Testimonial

I have to go back to 1975 when I began my teaching career at the CP and O School under the leadership of Mrs Inman and Mrs Little. That is where I began my teaching family of students, parents and staff. We supported each other, taught each other, learned from each other, believed in each other..... we truly loved each other and were a "family". Parents invited staff into their homes. Staff became friends, good friends. Fast forward to 1983 and the "new school" Gateway Education Center became a reality, a dream come true. Mrs Inman passed her leadership role to Dale Metz. Dale had "big shoes " to fill and he did. Our student population grew as did our staff and new programs were introduced . Old proven true methods and techniques were improved on. Staff continued to work together to improve, create, ensure that we were each providing the every best for each student. We learned better ways to "speak up" for our students. We worked together with families to campaign for the best for their child and every child at Gateway. Dale knew how to group staff, how to push us to dig deeper and work smarter. Some of the skills, we used with Dale also. Dale was always open to trying new techniques, new methods, new materials, new equipment..... He sent us to conferences. He brought leaders in the field to us and our parents.We taught as "teams", teacher, TA, OT, PT,Speech, APE, Nurse, Counselor and the parents. We worked together to provide the best for each one of our students. We became close with our families. We visited in their homes to help parents together to find the best way. We were at the hospital with our students, often to give the parents a break. We worked together, talked- discussed together, laughed together and cried together. Parents years after their child graduated, was mainstreamed or the staff had moved on, continued to stay connected. We are family and always will be.

Trudy Winslow