TEXT OF LETTER TO STAFF:

Greetings Colleagues!

I hope your daily summer plans are being implemented to the fullest as time ticks steadily into MPS' fast approaching 2017 - 2018 scholastic future. I am just returning home from a semi-vacation that I enjoyed immensely. I wanted to let you know about my plans to take a bonafide vacation (in the form of retirement) at the end of this summer.

I cannot begin to tell you what my MPS life (with you) has meant to me. I am grateful beyond measure for 41+ years of intentional and purposeful engagement with students, families, schools, and of course with "you" my friends. I began each of my 41 years with the will to make a difference in lives. I think I accomplished that but the real value was in the difference MPS experiences made in my life.

I have attempted retirement at least three times in my career and none of the attempts were successful. I think I'm here now. I confess that after much consideration, the only recourse I could settle on was to just do it.

Please accept my heart-felt thanks to each of you for what you choose to do as an employee in MPS. No one is making you do your job but everyone is expecting you to do it without reservation. As I've indicated to you over and over, our children need us to work on their behalf. I plan to keep working on their behalf from a different venue!

Again, I'll miss you very much and will keep you in my prayers always.

Respectfully,

Margaret Allen 13th Superintendent Montgomery Public Schools