



# Ellington Public Schools

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September 8, 2023

Subject: With Sincere Appreciation for the EPS Staff

Dear Ellington Schools Staff,

I want to commend you for a courageous week, with full school days, serving the Ellington children. Although the conditions varied greatly from school to school, the weather was a significant challenge for our family.

I was able to converse with and observe the staff and students in action this week. The efforts and positive attitudes that you modeled for the students were impressive.

Tenet 7 of [Ellington Unplugged: Live With Honor](#) states, *"By following the [Seeds of Civility](#), you will live with honor, and unplugging will become increasingly effortless, resulting in a life's journey in service to others and filled with love."*

During this hot week, the Ellington Family truly embodied the idea of service to others filled with love.

Let me recognize...

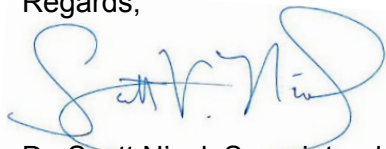
- teachers and paraeducators who spent many hours persevering with great effort to ensure a positive learning experience for our students;
- bus drivers who transported our students safely back and forth to school in buses that were not air-conditioned;
- cafeteria aides, cashiers, cooks who prepared and served food and supervised students in our cafeterias, some of which are not air-conditioned;
- custodians and maintenance workers who worked to set up the limited supply of portable air conditioners and industrial fans to provide some relief for staff and students while maintaining our grounds and the additional needs of the buildings;
- nurses who cared for students and staff who needed additional assistance;
- coaches who ran high and middle school sports all week making appropriate adjustments along the way;
- administration who created schedules to rotate classes into air-conditioned spaces such as the library media centers, who opened the doors to their air-conditioned offices for students and staff, and who stepped in to teach when educators needed a break.

These are all indicators of a healthy organization, as is our outstanding student and staff attendance over the past four days. Clearly, our staff is dedicated and most importantly the EPS children who reside in Ellington and Hartford want to be in school.

I feel very fortunate and proud to be a part of this family. At times service to others is messy, but the long-term rewards with lessons learned along the way will only make us a stronger family.

Enjoy the unplugged and a hopefully much cooler weekend.

Regards,



Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent

P.S. Cheers to the conditions the Ellington Family created and how some students are reacting - find them on our social sites!

