

**The original documents are located in Box 1, folder “1976/02/25 - Dedication of Dr. W.J. Creel Elementary School, Melbourne, Florida” of the Frances K. Pullen Papers at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

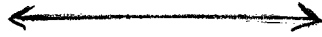
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Jinger / Thurs

314-367-7500



tour of school (very modern)  
(open space)

500 kids

3 shifts

Happy Birthday Am

Let Go Dowl

"I am somebody"  
(inspiring themselves)

emphasis on reading &  
math

K-6 grades

---

2 or 3 sentences (I  
am somebody)

Melbourne, Fla (near  
40-thous (Cape  
Atlantic coast Ky.)

outside school

Pr. Col. G. Creel Elem.  
school

1000 other kids

Wednesday

32 yr old woman prin.

---

Ms.<sup>3</sup>  
Katherine Ewald

5 yrs —

impact school

convinced the school  
bd to build them

comm. involvement in  
school — kids

picked colors

5 yrs ago

90% reading below  
grade

now 75% reading at  
grade or above

---

stress on reading &  
math

—o—  
reading at end of  
day —  
not strictly open space  
—o—

\* Susan Stafford  
Kindergarten  
—o—

finished in 1972  
—o—  
waited until dedic

---

could be done by  
some one special

3 1/2 yr dream -

Stafford trying to  
get big star -

○  
(3 to 5 minutes)



heel / 1st physician  
in area -

○  
Staff 259-3233 (d)  
(305) 723-1019 (h)

RESPONSE TO "I AM SOMEBODY" SKIT - CREEL SCHOOL

You make me feel like a very special somebody, because you've invited me to your school on such an important day.

We all have reasons for feeling like "somebody", and one of mine is that I get to meet so many nice people like you as I travel around the country.

\*\*\*



7  
Tuesday  
February 24, 1976

MRS. FORD'S REMARKS  
CREEL SCHOOL DEDICATION

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Your school is so beautiful--full of bright colors and open spaces, but the best thing about it isn't something I saw, but the enthusiasm I felt when I walked around.

I can feel how proud you are of Creel, and the feeling in a school is the most important thing of all.

So many people make this feeling possible. Two of them are your principal, Katherine Ewald, who has worked very hard during the past five years, and your kindergarten teacher, Susan Stafford, who was determined to have a dedication worthy of your enthusiasm.

I was so pleased to hear that every afternoon everyone stops to read, because reading is one of my favorite activities.

I have books that are like old friends, and I read them over and over. Sometimes books take me new places or help me learn how to do something new. Some books are full of words, others full of pictures and still others full of numbers. But all of them give us things to think about.

So today I dedicate Creel School to all of you and to what you've learned and to what you will learn here. And thank you for asking me to share this special day.

\*\*\*





Creel School Dedication, February 27, 1976

Your school is so beautiful--full of bright colors and open spaces, but the best thing about it isn't something I saw, but the enthusiasm I felt when I walked around.

I can feel how proud you are of Creel, and the feeling in a school is the most important thing of all.

So many people make this feeling possible. Two of them are your principal, Katherine Ewald, who has worked very hard during the past five years, and your kindergarten teacher, Susan Stafford, who was determined to have a dedication worthy of your enthusiasm.

I was so pleased to hear that every afternoon everyone stops to read, because reading is one of my favorite activities.

I have books that are like old friends, and I read them over and over. Sometimes books take me new places or help me learn how to do something new. Some books are full of words, others full of pictures and still others full of numbers. But all of them give us things to think about.

So today I dedicate Creel School to all of you and to what you've learned and to what you will learn here. And thank you for asking me to share this special day.

\*\*\*\*\*



The best thing in the world is when you make up just the way you want something to be and then it turns out that way. That's what the Creel School is all about. A lot of people here today---some small and some tall---thought up what they'd like a school to be, and here it is.

I think your school is absolutely beautiful---the colors and all the open spaces. But it isn't just ~~that you~~ this ~~school~~ very special building that makes your school special---' it's ~~the people~~ you. All of you who worked hard to make this school happen.

I know you want me to mention your principal, Katherine Ewald, who had a lot of ideas about this school, and your kindergarten teacher, Susan Stafford, who wanted to have just the right kind of dedication.

When you build a building---it takes lots of ~~different~~ different materials to put it ~~together~~ together---walls and doors and windows. But what makes your school really together is the children and the parents and the teachers and your good neighbors in this town---all of them together built this school.

Dedication is a very important word---and to mean it means promise. And so in dedicating this school, I'm taking all the promises you have made and kept about what you want this school to be...and we are putting them together. and saying

Dedication means to set aside for a particular purpose... and this school is a place to learn and grow. And a long time from now, when the children who go to school here now are all grown up and have children of their own--- this school will be set aside in their hearts because of what they learned here.

So today, I dedicate this ~~the~~ school not only to Dr. Creel for whom it is named and all of you ~~wh~~ here today who worked so hard to make this school work---but to all of those very special somebodies I meet inside just now---the children. A school most of all belongs to you, because it's your head that's learning and its' your heart ~~h~~ that's ~~grow~~ growing. And a school is just a building until it's filled with people who want to learn and grow. and so to you, i say---laern the numbers and words ~~h~~ to take you many places...but kepp this school always in your heart.

Creel School Dedication, Melbourne, Florida

I think one of the best things in the world is when you make up in your head just the way you want something to be, and then it turns out ~~in~~ that way. That's why I'm so pleased to be here for your dedication. I can tell that lots of people--some small and some tall, some old and some young---did lots of thinking about this school. Then you worked very hard, and now you have a very special place to ~~xxxxxx~~ learn.

When I go out on a trip, members of my staff go first to ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxx~~ make the arrangements. They've been so excited about your school that if they weren't too old, I think they <sup>would</sup> like to go here.

I've seen for myself how beautiful the school is---all the open spaces and bright colors. But I see something even more beautiful---all of the happy faces. I can tell just how much you like your school, and that makes me ~~x~~ feel very good.

You all worked very hard to make this school such a good place, but I know about two very special people you want me to mention---your principal, Katherine Ewald, who ~~xxxxxxxx~~ has so many ideas about this school, and Susan Stafford, ~~x~~ your kindergarten teacher, who just wouldn't give up until ~~xx~~ you had a special guest for the dedication.

*nr*



I'm very pleased you thought I should be that guest, because it makes ~~x~~ me feel like a ~~xxxxxxx~~ "somebody" to know you wanted me to dedicate your school.

When you build any building, it takes many different materials to make the walls, doors, windows and floors. But what makes your school special is the children, parents, teachers and neighbors who built a spirit of love and concern about making this building a real place of learning.

Dedication means to set aside for a particular purpose, and this school is dedicated to ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ helping you learn. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~

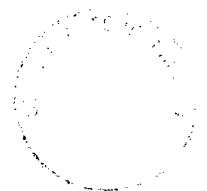
I can dedicate this building, but you have to dedicate the school, because it belongs to you. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ You can dedicate this school by keeping strong the love I feel here today and by learning so much in these books...

- reading to each other -
- enthusiasm -

(reading)

fun to be able read

- going to many places -



Draft

Creel School Dedication, February 25, 1976

This is a beautiful school full of bright colors ~~in~~ open spaces, but the best part of the school isn't something I saw, but something I felt when I walked around. I can tell how proud every one here is of Creel School.

I know alot of work has ~~gone~~ gone into this school. Your principal, ~~Suzanne Skiff~~ Katherine Ewald, has given alot of time and thought to the creation of this elementary school. Susan Stafford, your kindergarten teacher, worked very hard to have this special dedication today, and there are so many other teahcers, students and citizens who are involved in creating this special feeling.

But all of the things I've ~~heard~~ heard about Creel, my favorite is that every afternoon everyone stops to read. Reading is something that lasts a lifetime, and as you change, your reading changes.

Books to me can be a magic carpet and take you away to some place you've never been. Or books can be a tool like a hammer, because they can teach you to do things. Sometimes a book is a friend. I have books I like to read ~~again and again~~ over and over.

I like books that can be tucked in my pocket or  
a beautiful book of slick paper with lots of pictures.

This school is like a book with lots of characters  
and the plot keeps changing every year. So I dedicate  
Creel school to all of you who helped write the book  
the way it has been and the way it will be.

