagues are also my son's teachers. Their smiles and support as I drop him off are helpful to get the day started.

I'm grateful that I can go to my colleagues for advice or support without feeling judged.

Our connections and “family” dynamic in the workplace.

We work and support each other as team!

I am grateful that the women I work with listen, communicate, and engage with the students and each other.

I have an AMAZING co-teacher. She is calm and mellow, and I am perky. I always tell her she is the Pooh to my Tigger! Both are needed with toddlers!!

Su compasión y resiliencia.

In our building we have a great group of teachers, we share ideas, help each other when needed and have a lot of laughs together. Our work environment is very friendly and enjoyable to be in which makes a world of difference.

I am grateful for a teaching team. I'm not sure how teachers who don't have a team with them in the classroom get through the day!

No matter the situation, problem, or how any of us are feeling, we are there for one another. We will encourage, try to give positive feedback, give helpful advice, ideas, or just listen.

I am grateful for all their assistance and support, whether it was with my training or stepping in to watch my kiddos so I can take a bathroom break. The staff is very supportive with everything I do and there is no question I can't ask. They even stop by to ask if I'm doing okay.

We all have the same vision which is to love and care for the children.

Estoy agradecida por toda la ayuda emocional que mis compañeras de trabajo me brindaron cuando más lo necesitaba.

We are a very close-knit group. We can talk to each other about anything, and we are all there to help everyone out when life happens, in the classroom and out.

The support they provide. When I'm having a tough day the people around me lift me up. Super grateful.

We watch over each other's mental health. We appreciate each other's hard work and acknowledge our presence. Give gratitude for one another each day.

I'm grateful for caring and courageous colleagues!

The closeness and the bond we share. Being able to be open and vulnerable is so rare to have amongst coworkers. I value them like that are my family.

I am grateful for the group of colleagues I work with and no matter what the day brings, we are a team, and we know we can lean on each other during challenging days.

I'm grateful for the continuous love and support from my colleagues. The sharing of knowledge and the true feeling of family.

How kind they were when I started work. They are all still so kind and helpful.

I am grateful to have the support of my fellow teachers and administration staff. The tough days are made easy with a good laugh with my colleagues. I am also thankful that on the good days I can share news with my co-workers about our class and they are genuinely excited for us. I feel like, no matter what, I have a great support system at work.

I recently was teamed up with a co-teacher whom I worked with before almost 4 years ago. We were the best team and I missed her so much over the years. She decided to return after raising her baby and I couldn't be happier. Teased her that she had the longest maternity leave ever. I look forward to all the wonderful things we will accomplish together, and it feels so good to have the band back together.

The love that we all have for one another and that we give to each child

I am grateful for the support we show to one another. It isn't always easy, but it is so rewarding. I am glad we can stick together through the good times and bad and share experiences that will help each of us grow as teachers.