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**Superintendent of Schools:**  
Dr. Deborah L. Wortham  
[www.rooseveltufsd.org](http://www.rooseveltufsd.org)

January 4, 2022

To the exceptional staff of the Roosevelt Union Free School District,

Relentless. Committed. Resilient. Patient. These are all words that come to mind when I think of the staff and faculty that compose our District. They are also the attributes that have been on display in Roosevelt since the moment the pandemic hit in 2020. In the face of seemingly insurmountable adversity and challenges, I have watched as our District continues to rise, in no small part, due to the efforts and ineffable hope of our administrators, teachers, TA's, custodial crew, cafeteria staff, and every member of the District.

Even without a pandemic creating unimaginable obstacles, the work we take on as educators has never been easy, but it has always been worth it. It is worth it in the moments when a student's eyes light up as they grasp new learning material. It is worth it in the moments when we, as educators, create lessons that resonate with our students. It is worth it when we see our students proudly walk across the stage at graduation with confidence, knowing we've done all that we can to prepare them for the next chapter in their educational journey and life.

Even now, under the shadow of COVID-19 and amidst this uncertainty, I know one thing for sure—the work you are doing has not and will not go unnoticed. The work you are doing *matters*. You serve as role models for our students and, in that regard, I am grateful for the impact you have had on our scholars. *Thank you* for recognizing the critical role you play in the lives of our students and remaining committed to our collective goal of educating the future trailblazers of our society.

No matter the challenge, I am confident in our capacity to meet them head-on with grace and strength. Thank you for your continued work and dedication to the Roosevelt School District and, most importantly, our students from the bottom of my heart.

We are Roosevelt. Empowered. Proficient. Globally Ready.  
We are Roosevelt. We will continue to persevere. We will continue to *rise*.

Sincerely and with immense gratitude,

Dr. Deborah L. Wortham  
*Superintendent of Schools*

*Our Mission is to educate the whole child to excel, thereby ensuring achievement for ALL.*

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