



#211-22

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Virginia Department of Education
Superintendent's Memo #211-22**

DATE: September 9, 2022
TO: Division Superintendents
FROM: Jillian Balow, Superintendent of Public Instruction
SUBJECT: **Patriot Day**

September 11, 2022, marks the 21st anniversary of the most significant terrorist attack ever to occur on American soil. We recognize this date every year as [Patriot Day](#) to remember the lives lost at the World Trade Center, on Flight 93, and at the Pentagon. Patriot Day also honors the first responders, service members, and civil servants who were integral in rescue and recovery efforts - many of whom made the supreme sacrifice as a result.

While Patriot Day falls on a Sunday this year, I encourage all schools in the Commonwealth to designate time next week for reflection and commemoration.

Many Virginia schools commemorate Patriot Day by flying the Freedom Flag, which is recognized as the Commonwealth's official 9/11 flag of remembrance. The [Freedom Flag Foundation](#) encourages schools to conduct flag raising ceremonies that include the recitation of the 10 symbolic elements of the Freedom Flag.

For more information

For additional information about the Freedom Flag, please contact the Freedom Flag Foundation at (804) 741-1117 or education@freedomflagfoundation.org.

JB/cbp