

Mission Moment



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Matt has worked here at CCSJ for 3 years. He is originally from Nebraska and has lived here in the “Region” for 10 years

Like many of us here at CCSJ, I was drawn to this role and the work I do because it allows me to put some good back into the world, at least in my own small ways. It is genuinely fulfilling for me to be able to work with our students, support them in their growth and development, and celebrate their successes with them as they reach their goals. For me, there are few things in my work that are as rewarding as a student excitedly sharing their wins with me.

As I contemplated how the mission and vision of the school inform my work here in the Career Services Department, I thought of the pillars that further define our mission, and the one that I kept returning to was “Open to Growth.” As I work with students from semester to semester, I get to see their growth in real-time. I have many conversations with students where we discuss new possibilities – considering careers they had never seen themselves in before, being the first person in their family to pursue a college education, or even helping them come to realize their own passions and how to move forward with those dreams. Just like the plants in my office, our students need nourishment to help them grow, and I always work to provide encouragement, support, and advocacy for each of our students as I help them grow in those new, exciting, and sometimes scary directions.

Being open to growth isn’t just limited to the students though. For me, working in higher education means that I am a lifelong learner. With that comes a hope that I will continue to grow as well - in my work with students, how I connect with them, and how to best serve them. I’m grateful for the opportunity to work in an environment that fosters continued learning, and I look forward to continuing that growth with all of you.