



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL  
GOVERNOR

February 8, 2008

Dear Superintendent:

As we both know, Valentine's Day in our schools, in particular our elementary schools, is one of the most anticipated and exciting days in the life of our school-aged children. They work so very hard in preparing all of the cards for their classmates and giving is just as much fun as receiving.

In an effort to add a little something extra to this year's Valentine's Day celebration, I am asking all of the elementary school children in our state to make an extra card or two for our veterans.

At present, we have more than 600 veterans who reside or are patients at the Connecticut Veterans Home in Rocky Hill, the VA Connecticut Healthcare System facility in West Haven, and the VA Healthcare System facility in Newington. These are men and women – someone's grandfather, mother, father, son, daughter, aunt or uncle – who have proudly served their country. They are true heroes.

As a way of honoring our veterans while creating an opportunity for our elementary school children to learn more and understand better these fine men and women and the contributions they have made to their country, I am asking for your assistance in distributing the accompanying note to all of the children currently enrolled in your elementary schools. This note provides more detailed information as to how the students can take part in this wonderful effort.

My hope is that thousands of our youngest children will sit down with their crayons and construction paper and work on their greatest Valentine's Day "masterpiece" as a way of connecting with and honoring our veterans.

Thank you for your support and assistance with this exciting endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor