

November 2008

Dear Friends,

As I was growing up, Thanksgiving meant three things; family, food, and football. We either watched football on TV as we nodded off – stomachs stuffed – or we got outside and crunched along on the frosty front yard of our Owasco, NY home. To many, Thanksgiving is this and so much more. For some the holiday is a reminder of loved ones lost, a day to remember what others have sacrificed for our benefit or simply a time to relax and to share a meal and laughs with loved ones and friends.

Happily, these traditions and memories are still intact and are lived out each Thanksgiving. It is my wish that this Thanksgiving will allow you, and those you share the day with, the opportunity to enjoy the beauty of the day and what it means to give thanks.

As the year seems to be rapidly coming to a conclusion I am filled with an indescribable appreciation at what you and so many like you have done to aid school children in New Orleans, LA, Galveston, TX and Cedar Rapids, IA. Your generosity in the midst of an economic downturn is truly amazing. Whether through monetary contributions, supply donations, and/or volunteer work, you have enabled thousands of school children to get their hands on the resources they so desperately crave in order to get an education. Quite simply, with your help, a number of students have been given the opportunity to make something of themselves. You have given them hope and a real chance to realize success in the years ahead.

On behalf of Schools Count Corporation I want to express my profound gratitude to you for all that you have done in the name of giving. You have made our mission of serving school children, caught in harms way, a most successful endeavor in 2008.

Allow me to share with you some of the sentiments of President Kennedy regarding the meaning and spirit of Thanksgiving Day. These remarks were part of his Proclamation in November of 1962, just one year before his tragic death. I hope these comments hold for you the promise of many joyous Thanksgiving days to come.

President Kennedy stated, “Let us renew that spirit by sharing the abundance of this day with those less fortunate, in our own land and abroad. Let us renew that spirit by seeking always to establish larger communities of brotherhood. And let us renew that spirit by expressing our acceptance of the limitations of human striving and by affirming our duty to strive nonetheless, as Providence may direct us, toward a better world for all mankind.”

Happy Thanksgiving

Dick Flesher