Janet Monseur-Durr is a multicultural education whirlwind. For the Hilliard City School District in central Ohio, the ninth largest in the state, she serves as the Diversity/Educational Equity Coordinator, a curriculum designer, and a classroom Spanish and ESL teacher.

About Janet Monseur-Durr, the District’s School Board President, Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent wrote in a joint letter: “As the enrollment in our district became more diverse, Mrs. Monseur-Durr recognized that staff needed to learn about the cultures of the many families new to the district. She reached out to leaders in nearby ethnic communities and built relationships. She led several activities to link the district and community, such as our highly successful International Festival…In the classroom Mrs. Monseur-Durr is simply the best. It is evident that her life’s passion is to nurture and guide students.”

The accolades don’t stop there. Homeland Security official Abdirizak Farah, who has worked with Mrs. Monseur-Durr on international cultural awareness projects, calls her “one of the most consequential educators of our time.”

Mrs. Monseur-Durr’s accomplishments include: an in-depth survey of students’ views on their culture being supported by teachers; and she developed and sustained programs that provided teachers, education support professionals and administrators with understanding of cultural issues that impacted student learning. She also created a diversity curriculum for Ohio Dominican University that was deployed university-wide.

What’s more, Mrs. Monseur-Durr worked with a number of student groups who identified as ethnic and religious minorities. She also helped get her school’s Gay-Straight Alliance started. Former student Marshall Troxell recalls: “I had no clue as to how to launch a student organization. Over the course of the next two years, Janet took me under her wing and taught me the value of student engagement as a means for promoting social cohesion and honoring all students’ experiences.”

Mrs. Monseur-Durr’s educational philosophy is a simple one: “Every student has something to offer and every student can learn from every other student.”