

Spotlight On: Devon Dunn

School-Within-School @ Goding | Elementary Education | 12 Years in Education



Devon centers her teaching on students, routines, and understanding.

“I want to continue the legacy of teachers within my family. It is in my blood.”

What inspired you to pursue a career as a teacher?

“My inspiration came from the women in my family. I started my college career thinking I would major in Communications, but after my freshman year, I decided on Elementary Education. My mother taught in DC Public Schools (DCPS) for 34 years. I was able to witness firsthand how fun and rewarding this career is. I want to continue the legacy of teachers within my family. It is in my blood.”

What is your favorite thing about teaching?

“Being with the children and seeing the awe on their faces when a current topic amazes them.”

How has the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching program impacted you?

“Without the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching program, I would not be able to afford my degree. I have been in school for a long time trying to earn my bachelor’s. I ran out of financial aid, and the only thing holding me back was paying for classes. It is a plus that this program also offers lots of support, because when times get tough and stress starts to build, participants can reach out for support.”

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What do you wish more people knew about teachers in the District?

“The diversity amongst staff. DC is a very diverse place, and that is reflected in teaching staff in schools. There will always be an adult for a student to relate to. The District has also taken giant leaps when it comes to addressing students’ mental health so they may access the curriculum.”

What would you say to someone who is thinking of applying for the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching program?

“GO FOR IT! Nothing beats a free bachelor’s degree in education from a Historically Black College or University (HBCU), backed with support and love from those wanting to see you succeed.”

For more information about the OSSE Apprenticeship in Teaching program, please visit osse.dc.gov/page/osse-apprenticeship-teaching.