

2008 UF COE Writing Contest Entry

(This is one of 27 entries submitted in the College's recent writing contest on the topic of "What's Good in Education?". Visit the [writing contest home page](#) for links to other entries, including the winning one.)

WHAT'S GOOD IN EDUCATION?

Sowing seeds of hope for the next generation

By **ANGELA MILLER**

7ED, reading education

When you walk down the halls of virtually any school across the U.S., nearly every adult that you see is there to help children. In some unique way, every adult in the modern educational institution is serving the next generation. Because each new generation is a product of the one that has gone before it, the seeds of consideration that we sow today will continue to reap a bounty of benefits as long as there is a tomorrow.

These days, we are aware that what we teach our children now will surely affect the future of this country. More than ever in the history of civilization, we are waking up to the moral truths that are already ingrained so deeply into our hearts. As knowledge increases by way of advancing technologies and a practically globalized world, we learn that the entire moral code can be summed up into even one word: love. Without peace, patience, kindness, respect, humility, compassion, and every other kind of act of love, there is no reason for hope that things will improve- not within the schools and not within the community or even the nation.

But when we see with our own eyes the rapid change that is taking place within the walls of schools, big and small, we can know there is reason for this hope. Children everywhere are learning how to work with each other, despite all their differences, and consequently, how to respect one another in the process. Not only do we make sure every child can read, but we also make sure each child knows why learning how is so important. It is also more likely than ever before, that children in today's classrooms will also be taught how to help one another learn. This is just one example of the change that is taking place in the way educators play an essential role in helping each child to fulfill his or her potential. Whether our part is making phone calls to their parents or making food for their lunches, our examples make a difference and leave a lasting impression.

What is so wonderful about education today is that the impression we are leaving is not counterfeit. We have invested time and energy into planning and seeing that the job gets done as best as we know how and with the best resources that we are able to provide. While the young people may not fully understand or appreciate this, it impacts them nevertheless as the ultimate beneficiaries of an excellent education, as well as a bright

future for themselves and, thus, for their country. May our example shine for the world to see.

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