

To whom it may concern,

I write to you today as an Israeli American parent of [school] community. I wanted to let you know about an upcoming event that many Jewish and Israeli American students will likely attend. The rally will be in Washington, D.C. on November 14, 2023. This opportunity will be a once in a lifetime event, much like the historic March on Washington, and it is important that our children see the impact that our voices can have.

As you know, early on the morning of October 7<sup>th</sup> in Israel, Hamas began its assault on Israel via land, sea, and air, including over 3,000 rockets fired at civilian targets. Parents were being slaughtered in front of their children. Hundreds of young people at a music festival were stabbed and shot at point blank range by Hamas terrorists. Women were raped and then paraded around the streets of Gaza with blood gushing from their bodies. Over 240 hostages have been taken back to the Gaza Strip, including women, children, and the elderly, and their status is currently unknown.

My request is simple. I ask that you excuse the absence of my child, who plans to attend the rally on November 14. This opportunity will fulfill several hours of community service, and I can provide such appropriate documentation. In response to a once in a generation attack on the Jewish people globally, we will come together to create a once in a lifetime gathering of support. Please help make this possible for my [son/daughter] who wishes to participate by excusing the absence, with no negative repercussions.

Thank you for your cooperation during this time and please reach out if you have additional questions or would like more information on the November 14 event. I hope I can count on you to support the civic engagement and cultural awareness demonstrated by students who choose to participate.

Sincerely,  
[parent]