

1. STEPPING UP. After delivering a letter, Grady Macdougall (8) gets caught up in a conversation with a firefighter. "My favorite part was getting a better perspective of how many stairs the firefighters had to climb to get to the top of the World Trade Center," Macdougall replied. Photo by Ania Swartzendruber

2. WALKING IN UNITY. Walking side by side, Nicholas Guadalupe Davila (8), Landon Abey (8) and Daniel Andrews (8) enjoy their time at the stair climb. "My favorite part of the day was when they raised the flag and everybody was silent," stated Abey. Photo by Millie Walkenhorst

3. POWERING UP. After walking for three hours, Nizhoni Ramirez (8) and Avery Jorgensen (8) enjoy cheese pizza and some time together. "I just enjoyed the joy in their faces when they saw how appreciated they were," expressed Ramirez (8). Photo by Jordan Kirschbaum

4. DESCENDANTS. Ashlyn Munoz (8) and Angelica Porpio (8) laugh with a firefighter as he reads their letters. "When I was giving the cards we made to a firefighter, he gave me a hug, and that was pretty cool," said Munoz. Photo by Jordan Kirschbaum

5. DON'T LOOK DOWN. Two boys, Kyle Brewer (8) and Trevor Seeley (8) look down at the walk in front of them. "My favorite part was seeing the firefighters' emotions when you gave them the cards and how grateful they seemed," explained Brewer. Photo by Millie Walkenhorst

6. WATCH YOUR STEP. Audrey McCarley (8) and Abigail Curtis (8) focus on their feet as they continue their trek. "I felt proud and like we were honoring something greater than us," said McCarley. Photo by Ania Swartzendruber



Student Ella Daniel (8) embraces a firefighter in full gear after presenting her with a wholehearted letter. "My favorite part of the 9/11 stair climb was seeing three-thousand people commit to remembering those who sacrificed their life for us," Daniel said. Photo by Rachel Webster

STEP by STEP

Seventeen years after the tragic attack on the World Trade Center, thousands of people continue to remember the day. They do this by holding and attending events to pay tribute to the lives lost; including the Cimarron eighth grade class of 2018. The eighth-graders traveled to the Red Rocks Amphitheater to climb the 6,840 stairs that the brave firefighters walked on the day of September 11, 2001. They walked alongside members of the Colorado community and first responders from around the country. "My favorite part of the 9/11 stair climb was seeing all the firefighters in their gear, their dedication, and how they felt like a family," explained Catherine Louden (8). Nace Carnesi (8) on team Palomino has walked the stairs by his father's side for the past two years. Nace's father has been a firefighter at the Elizabeth Fire and Rescue for 10 years. "I think my father is very brave to be doing what he does everyday," stated Carnesi.



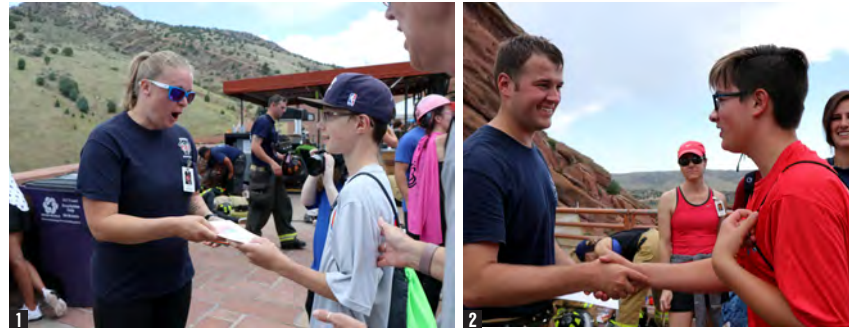
"I got to see how hard they work and how they were all one,"
- Catherine Louden (8).

MILEHIGHMAGIC

Caspian students' Allson Jones (8) and Ella Overby (8) sit in solidarity as they take in the beautiful view at Red Rocks Amphitheater. "My emotions were happiness, sadness, and gratefulness. I was grateful that there are people that put their lives in front of ours and protect us," Jones responded.



Photo by Rachel Webster



1. HANDING IT OVER. Mark Roberts (8) hands a heartfelt letter to a very appreciative first responder. "It was really cool to hand my letter to a firefighter because I got to see how grateful they were and understand what they put on the line everyday," stated Roberts. Photo by Ania Swartzendruber

2. BEING POLITE. Haven Kitsmiller (8) shakes hands with a firefighter after giving him his letter of appreciation. "I was thinking about the firefighters, so I was emotional, but happy at the same time," Kitsmiller recalled. Photo by Ania Swartzendruber

3. APPARENT APPRECIATION. Mustang student Zech Miller (8) holds his homemade card in one hand and greets a smiling first responder with the other. "It felt good because he read it and then really appreciated it," Miller stated. Photo by Ania Swartzendruber

4. SHOWING IT OFF. Lucas Cho (8) shows his gratitude by delivering a sincere letter to a first responder. "My favorite part was seeing all the firefighters there to honor the firefighters that died," Cho said. Photo by Jordan Kirschbaum



SAYING THANKS

On the day of the stair climb, September 11, 2018, Mr. Zimmerman revisited some former Cimarron students who have now assumed the roles of firefighters. "I was just so proud to see them and what they've accomplished and what they've grown up to be. It's cool when you see students inspired to be different things," Zimmerman responded.



CIMARRON LEGENDS

HOW MANY LAPS?

9	3
6	8

9 LAPS = 110 STORIES IN THE WTC