



Pendergast School Students Observe 9/11 with Dedicated Service

Students honor veterans with respect and personal stories



September 26, 2017 - In 2009, Congress designated September 11th as a National Day of Service and Remembrance. Through a generous grant provided by Youth Service America in Washington DC, the students and staff of Pendergast Elementary School utilized this opportunity to recognize the service of local Veterans and those like the first responders on that fateful day who gave their lives in service of others. On Monday, September 25, Pendergast Elementary hosted four representatives from the United States Veteran's Affairs Department, representing each branch of the military, for a Service Tribute Breakfast

Students from all grades at Pendergast Elementary wrote thank-you notes to the veterans for their service. In addition, Student Leadership selected, purchased, and assembled 30 care packages from the grant proceeds and presented the packages to the visiting veterans to distribute to local veterans (and their families) in need. At the Service Tribute Breakfast, Students shared poetry and personal anecdotes about their service to others. Many of the stories included their efforts in anti-bullying. Pendergast principal Mike Woolsey shares, "Students often don't feel like they can serve others, but they can! Through anti-bullying efforts, students can serve others. The powerful tribute allowed students to view 9/11 as a day of tribute; a day of service to one another. The event brought together many diverse people of all ages and walks of life to share in the experience of what it is like to serve others."

According to Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, Pendergast Superintendent, "We are so proud of our students' efforts in honoring those who serve in our military. We stress character education in all of our schools and it is heartening to see students using the character traits to honor and serve others. Thank you to the Pendergast school students, staff, families and the communities we serve for using this grant in many vital ways to give back."