



From the Office of Secretary of State John A. Gale

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This release includes a list of schools that held various Veterans Day events by county. Please note the names of schools in your coverage area.

Schools receive recognition for honoring local veterans

LINCOLN – More than 220 individual schools and school districts from across the state have received special certificates from Secretary of State John Gale recognizing their efforts to honor military veterans. Participants included preschool, elementary, middle and high school students of public and nonpublic schools.

“I have actively encouraged schools to honor veterans for eight years, by hosting programs and speakers on or near Veterans Day, but I believe this is the largest number of schools that my office has ever recognized at one time,” said Gale.

In addition to performances by school groups, the variety of programs included breakfasts and luncheons for veterans and their families, special displays featuring photos of veterans, flag retirement ceremonies and the presentation of quilts to military members or relatives.

“The heartening thing is that some schools are expanding their activities beyond just Veterans Day,” said Gale. “For example, at Ralston Middle School, students collected toiletries for veterans, which were donated to the Siena Francis House in Omaha. In Gering, students at Lincoln Elementary launched a program in which they adopted a former student who is deployed with whom to correspond throughout the year.”

Gale said the value of such programs is that they have a lasting impact, both on veterans and the students who take part.

“It is important for students to understand the sacrifices of retired and active military members, as well as their families. They may not realize just how many classmates have family members who are deployed, until an event like this comes up.”

Gale got the idea to honor schools back in 2008, when he attended a middle school program in Grand Island. In addition to veterans and military members, notable speakers at schools this year included: U.S. Senator Deb Fischer, U.S. Senator Ben Sasse, Lt. Governor Mike Foley, U.S Representative Jeff Fortenberry, U.S Representative Adrian Smith and Adjutant General Daryl Bohac of the Nebraska National Guard.

Some of the unique activities that schools reported to Sec. Gale included:

- A soldier who recently returned from Afghanistan and presented Central Elementary School in McCook with a flag that he carried aboard the Blackhawk helicopter on which he served.
- Students at Brownell Talbot who held a mock draft as part of a lesson on soldiers who served in Vietnam.
- A former graduate of Pender High School who told students about his role as a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery.
- A video featuring 8th graders at Ainsworth Schools who had adopted local veterans and did special projects for them throughout the year.
- A soldier and former Alliance High School graduate who addressed students while deployed, via Skype.

“I applaud the students, educators and staff members who work so hard to put these events together,” Gale added. “It reinforces the importance of community ties and civic engagement in a way that is very interactive and hands-on.”

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List of Participating Schools

Adams County: Adams Central Public Schools, Hastings Middle School, Silver Lake Public Schools

Antelope County: Clearwater-Orchard Public Schools, Elgin Public Schools

Arthur County: Arthur County Schools

Banner County: Banner County Schools

Blaine County: Sandhills Public Schools

Boone County: Boone Central Schools, St. Edward Public Schools

Box Butte County: Alliance High School

Boyd County: Lynch Public Schools

Brown County: Ainsworth Community Schools

Buffalo County: Amherst Public Schools, Bryant Elementary, Elm Creek Public Schools, Gibbon High School, Park Elementary, Ravenna Public Schools, Zion Lutheran Schools

Burt County: Lyons-Decatur Northeast, Oakland-Craig Public Schools, Tekamah-Herman High School

Butler County: Bellwood Elementary, David City Public Schools, East Butler Public Schools

Cass County: Conestoga Public Schools, Eagle Elementary, Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools, Louisville Public Schools, Plattsmouth High School, Plattsmouth Middle School, Weeping Water Public Schools

Cedar County: Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Schools

Cherry County: Valentine Community School

Cheyenne County: Leyton Public Schools, North Elementary, Potter-Dix Public Schools

Clay County: Sandy Creek Schools, South Central NE Unified, Sutton Elementary

Colfax County: Clarkson Public Schools, Howells-Dodge Consolidated, Leigh Community Schools

Cuming County: Bancroft-Rosalie Community School, Wisner-Pilger Public Schools

Custer County: Arnold Public Schools, Broken Bow Public Schools,

Dakota County: Covington Elementary, Homer Community School, South Sioux City Middle School

Dawson County: Gothenberg Public Schools, Lexington High School, Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Public Schools

Deuel County: South Platte Public Schools

Dixon County: Allen Consolidated Schools, Ponca Public Schools, Wakefield Community School

Dodge County: Fremont Senior High School, Howard Elementary, North Bend Central Public Schools, Scribner-Snyder Community Schools

Douglas County: Ackerman Elementary, Brownell Talbot School, Castelar Elementary, Concordia Academy, Crestridge Magnet Center, Disney Elementary, Elkhorn High School, Elkhorn South High School, Field Club Elementary, Fire Ridge Elementary, Hillrise Elementary, Hillside Elementary, Holling Heights Elementary, Joslyn Elementary, Karen Western Elementary, Liberty Elementary, Liftgate Christian School, Manchester Elementary, Mary Our Queen, McMillian Magnet Center, Meadows Elementary, Montclair Elementary, Neihardt Elementary, Pine Creek Elementary, Ralston Middle School, Rockbrook Elementary, Sagewood Elementary, Seymour Elementary, Springville Elementary, St. Patrick's Catholic School, West Bay Elementary, West Dodge Station, Wildewood Elementary

Dundy County: Dundy County Stratton High School

Fillmore County: Fillmore Central Schools, Shickley Public Schools

Frontier County: Eustice-Farnam Public Schools, Maywood Public Schools, Medicine Valley Public Schools

Furnas County: Arapahoe Public Schools, Southern Valley Elementary

Gage County: Beatrice High School, Beatrice Middle School, Freeman Public Schools, Southern Jr/Sr High School

Garden County: Garden County Schools

Garfield County: Burwell Public Schools

Grant County: Hyannis Area Schools

Greeley County: Central Valley Elementary, Central Valley Public Schools, Riverside Public Schools, Spalding Academy

Hall County: Centura Public Schools, JR Barr Middle School, Starr Elementary, Walnut Middle School, West Lawn Elementary, Wood River Rural Schools

Hamilton County: Aurora Public Schools, Hampton Public School

Harlan County: Alma Public Schools

Hayes County: Hayes Center Schools

Holt County: Chambers Public Schools, Ewing Public Schools, O'Neill Public Schools, Stuart Public Schools, West Holt Public School

Hooker County: Mullen Public Schools

Howard County: Elba Public Schools

Johnson County: Johnson County Central Public Schools, Sterling Public Schools

Kearney County: Axtell Community School, Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools

Keith County: Prairie View Public Schools

Keya Paha County: Keya Paha County Schools

Knox County: Bloomfield Community Schools, Niobrara Public School, Verdigre Public Schools

Lancaster County: Fredstrom Elementary, Lincoln Northeast High School, Lux Middle School, Malcolm Public Schools, Norris School District 160, Raymond Central High School, St. John the Apostle School, Trinity Lutheran School, Waverly Middle School

Lincoln County: Eisenhower Elementary School, Hershey Public Schools, Jefferson Elementary School, Maxwell Public Schools

Logan County: Stapleton Public Schools

Loup County: Loup County Public Schools

Madison County: Battle Creek Public Schools, Newman Grove Schools, Norfolk High School, Norfolk Jr. High School

McPherson County: McPherson County Schools

Merrick County: Central City Middle School, Palmer Public Schools

Morrill County: Bridgeport Public Schools

Nance County: Twin River Public Schools

Nuckolls County: Superior Public Schools

Otoe County: Bennet Elementary/Palmyra District OR 1, Nebraska City Public Schools, Palmyra High School, Syracuse Middle/High School

Pawnee County: Lewiston Consolidated Schools

Perkins County: Perkins County Schools

Phelps County: Bertrand Public Schools, Loomis Public School

Pierce County: Osmond Community Schools, Plainview Public Schools

Platte County: Lakeview Community Schools, Lost Creek Elementary

Polk County: Osceola Public Schools, Shelby-Rising City Public Schools

Red Willow County: Central Elementary School, McCook Elementary School, McCook Junior High

Richardson County: Falls City Public Schools

Rock County: Rock County Public Schools

Saline County: Crete Middle School, Dorchester Public Schools, Friend Public Schools, Tri County Public Schools, Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools

Sarpy County: Anderson Grove Elementary, Birchcrest Elementary, Gretna Public Schools, Mission Middle School, Palisades Elementary, Parkview Heights Elementary, Peter Sarpy Elementary, Platteview Central Jr. High School, Platteview High School, Springfield Platteview Community Schools, St. Mary's School

Saunders County: Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools, Cedar Bluffs Public Schools, Raymond Central Elementary

Scotts Bluff County: Cedar Canyon Elementary, Geil Elementary, Gering Jr. High School, Lincoln Elementary, Lincoln Heights Elementary, Mitchell Public Schools

Seward County: Centennial Public School, Milford Jr/Sr High School, Seward Schools

Sheridan County: Gordon-Rushville High School

Sherman County: Loup City Public Schools

Stanton County: Stanton Community School

Thayer County: Bruning-Davenport USD, Deshler Public Schools, Thayer Central Community Schools

Thurston County: Pender Public Schools, Winnebago Public School

Valley County: Ord Public Schools

Washington County: Arlington Public Schools, Fort Calhoun Community Schools, Otte Blair Middle School

Wayne County: Wayne Community Schools

York County: McCool Junction Public Schools, York Public Schools

