

*From the desk of Maribel Zubieta-Diaz...*

**I am a firm believer in taking time to count my blessings. If I had to choose one thing to leave in my students' hearts, it would be the ability to rejoice and be grateful for time and life. That ability is innate in humans. Children live in the now, laugh or cry accordingly, and move on to the next now.**

**Because of the nature of my work, I have to think ahead and think of the future Nows. Every day I am more convinced the only way to plan for the future is by fully living, observing, and taking in every lesson of Now.**

**As I look at our little 3-year-olds, I can already see the potential in their minds and hearts and have learned to be patient and enjoy each child's rhythm and flow in life.**

**As they go on through the grades, I enjoy seeing their growth and watching their personalities take shape and form - values, character, academic rigor, stronger voices, kindness, persistence, frustration, successes, tears, laughter, hope, fear, strengths and weaknesses.....life. Now.**

**Middle school years are the time to organize, decipher, and understand most of those thoughts and feelings that are going to help them make decisions and live a fuller life. The foundation of the future adult is built on those first 14 years of life. Fourteen years of daily Nows.**

**Conchita is a result of making every Now count. Parents, families, and teachers are meant to support, guide, nurture, and encourage each child's individual essence. As they become young adults, they slowly will earn their independence making their own decisions and creating their own Nows.**

**Let's not rush the Nows. Life is short enough as it is.**

**Blessings,**

