



Teacher Appreciation Week

Thank You, Teachers!

It may come as a surprise to some that Franciscan Hospital for Children has a number of teachers on-staff. You're much more likely to pair "hospital" with "doctor," or "nurse." Of course, we have those wonderful professionals, too, but our teachers are an integral part of the programs and services offered here.

At Franciscan Hospital for Children, it is part of [our mission](#) to empower our children and families to learn and thrive. We would not be able to do this if it weren't for the teachers who dedicate themselves to our students, whether in the [Kennedy Day School](#), the [Hyman Novack Medical Day Care](#), the [Franciscan Family Child Care Center](#), the [Community Based Acute Treatment](#) program or our [Inpatient Mental Health](#) program.

In honor of Teacher Appreciation Week, we decided to turn the tables a bit and ask our teachers the following question, "**Which of your teachers has impacted you the most, and why?**"

Their responses are something to be shared and celebrated...

"My senior history teacher, Mr. Shephard, enjoyed the subject and sharing it with others so much that it was contagious. Sitting in his class was the first time I thought, 'I want to be a teacher.'" - Brock Seefeldt, LCSW, CBAT Clinical Education Coordinator

"My first grade teacher, Mrs. Karison, showed me the magic of books." - Kate Martin, Reading Teacher, Kennedy Day School

"The teacher that influenced me the most is the teacher of the [Kennedy Day School] classroom I am in, Teri Micheli, of Classroom 2. I am truly amazed how much she knows all of her students, and how much they learn because of her. Her dedication to them is amazing. Because of her, I am going to school to be a teacher. She has helped me so much and gave me the confidence I needed to go after my dream of being a teacher like her. I hope I have her passion and drive. She always has a smile on her face and is always happy to see her students." - Maria Deleon, Class 2 Teaching Assistant, Kennedy Day School



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“Mr. Arnie Mendlesohn is the teacher that most influenced me. He was my 5th grade teacher. We often butted heads during our school year together. He told me, ‘you may not see why I’m pushing you to your full potential every day, but you will understand it when you’re older and thank me’. I am proud to say 17 years later, I was able to thank Mr. Mendlesohn and let him know I am now a Special Education Teacher. His smile said it all.” - Michelle Cole, Class 11 Teacher, Kennedy Day School

“Mr. Hyde, my psychology teacher at Salem High School, allowed me to do volunteer work with a Music Therapist once a week in place of attending his class. Meeting and working with Beverly Parry at the Hogan Regional State School in Danvers launched my careers as a Music Therapist. I am ever grateful for this opportunity.” - Julie Zigo, Music Teacher, Kennedy Day School

“My 11th grade European History teacher, Mr. Denning, was the craziest, most passionate teacher I have had. He would get so excited about teaching the material that he would yell and throw markers into the air. He was never seated during class, and he really knew how to get his students excited about Euro History. He was awesome!” - Molly Keady, Class 14 Teaching Assistant, Kennedy Day School

“In 8th grade, I had a history teacher named Mr. Grandinetti. He had so much passion and love for teaching and I remember how much influence that had on me.” - Kristine Zarifian, Class 14 Teaching Assistant, Kennedy Day School

“I would have to say one of my best teachers was Elizabeth Treganowan-Watson, a Kennedy Day School teacher. She taught me so much about what it means to be a great teacher, and I would not have made it through grad school to having my own classroom without her.” - Kaitlin Burkle, Class 14 Teacher, Kennedy Day School

“My high school animation teacher, Mr. Sullivan, taught me an appreciation for creativity and detail in our work. He made us feel so important and cared for his students so much. He always told us that he has never ‘worked’ a day in his life because his job teaching was so much fun! He really taught me the power of the





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arts in education and the important role teachers play in students' lives." - Katie Jepsen, Class 14 Teaching Assistant, Kennedy Day School

"I would have to say my 11th grade world religion teacher. She truly cared about each of her students and would take time out of her schedule to come cheer us on in our sports games and other extra-curricular activities. It showed how much she truly supported and cared for her students." - Amanda Shunamon, Teacher, Hyman Novack Medical Day Care

"Mrs. Eva Jablonsky, my middle school Science teacher, for inspiring me to go into the field of teaching. She always thought 'outside the box' and provided a diverse learning experience to all of her student's diverse needs. Mr. Martin, my middle grade teacher at Fitzgerald School in Cambridge, for taking the time to make sure all my academic needs were met and for saying after school to offer me extra support in the most creative ways... and finally Ms. Sheila Donelan, for always offering me extra support and demanding that I learn the Math curriculum. She was the first person that actually made a "light bulb" go off in my Math class, and I always admired (and emulated) her fashion sense with the high heels and pencil skirts!" - Samantha Zammuto, Teacher, Inpatient Mental Health program

To our teachers, thank you for your dedication to our kids and the incredible work that you do. The mission of Franciscan Hospital for Children would not be possible without your commitment and compassion, and we celebrate you every day!

How would you answer the question, "Which of your teachers has impacted you the most, and why?"

