

Office of the Superintendent

September 11, 2023



Greetings,

Glenn M. Maleyko, Ph.D.
Superintendent

Today, people from across the country, state and right here in Dearborn commemorate the heroes of September 11th and honor those who lost their lives on that tragic day. All of us in the Dearborn Public Schools join in paying tribute to the brave first responders and citizens who stepped up and took action to aid their fellow Americans on September 11, 2001. We also remember and offer our most sincere condolences to the families of those who lost loved ones on that sad and dark day.

Just days after September 11, former Dearborn Superintendent Dr. Jeremy Hughes delivered a message to the staff and citizens of Dearborn. Let me read just a few short sentences from that message:

"The American spirit is resilient. It rallies in the time of crisis and comforts in the time of need. It is a spirit that is proud, a spirit that is free. The American spirit is here in Dearborn; it is in the hearts of all its residents".

More than 20 years later these words still ring true. In the days that followed September 11th our country was united and came together to help those who lost loved ones. Elected officials from both parties stood together on the steps of the U.S. Capitol, united in spirit. Thousands of people poured into New York City to help in the recovery effort at the site of the World Trade Center. Just as important as remembering the events of September 11, we must never forget the incredible resilience and spirit of the American people in the days that followed.

If ever there was a time when we needed to call upon the strong American spirit, to come together, it is now. Over the course of the last several years we have forgotten how to disagree without dividing, share a difference of opinion without stereotyping, and unfortunately, engage in hurtful dialogue without considering the greater impact of our words.

As the years after September 11 fade behind us, we may be forgetting how strong this nation was in those days after the tragedy and how strong this nation can be, and is. The history of this great nation has shown the world how we, as Americans, can overcome adversity and stand united in the common goal of democracy and freedom for all.

Time has a way of easing our sadness, fading our anger, but never let the passage of time break our spirit. It is our spirit...that unique American spirit that can see the good in each other, the commonality we all share, and come together to bring about the better days we know lie ahead.

Regards,

Glenn Maleyko, Ph.D.
Superintendent