



Hello volunteers, donors, partners, and friends of Above & Beyond for Change,

March arrived bringing more light, more flowers, and that renewing energy that Spring inspires. Around here, it was a month of important celebrations, planning for big events, and also looking back with gratitude at everything we built together in the first quarter of 2026.

Shall we get to the highlights?



International Women's Day: Strength, Memory, and Struggle

On March 8th, we celebrated International Women's Day with a deep look at what this date truly represents. At Above & Beyond, we are surrounded by extraordinary women every single day:

 The teachers at Pinewood Elementary, who educate, welcome, and transform lives inside and outside the classroom.

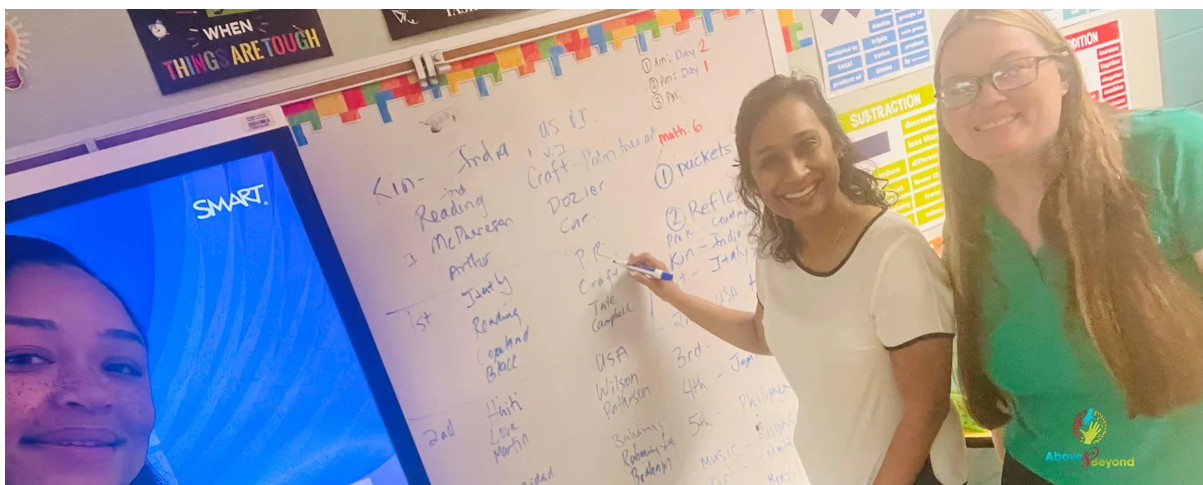
- 👤 The mothers, grandmothers, and guardians who trust us to walk alongside them.
- ☀️ The girls in our programs, who remind us daily that the future is bright and full of possibilities.
- 🏠 Our founder and our staff, who are always working harder and harder to expand opportunities for our community.

More than flowers and congratulations, we celebrate the struggle, the memory, and the strength of all the women who make our community blossom. ❤️



The month of March also brought Spring Break — a well-deserved pause for our students, educators, and families. After an intense first quarter full of achievements, it was time to rest, breathe, and enjoy the longer days that daylight saving time gifted us.

Now, we're back in full swing for the final stretch of the school year, ready for more learning, discoveries, and unforgettable moments alongside the Pinewood Elementary community. ☀️



Cultural Day Planning: May 20th

One of the most anticipated moments of the year is coming! On **May 20th**, Pinewood Elementary will host **Cultural Day** — a vibrant celebration of the diversity that makes up our community.

This month, we met with educators and school leaders to plan every detail: performances, traditional foods, music, dance, and, of course, the special participation of Above & Beyond for Change. It will be a day for our students to see themselves represented, celebrate their roots, and learn from one another's cultural richness.

Soon, we'll share more information on how you can be part of this very special day! Stay tuned. 🎨

First Quarter 2026 Recap: What We Built Together



Before we move on to the next steps, we want to pause to thank and celebrate everything we accomplished in the first few months of the year. In 2026, we have already:

- ✓ Held an inspiring meeting with Pinewood teachers at Terra Verde Resort & Park.
- ✓ Kept our weekly STEM classes going strong, with hands-on activities in the school garden.
- ✓ Supported Literacy Night by providing snacks and refreshments for families.
- ✓ Offered a Dinner Experience at Olive Garden, opening doors and horizons for students to experience something new.
- ✓ Celebrated Black History Month with the dashikis donated last year.

✓ Delivered essential materials for students *in the ESE program at Pinewood Elementary*, thanks to the generosity of those who turned Michelle's birthday into donations for the community.

Each of these moments was only possible because you are with us. Your support — whether as a volunteer, donor, or cheerleader for our cause — is what turns plans into reality.

👏 How You Can Help Now

1. **Participate in Cultural Day:** Would you like to donate traditional foods, help with organizing, or simply show up? [Reply to this email](#) and let us know how you'd like to collaborate.
2. **Share our cause:** Forward this newsletter to a friend who also believes in the power of community.
3. **Follow us on Instagram:** [@AboveAndBeyondForChange](#) for behind-the-scenes and daily updates.

With gratitude and eyes on what is yet to come,

Love ❤️ and Light ✨

Michelle Sanchez- FOUNDER



Your generous donation will bring joy to our students and their families this holiday season. Let's spread love and kindness together!

Thank you for your support! ❤️ ✨

Feel free to share with friends and family.

"Love is a combination of care, commitment, knowledge, responsibility, respect and trust."

— *Bell Hooks*

DONATE

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