A message from the Director: September 11, 2016

Today marks 15 years since the September 11, 2001 attacks on America. For some of us it seems like yesterday, for many it's hard to remember the details, but everyone remembers how it felt and where they were on that day. Most importantly, I hope you remember how quickly our country came together as one. This country and its citizens wrapped our arms around one another that day and the days, weeks and months to follow. America changed that day.

Our students, your children, do not remember this moment like we do. It is our job to help them. This is harder than ever as our country at times feels like it is torn in so many directions. It is hard to explain to our children how love conquered literally everything during those days.

How do we teach them? We absolutely share the facts as they grow, but we can always model what love and respect looks like. Thank emergency service workers. Talk to your children about what firefighters, police, EMS workers and so many others do each day to keep us all safe. Perform random acts of kindness for others. Be polite and courteous with others even when frustrated.

Out of the tragedy of September 11, 2001 came a stronger country and a country whose citizens came together in love and support of one another. Love, support and kindness are absolutely traits that we can teach our children moving forward.

Please take a moment this week to remember all of those who were lost that day, those who sacrificed their own lives trying to save others. Please also remember those who survived; the families, the emergency service workers, all those who live every day with the memories from that day and the weeks to follow.

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate."

Thank you all for trusting us with your children each and every day. Cherish every second with your loved ones.

Sincerely, Lori Roy