



## Congratulations Carly Gedra-Kaloper! 2023 Dr. William C. Morse Teacher of the Year



Carly Gedra-Kaloper is a preschool teacher at Woodcliff Early Childhood Center at East Grand Rapids Public School District. Carly's classroom motto is "Come as you are." Carly works tirelessly to meet each child where they are at, observe them, try techniques and fail and try again. The environment she's built is welcoming, comforting and familiar. Children are never made to feel like they are doing something wrong, the wrong way or that they are incapable. Carly uses her professional career as a way to impact her students on a personal level. No matter how her education and experience develops, the foundation she stands upon is rock solid and the ability to care for each student individually impacts them at a time in their lives when it matters the most.

While Carly has been in the classroom for numerous years and has gained the confidence of working with kids of all abilities it is her drive to meet each child, get to know them and to implement a custom program for those kids that makes her such a success. Carly is not a one size fits all kind of teacher. Carly uses her professional career as a way to impact her students on a personal level. No matter how her education and experience develops, the foundation she stands upon is rock solid and the ability to care for each student individually impacts them at a time in their lives when it matters the most. Her foundation becomes their foundation for the rest of their lives and we are so grateful for her and her program.

Not only does Carly shine in the classroom, she was also featured as a part of the Council for Exceptional Children's 100 Stories in 2022 for her inspiring work with children with exceptionalities. We could not think of a more deserving, dedicated, and hardworking special educator for the 2023 Michigan Council for Exceptional Children Dr. William C. Morse Teacher of the Year