

UNIONDALE UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT

933 GOODRICH STREET, UNIONDALE, NEW YORK 11553-2499

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August 12, 2019

Dear Uniondale Community:

I am routinely impressed and consistently moved by the integrity, courage and resiliency exhibited by the Uniondale Community. This past weekend at the Hempstead Memorial 5K and fundraiser at Uniondale High School, the character of Uniondale was on full display. Two years after one of the most challenging days in the history of our community—the senseless and heartbreaking murder of Lynn Vanderhall, Melissa Vanderhall, and Janel Simpson—Uniondale residents came together to pay their respects, honor memories, and move forward together.

To everyone who joined over the weekend at the Hempstead Memorial 5K, and to all those who helped organize it, I can't say enough to truly express my gratitude. It would be impossible to individually thank everyone who had a hand in holding this wonderful event, but I would be remiss if I didn't bring special attention to one key organizer of the event, Candace Murray, a young woman who survived the vicious attack that claimed the lives of Lynn, Melissa and Janel. Candace, your ability to rise up in the wake of tragedy, to persevere through such pain and then turn your attention to helping others who grieve, is nothing short of astounding. You serve as a role model not only to me, but to the entire Uniondale community.

The money raised at the Hempstead Memorial 5K and fundraiser over this weekend will help deserving young scholars in our community go to college. In this way, we ensure that the memories of Lynn, Melissa and Janel will continue to inspire for generations to come. Thank you everyone in Uniondale who participated this weekend for your character and your kindness. It truly is an honor to be a part of this community.

Sincerely,

William K. Lloyd

Superintendent