Good morning, I.S 201! This is Nicole from class 851 here for Talk a Lot Tuesday on behalf of the S.E.A.L. Team.

Have you ever wanted to speak up for change? Today is National Town Meeting Day, where people in a community gather and discuss solutions for the better of the town. I know that you might be thinking that New York City doesn't really have towns, but you can still use today to meet up with anyone in your community, be it your best friends, your neighbors, or even just your family, to discuss what's best for your community!

On its own, today's celebration doesn't seem like anything special. However, it is a great opportunity to make some decisions for the future of your community. Today, important decisions can be made by the people, for the people. Sometimes, it can feel like no one is looking out for you or your neighbors or family or friends, but community-wide meetings can inspire new views on life inside and outside the community. People get the chance to share their stories. When there is an understanding between everyone, essential decisions can be made quicker and more seriously. I know I'm probably making it sound very formal and boring, but even if you're only sitting down and talking with your family today, you can still make a difference by talking out all your problems and planning out the future.

What are some important things to remember about today? First, it's okay to ask questions. In fact, it should be encouraged. Every person should be in equal standing, and no question is too silly or simple to ask. Moreover, no one person should have autonomy over one decision. Every person should be allowed to contribute their thoughts and feelings to the problem at hand.

So, with that in mind, go out and meet up with your community. It doesn't have to be anything big. You can even just sit down with your friends or family and chat about something that's been bothering you or what board games to play next weekend.

Thank you and have a Talk it Out Tuesday!

SEAL Team pledge:

We are the Dyker S.E.A.L. Team

Positivity is our dream

We teach it every day

To help others live the optimistic way

We learn to control our emotions and feelings

So, we always have effective social dealings

No stone left unturned; no person left behind

Every member of our team has the power to be kind

We spread kindness to our friends, families, and those who need a smile

When facing hardships and adversity, the S.E.A.L. Team goes the extra mile

