

DEAR FLORAL PARK-BELLEROSE SCHOOL COMMUNITY,

On Sunday, our nation celebrates Mother's Day, a day when mothers of all kinds (mothers, stepmothers, mothers-in-law, grandmothers, people who aren't 'technically' our mothers but who mother us) are honored for their care for the children, big and small, in their lives.

This year, how we commemorate Mother's Day will be very different. Brunch reservations haven't been made, cards and gifts may not have been purchased, and the lines between the roles we all fulfill in our personal and professional lives have all been blurred.

My wish for all of you, on the eve of Mother's Day weekend, is to use this as an opportunity to focus on why we choose to celebrate and honor those who serve in the role of mother. It isn't about the gifts (though they're nice), but instead it's about recognizing and honoring the sacrifices that mothers of all kinds make because of one small, but infinite four-letter word: LOVE.

To each of you who has the role of mother in any context, THANK YOU. You are the models of love and life from which we all learn. Some loving words of wisdom from my mom included statements like, "because I said so," and "it might be tough right now, but you're tougher."

She's right. It's tough right now, but we are tougher. (Thanks, mom!)

May Sunday be a day for reflection, appreciation, and love for anyone who "mothers" those around them.

Have a wonderful weekend, and a very special Mother's Day.



TAKE CARE,

KATHY SOTTILE