



## **Karen Vietri**

Karen is working in the early Childhood Center. She has worked in the Christina school district since 2011. She wants to really make a difference in the lives of children. Though educating is rewarding, she also wants to keep the “fun” in it, for the kids. Karen always strives to have her students develop a love for school, with the hope that they will gain confidence, and be eager to move on to bigger challenges with success.

Professionally speaking, Karen enjoys being part of a team that works well together. As a result, she has seen the once angry and untrusting child have a major turn around, and will start to love coming to school and become a happy little person. Karen has said that this is one of the most fulfilling and gratifying parts of her job.

Recently, Karen has become the secretary of the negotiations team for the union. In that role, I noticed that she is organized and articulate, which is perfect. She also has spent countless hours working with a team to make the contract great for every program and every para.

Her advice to other paras, particularly in stressful times, as we all have those, is to remember we are all here for the kids. Stay strong and keep that perspective and you can find your path.

