

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



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## **Ellis Elementary School's Lorenzo Moreno Named 9Teachers Who Care Award Winner for March**

Denver, CO – 9NEWS and CollegeInvest, Colorado's higher education financing resource, are pleased to honor Lorenzo Moreno, a fifth grade teacher at Ellis Elementary School, with the March 9Teachers Who Care award.

Moreno was nominated by a number of his peers and colleagues including Principal of Ellis Elementary Khoa Nguyen.

"Mr. Moreno loves teaching!" wrote Nguyen. "He excels in nurturing his students and encourages an environment for creative excellence."

Moreno consistently seeks opportunities to improve his skills as an educator. Many of the students at Ellis Elementary are from different countries, and English is their second language. Moreno is pursuing his Masters Degree in Teaching Linguistically Diverse Students to better serve his students.

"Moreno teaches with enthusiasm, energy, interest and caring," wrote Assistant Principal Connie Clifton. "He researches the best methods and practices to reach all of his students, and to bring them to proficiency."

Despite a full schedule of work and pursuing a master's degree, Moreno finds time to volunteer many hours to lead extracurricular activities for students including Optimists Club, Science Club and CSAP Camp.

Moreno creates opportunities for his fifth grade students to become leaders and mentors by pairing them with second grade students for reading help and self-esteem building.

"Mr. Moreno makes a substantial contribution to the continued growth of Ellis Elementary school," wrote Nguyen.

The 9Teachers Who Care award was created by 9NEWS and CollegeInvest in 2001 to recognize and profile educators who are making a difference. The program was designed to highlight the positive stories and outcomes that are happening in Colorado classrooms every day.

CollegeInvest is a not-for-profit division of the Colorado Department of Higher Education. Since 1979, CollegeInvest has helped more than half a million families break down the financial

barriers to college by providing expert information, simple planning tools, scholarships, 529 college savings plans, and low-cost student and parent loans. For more information, visit [collegeinvest.org](http://collegeinvest.org) or call 1-888-448-2424.

Anyone can nominate a teacher for the 9Teachers Who Care award. Nomination forms can be downloaded from the Education Page or the Community Page on [9news.com](http://9news.com) or requested by calling 303-871-1899.

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