Jennifer Knox considers her students to be her “children.” She not only works to ensure their academic growth, but their emotional growth, as well. In her classroom, Ms. Knox shares literature with her students that inspires empowerment, justice, civic responsibility and moral character. She also incorporates moral content in their journal writing activities. Ms. Knox spends hours developing ways to engage her students in learning, including creating homemade games to enhance her academic lessons and finding the perfect book to “hook” her reluctant readers.

Outside of her classroom, Ms. Knox created an after-school community service club called the “Smile” Club (Students Making Important Life Exchanges). This Club has helped cancer patients and the disabled, military personnel and veterans, and even abandoned animals. It is making a difference every day.

Ms. Knox reminds us that academic learning and good character go hand-in-hand.