

**DATE:** November 1, 2016

**TO:** Board of Trustees

**FROM:** Darrel Robertson, Superintendent of Schools

**SUBJECT:** Vimy Ridge Academy Remembrance Ceremony

**ORIGINATOR:** Kent Pharis, Assistant Superintendent

**RESOURCE**

**STAFF:** Michael Chute, Bryan Radmanovich

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## **BACKGROUND**

Remembrance Day is set aside to remember all those who gave their lives for the freedoms and privileges we have in this country. Many Canadians have proudly served over the years to preserve peace and freedom. During the last century, Canadian soldiers have served in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Gulf War, and now the war in Afghanistan as well as in many peacekeeping operations around the world. More than 118,000 soldiers have paid the ultimate sacrifice for Canada in the name of peace and freedom.

## **CURRENT SITUATION**

This afternoon, the students from Vimy Ridge Academy would like to remember and pay tribute to all those who sacrificed their lives so that we could live in peace. We at Vimy Ridge Academy are continually reminded that the cost of freedom has been great. These students recognize and accept that they are the next generation of Canadians and that they must attend to their responsibilities and be committed to the betterment of society through the daily practice of goodwill.

The following words were taken from a speech that was found in John F. Kennedy's pocket on the day of his assassination---a speech that he never gave. He wrote:

*We...in this generation, are by destiny rather than by choice, the watchmen on the walls of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we be worthy of our power and responsibility. That we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint. And, that we may achieve, in our time and for all time, the ancient vision of: Peace on Earth and goodwill toward all man.*

Our young people have been handed a legacy. They do remember. They will not forget.

## **KEY POINTS**

The following is the sequence of events that will be followed for this afternoon's Remembrance Service (approximate time of service—20 minutes):

- *Singing of O Canada (Teacher – Mr. Geoffrey Evans)*

- *Chairman calls meeting to order, conducts business and introduces Vimy Ridge Academy*
- *Importance of Remembrance (student)*
- *In Flanders Field (Video)*
- *Reply to Flanders Field (student)*
- *Dance students perform*
- *Pittance of Time - video*
- *Playing of Last Post (recording)*
- *Lament (recording)*
- *Two Minutes of Silence*
- *Playing of Reveille (recording)*
- *Singing of "God Save the Queen" (Teacher – Mr. Geoffrey Evans)*

BR:cgh