

started, "I had the chance to speak about the frustrating lack of money we put into public education, which bothers me, especially knowing the impact education can have on a child."

Eventually, however, life led her away from the Florida warmth and up to the Valley where she continues to emphasize the importance of teaching and learning. While working with a company that was fielding children's book ideas, she was disappointed to learn that her book had not been selected as the winner. She may not have ended up with the ultimate prize, but she did walk away from that experience with something better, her future husband! Her husband, Mike Flynn, was Massachusetts' 2008 Teacher of the Year and Megan said this leads to some educationally nerdy dinner-table conversations.

Nowadays, Megan's love of education and helping children is felt at home where someone is always on the move. There's her daughter, Cora Rose Allen-Flynn, 2, and her four stepchildren: Allison Flynn, 17, Daniel Flynn, 18, Sean Flynn, 15, and Collin Flynn, 14. Though they might not all appreciate their mom's or step-mom's occasional lapses into "teacher mode," Megan admits, "but that's what I am. Being a teacher requires patience and unconditional love and what is parenting but patience and unconditional love?" As a family, some of their favorite activities include traveling, hiking, gardening, movie nights, and spending dinnertime together, which has become a more frequent activity due to the pandemic.



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