ROCKY VIEW SCHOOL DIVISION No. 41

Jon F. (Rick) McDonald
PRINCIPAL

948-5935
TELEPHONE

George McDougall Junior High
SCHOOL

Box 70, Airdrie, Alberta TOM 0B0
ADDRESS

February 19, 1986

Concord High School
Concord, New Hampshire
U.S.A.

Dear Students of Concord High School:

On behalf of the Student Council of George McDougall Junior High, I would like to express our deep sorrow over the tragic death of your teacher, Christa McAuliffe and of the other six people that were on board "The Challenger".

The news, which came to most of us when we were in school, was a great shock to the student body as well as many of the teachers. One of the teachers even brought in a radio so that we could listen to what was going on and to find out if they could possibly tell what had gone wrong. I'm sure that both students and teachers went home that night and watched every news channel they could get to see exactly how it happened. A lot of us probably saw you celebrating about your teacher going up into space and at one point we saw how much you must have liked her. From this, I see Christa as a nice person ready to take on a challenge.

We are all very sorry that it had to be Christa and the crew who died. We would have been sorry to see anybody die, but this trip had some meaning because it would have been the first citizen to go up that wasn't an astronaut. This was definitely a tragic event, but we musn't look at this as an omen, but maybe it was a way to show us that we might have become a little too careless with our space program. In the future we must try to prevent this from happening again, and I'm sure we have a good chance because look at all the good things that have come out of the space program. I'm sure that's what the seven people on board "The Challenger" would have wanted.

Sincerely,

Kari Dixon

Kari Dixon
Recording Minister