

- ◆ **Would you like to help your students honor the veterans of your community?**

My office offers a plan and the assistance to do just that!

Teachers at Barr Middle School in Grand Island developed a very successful “Honor a Veteran” program and have used the format for several years. I have been so impressed by it I have asked their permission to offer an outline of what they do to other schools as a suggested program. They agreed to help and to co-sponsor our efforts. In addition, staff in my office and Barr Middle School will assist with advice to you for plans and arrangements.



- ◆ **How does the program work?**

Teachers ask their students to list the name of veterans they know. They can be family members or friends and can be living or deceased. They may also be currently serving in the military. Names are limited to 3 or 4 per student. **(A sample of this form will be made available to you for use.)**

- ◆ **How would these veterans be honored?**

Each student would be asked to invite the veteran(s) they will name to a ceremony held on Veterans Day or a day designated by the school. During the ceremony the veterans, along with their sponsoring students, are asked to stand and are recognized. After the ceremonies, there can be coffee and cookies to allow personal interaction for the veterans and their families.

- ◆ **What does the ceremony consist of?**

Ideas from Barr Middle School include the presentation of colors, the national anthem, Pledge of Allegiance, the history of Veterans Day given by students, vocal or band patriotic music, a speaker, possibly a short video or slide show addressing the sacrifices of veterans, and acknowledgement of the veterans present. It is planned for a one hour program. **(We can provide program details.)**

- ◆ **Who would I get to speak?**

My office has a Speakers Bureau listing contact information for individuals that would be appropriate for this ceremony. Your speaker might also be a local veteran who has recently returned from deployment.



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