



State of South Carolina Office of the Governor

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR

1205 PENDLETON STREET
COLUMBIA 29201

Dear Students, Mothers, and Friends,

It's a great day at J.D. Lever Elementary School and in South Carolina, and it is awesome that you are all here for a Mother's Day Breakfast!

It is a privilege and an honor to serve as governor of this great state. I am the first female governor and first minority governor in South Carolina's history. Growing up, I never thought about running for office. I was never involved in student government or party politics, and trying to become governor was challenging. I ran against a Congressman, a State Attorney General, a Lieutenant Governor, and a State Senator, so I had tough competition. There were many differences between myself and the other candidates but, by finding and using the power of my voice, I showed that my differences didn't matter and that I could bring people together. I encourage you to find the power of your voice and get involved in your community. All of you have special gifts and talents that are needed by those around you.

I wish you the best for a wonderful breakfast. Keep up the great work – I can't wait to see what you do next! God bless.

My very best,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nikki", is written over the printed name.

Nikki R. Haley

NRH/kt