

A Letter to the President: Created by Susan Sutherlin

President Obama was just reelected. Imagine you are invited to talk to the president for 15 minutes in the Oval Office. What do you imagine this conversation would be like? Would you be excited about meeting him or worried you'd say or do the wrong thing? What do you imagine the president would be like in person? What do you think he would ask about you? With this in mind, think about what you would like to tell President Obama about your life. Events and news about Shortridge? Something that's happening in your neighborhood? Something about your friends or your family? Your plans for the future? Something that is on your mind right now? Something you would like him to begin to make things better? Something he didn't do so well and you would like him to try again? How his re-election made you feel? Or how you imagine his re-election made him feel?

Additionally, let the students know that they can address the president in any form they would like. These pieces may be letters, poems, stories, or even an imagined dialogue between them and the president. Ask students about current events they are aware of and try to have a dialogue before writing so they can incorporate these ideas into their works. Let the students know we are planning on sending these letters to the White House, so they will take them seriously.