

April 14, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope you and your family are safe and well during this difficult time. I am grateful to have my family staying healthy, amazing colleagues who have imaginative virtual backgrounds on Zoom calls, and the blooming flowers of spring.

I'm writing today simply in the hopes that the smiles of our children might brighten your day. We miss their singing in the hallways, romping in the classrooms, and quiet murmurs during nap time.



I also wanted to share an email that one of our teachers sent when this time of "quarantine" was just starting. Her words highlight the fact that even when we are apart, the most important part of our work remains the same: our relationships with each other.

Hey Educare Family,

Please take a few minutes to FaceTime, Skype, or Zoom with your babies, if you haven't already. I've been in touch with my children, as many of us have, and when I see those faces, it means the world to my heart! In a world like this, seeing those smiles when they see your face and receiving that unconditional love from our kids is what matters. Letting them know that they are unconditionally loved back is so important! THEY NEED US!! I just finished a Zoom call with a family. We have talked a few times during this break, but every time, I get giddy inside! Knowing my babies need to see Ms. Baylor - it just lights my world - and knowing it lights their hearts as well is the best feeling. Its bigger than cognitive development, its bigger than ABCs, 123s, colors, and shapes.... WE MUST LOVE OUR BABIES and our families and let them know if even for a phone call, we are here!!

Sorry for the mushy moment, but y'all know I love my kids!! I had a moment and was overwhelmed by their love for me. Take a moment tomorrow to feel that love from your babies and families and know that they need it just the same. Love y'all!

Ms. Monique P. Baylor

I hope this warms your heart as much as it warms mine. Sending my very best wishes for health, peace, and patience today and in the days to come.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Pyper Davis in black ink.

Pyper Davis
Executive Director

P.S. In addition to the ways in which our staff are connecting with students remotely, we are also distributing diapers and grab-and-go meals to our families and the wider community as a Greater DC Diaper Bank distribution hub. You can support this work—and more—by making a [secure donation online](#).

You can find any updates to our operating status on [our website](#).

For additional health information on COVID-19 and ways to protect you and your family, visit: [coronavirus.dc.gov](#)