

Dear CSI Families,

Greetings! My name is Angie Gilliam and I am very excited to be student teaching in Mrs. Washington's Primary classroom. I am a Senior Early Childhood Education major from the University of South Carolina. Last year, I had the pleasure of getting to work with many of the students at CSI while I attended several USC classes on-site. I was amazed with the community feeling at CSI. I witnessed a true love for learning by all! I could instantly tell that CSI is a very special place.

I am originally from southeastern Virginia, but I have quickly found South Carolina to be like a second home! I enjoy attending USC sporting events, especially USC football games. I am very close to my family and I have one younger sister who is going to be a freshman in college. I enjoy spending time with my family and friends. I also enjoy traveling. I enjoy reading and listening to country music.

I believe that all children are capable of accomplishing great things! I think it is our duty as educators to help guide children on this path. I believe that education is built around relationships. I think it is very important to recognize each student as an individual and to form a personal relationship with each child. I believe that children need to be actively participating with their learning in order to take ownership of the subject material. I also am a strong believer in the power of partner and group work in the classroom.

I believe that learning is a lifelong process and that in order to be effective teachers we must also continue to learn ourselves. After graduating from USC, I plan on teaching for several years before getting my Masters degree in Literacy. Then, I would like to become a Reading Specialist. I am very passionate about reading and early literacy!

I am so excited about all of the learning that will occur throughout my student teaching. I am excited to learn about all of the assets of being a teacher. I am most looking forward to seeing the beginning of the growth of a new classroom community. I am sure I will learn lots from Mrs. Washington and the children throughout my student teaching experience. I look forward to forming relationships with the children and the families at CSI!

Sincerely,

Ms. Gilliam