

## Never Say Can't

By: Katie DeMar

I believe all people should be given equal opportunities in life, held to the same standards, and pushed to be the best they can be. "I can't" should not come from anyone's mouth; right now you may not be able to, but if you never try you never will find out.

When I was a child, I struggled with reading and writing. I did not know why I was struggling so much, whenever to everyone else it was so easy. My parents had me tested and the results showed I had a learning disability. When I found out I had a learning disability I did not really understand what that meant, but I knew I was not like everyone else. My parents sat me down and tried to explain what the test showed and what could be done to try to improve my skills. My parents and I could have easily just said oh well you have a disability this means you will never be able to read or spell properly, but we did not. My parents pushed me and worked with me to improve my skills. They never let me say "I can't". My dad would look at me and say you can, just in a different way. I learned strategies and modifications that would allow me to fit in with my grade level. I learned what worked for me and never stopped trying.

I will push my students to be all they can be. I will work with all my students' one on one to found out their skills, weaknesses and goals. Together, we will come up with a plan that works for them. I may have to put in extra time and effort but seeing my students meet their goals in the end is all I care about.

I will not let them say "I can't do it". Maybe they will not be able to do something the exact same way as their peers, but they will be able to say they did it. I believe all people should be given equal opportunities in life, held to the same standards, and pushed to be the best they can be. "I can't" should not come from anyone's mouth; right now you may not be able to, but if you never try you never will find out.