



University Elementary School

1111 N. Russell Road Bloomington, IN 47408 812-330-7753 FAX 812-330-7770
www.mccsc.edu/university

Dr. Gretchen Morgan, Principal

11-11-16

Veterans, families, and special guests,

Thank you to those of you that joined us this morning for a meaningful convocation for our 3-6th grade students. Thank you also to those that joined us for our appreciation parade for our students in preschool-second grade. Finally, thank you to Mrs. Maggie Olivo, music teacher, for planning and facilitating these opportunities for our students.

For those of you unable to attend, I want to share our message of hope and peace. Our students exemplified this message as they sang together. Our culminating song, "Just one planet," was written by our former music teacher and can be viewed on youtube through this link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VYkfQKwiCM>

Regardless of the current political climate, I hope today is a day of unity and harmony for Americans. I hope we can stand together in appreciation for those that have served and those that continue to serve our country.

May we have faith in people and humanity. May we create hope for our future and see hope in our children. May we be intentional in developing empathy and compassion for others, most especially those we disagree with or those we do not understand. May we create love and peace in our world today, and every day.

Today, we can choose to be hopeful. I participate in creating hope when our faculty and staff enter this building every day to work with our students. We know it is a good day when we have an opportunity to positively affect the lives of our 650 children who attend University Elementary. On days in which optimism seems most challenging, all we have to do is to look at our children's faces and know that we owe it to them to be hopeful and to be the change we want to see in our world. Thank you for being a part of our University Family and Community.

With gratitude,

Dr. Gretchen Morgan



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