

February 19, 2021

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing in regards to the consideration of Mrs. Alicia Lacy-Scott for Moore Public School District's Teacher of the Year. Mrs. Lacy-Scott was my teacher in 2007-2008 when I was in eighth grade. To say she was one of the best teachers I've ever had is an understatement. The impact she made on me was lifelong and enduring. She took notice of my interest in writing and fostered my passion, offering multiple opportunities for me to refine my skills. She encouraged individuality and allowed us to decorate our Writer's Notebooks however we wanted, which only made me want to write more.

More than her guidance and scaffolding in writing and other aspects of English, the thing I remember most about Mrs. Lacy-Scott is the safe place she provided for me. At the time, I was going through a very difficult and traumatic situation at home, and she became my safe adult. She truly understands Maslow's hierarchy of needs, knowing that self-actualization will never happen if her students don't feel safe. Every day, I left her class feeling noticed and validated. I can honestly say that I have no idea where I would be if it were not for this teacher.

Mrs. Lacy-Scott is truly a one-of-a-kind teacher whose caring runs deeper than test scores and student products. To this day, I still go to her for advice and just to chat, and now our relationship has evolved from that of student and teacher to a wonderful friendship. Mrs. Lacy-Scott is one of the people who inspired me to go to college and major in early childhood and elementary education. She continues to offer advice and encourage me, educator to educator. With this in mind, it is my greatest honor and highest pleasure to recommend Mrs. Alicia Lacy-Scott to be the next Moore Public Schools Teacher of the Year.

Sincerely,

Jessica Joy

Jessica Joy, Kindergarten Teacher
Hayes Elementary School
Oklahoma City Public Schools
jjoy@okcps.org