



OCEANSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT
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The Oceanside Fire Department is looking to inspire local high school students to strengthen their appreciation of the historical importance of the attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

First place will be awarded \$500 and second place will earn \$250. Awards will be presented to essay contest winners at the 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at the School House Green on Monday, Sept. 11, 2023. The first-place essay will be read during the event, by the author if they so choose. Winners will be notified.

Applicants must be entering grades 9,10, 11 or 12 during the 2023-24 school year and attend an Oceanside School District School. Students must submit an original essay on the topic: "Why We Should Never Forget 9/11."

Essays will be judged on the following essay criteria:

- **Focus:** A clear, controlling idea that is strongly supported throughout the essay
- **Development:** The response is thorough and meets the length requirement of 700-1000 words
- **Organization:** The paragraphs and sentences are effectively structured
- **Originality:** The essay provides a thoughtful, original reflection on the events of Sept. 11, 2001
- **Conventions:** Proper conventions of standard English grammar are followed

Essays must include a cover sheet which includes the student's first and last name, age, grade level, school name, e-mail address, telephone number, Parent/Guardian's name and signature. The font should be 12-point, Times New Roman and the essay should be double-spaced. Any sources used should be credited using MLA format if necessary.

The deadline to submit an essay is Tuesday, September 5, 2023 at 5 p.m. Essays must be saved in word or pdf format and submitted to:

9-11essaycontest@oceansidefd.net