MEMORANDUM
Culbertson Elementary School
James F. Orwig, Principal

VETERAN'S DAY 2012

TO: All Faculty and Staff
FROM: Mr. Orwig
DATE: November 2, 2012
RE: Veteran's Day

In conjunction with our “Grandparents and Goodies program we will celebrate Veteran's Day on Friday, November 9, 2012. The program will last approximately 45 minutes and will be initiated via the public address system following the morning announcements. Your students should stand in the hallway just outside your classroom in single file as the “Colors” are presented and the playing of Patriotic songs. As the Color Guard passes by your students, please file in behind them as we proceed to the cafeteria. (NO CHAIRS)

Staff is requested to park on the grass area located behind the 4th grade classroom wing. This will allow more parking spaces on the hard surfaces for the grandparents.

There is no obligation on your part during the grandparent visitation time. This is a very informal event and the children will guide their grandparents through the school and classroom. I will be using the intercom system to guide the morning along.

The program will be held in conjunction with the morning announcements and will be conducted as outlined below:

PART #1 – conducted while students are standing outside of their classrooms and making their way to the gym.

➢ Presentation of “Colors”

➢ Playing of Patriotic songs over the PA system as the students make their way to the cafeteria.

PART #2 – after all of the students have entered the cafeteria:

➢ Pledge of Allegiance – pledged school-wide while the students are standing in the cafeteria.

➢ Singing of The National Anthem – “The Star Spangled Banner”

➢ Playing of “America Tis of Thee” (Mrs. Mongan)

➢ Remain standing for the singing of: “You’re A Grand Old Flag” (sing one time)

➢ Veteran's Day - How It Was Named: – part #1 read by;

Student assigned: Cole Thiruvelvam
Poem - "Veteran's Day", by Taylor Weinman: read by;

Student assigned: Maggie Dietrich

“This Land is Your Land” – to be sung by all to include grandparents (Mrs. Jankauskas)

PART #3 – following the singing of “This Land is Your Land”:

Veteran's Day - How It Was Named: – part #2 read by;

Student assigned: Shaeley Crocetti

Poem - "Heroes" by Jared Jenkins: read by; **(SLIDE SHOW)**

Student assigned: Dylan Neilson

“God Bless the USA” by Lee Greenwood – closing tribute to our Vets.  
(Sung twice; first by our student ensemble then by the entire audience)

Poem - "Heroes Die for Me" by Jamie Burns read by;

Student assigned: Jacob Blair

PART #4 – Closing

Closing Remarks by Mr. Orwig

Conclusion of program: “America. The Beautiful” to be sung by all (2 times)

Students are dismissed to report back to their classrooms.

*Piano accompanying by Mrs. Jankauskas and instrumental participation by Mrs. Mongan – thank you!
PART I

Sunday, November 11, is Veterans Day. Veterans Day was first established in the United States as Armistice Day to celebrate the end of World War I. In 1954 the national holiday was changed to Veterans Day and President Dwight Eisenhower called on all Americans to recognize the bravery and sacrifices of America's veterans.

Since then, Veterans Day has been observed as a national holiday, but like so many other things today it has lost its meaning. Veterans Day is not about supporting war or about supporting a certain political party or agenda. Veterans Day is about the veterans. It is about honoring their service for our country. Veterans Day is about recognizing that these brave men and women are ready at any time to serve America when it is in danger.

In World War I, America's veterans answered the call to fight the war to end all wars. They fought to keep freedom and liberty in countries a world away from home.

In World War II, America's veterans stormed the beaches of Normandy. They fought for the boys of Pearl Harbor, for the defenseless in Europe and for freedom. They raised the flag at Iwo Jima and brought peace and freedom back to the world.

In Korea, they fought for the ideals and beliefs that founded America. They fought to preserve what their comrades had fought for in WWII.

In Vietnam, veterans answered the call to fight for America's way of life. Even as those they fought for turned their backs on them, they held their heads high and fought bravely for God and country.

In Desert Storm, they fought once again to prevent the innocent from being destroyed by the evil aggression of a mad man.

In Afghanistan and in Iraq, America's veterans fight against a faceless evil, one that is bent on opposing freedom and democracy at all costs. Now, perhaps more than ever they are being tested and are prevailing.

Across America, veterans and their families and friends will gather in American Legion Posts and Veterans of Foreign Wars Posts to remember. It is the duty of citizens to thank them. That is all Veterans Day is about. It's not about elaborate parades or ceremonies, or even about helping veterans. Veterans Day is about honoring the sacrifices of America's veterans and of their families.
Veterans Day
By Taylor Weinman

Representing the red white and blue
The colors of our flag stand out proud and true.
The white stars on blue background with red and white stripes
Remind me of these veterans, who all risked their lives.
Just so the people of the U.S. could all live in peace and be free
These are the heroes that represent you and me.
They stood up strongly, untied as one,
And kept up the fighting until they were done.
And although some have fallen, and lost their lives in war,
We pray for each one of them.
And now that their souls live on forever more,
Above in God's hands.
They watch over our nation,
And give us strength to triumph over others with strong anticipation.
So every year, when this day comes by,
Think of all the veterans that while fighting, had to die.
And remember that they were people
With fire and passion embedded inside.
They die for this country,
So remember and honor them with pride
PART II

America’s gratitude for the brave soldiers who fought to preserve our democracy and way of life knows no limits. As we honor their bravery on Veterans Day, we remember the countless sacrifices they made to keep our nation safe, and their valiant work in preserving freedom and democracy around the world.

In a Veterans’ Day statement, President Obama said that “America was founded on the principles of liberty, opportunity, and justice for all, and on Veterans Day we recognize the men and women of our Armed Forces who have valiantly defended these values throughout our nation’s history.”

Veterans’ Day is perhaps one of the most important occasions we can celebrate each year. This is the time when we reflect upon the ideals that we treasure as Americans: the basic liberties guaranteed by the Bill of Rights, ethnic, cultural, and political diversity, and economic opportunity for all. Though we often take these freedoms for granted, the thousands of immigrants who reach our shores each year yearning for the American dream understand the importance of freedom.

Protecting our citizens from harm from a hostile nation means protecting our American values of freedom and democracy. Everyone who values the freedoms and liberties we take for granted should pause on Veterans’ Day to thank our friends and loved ones for their sacrifices in defending our right to be free. Our veterans represent the best of America, and they deserve the best America can give them.

Answering the highest call of duty, these loyal men and women have defended our country and aided the advance of democracy throughout the world. They have served in hostile regions far away from the comfort of their homes.

In honor of these heroes, we celebrate November 11 as Veterans Day. They know about unconditional commitment. Without questioning authority, veterans served because of their commitment to duty and country. They knew that the nation counted on them to honor this commitment and when called upon they took action!

As stated by President John F. Kennedy’s “our veterans have given much more to our country than they have asked for in return.”

Veterans are an inspiration for all Americans, and it is important to remember them on this day of tribute. I urge you to display, proudly, your citizenship as an American to show appreciation and thanks for our Veteran’s dedication to our country .......... they are our HEROES!
Heroes
By Jared Jenkins

In war, there are lives risked and lives taken
Men and women giving their best to defend what they love
They defend their country
Their honor
Their people

Some call them soldiers
Others call them heroes

Our veterans have risked their lives for us
They have lived through defeat and fought with honor
Many have killed
And regret doing so

For every life, there is a soul
For every soul, there is a life
For those who have died, we show great appreciation and
remembrance
For those who live, along with them live the horrific memories of
battle
Some, memories of defeat
Some, memories of victory

Our veterans were more than soldiers
They were, and still are heroes
Heroes Die for Me
by Jamie Burns

I am the flag
I look down upon this land called America.
I have been here since this great nation was formed,
I have seen each battle fought
I have seen the heroes die for me, for my country

Thank you all those of you
Who have kept me flying in the breeze
Keeping this country united as one.
Thank you those of you who have sacrificed your lives,
Giving up all that I may still fly,
Watching over the citizens of this nation.
Thank you all those of you who have ever fought,
I am ever grateful for you.

You risked everything; you faced death each day,
Faced fear, faced many terrible things.
And because of you, my thank yous' ring out,
Filling the sky, echoing from the hills
They find their way to the graveyards,
And to all of you still living,
You are a special kind of person.
To anyone who has ever served this country,
And to those serving today
Thank you.

As I watch life from atop my flagpole,
As I think of all you've done,
My feelings become too powerful for words
And all I can say is thank you.
VETERANS’ DAY
(Closing Remarks)

As citizens, we have a responsibility to educate each other on the contributions and sacrifices veterans have made throughout the years. It is important to our country that we remember those men and women, past and present, who fought and who currently serve to protect our freedom and the freedom of others.

This year marks the 59th Annual Veterans’ Day celebration. Today we recognize America’s 20 million living veterans. Veterans Day takes place on the 11th of November each year.

Pride in our veterans should be as strong as our belief in freedom and as enduring as our history as a free people. Today, take a moment to show your appreciation for those who have served honorably. Such is the case for several of our grandparents visiting with us today. Would you please rise … for it will be our honor to recognize you with a round of applause.

Every Veterans Day, the President of the United States places a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers to honor those who have fought and died in service to our country.

Let’s join together in celebrating this year’s Veterans’ Day by honoring and remembering those soldiers whose selfless sacrifices ensure the freedoms we enjoy today.

Thank you for your attendance and attention and let’s conclude our program by singing; “America the Beautiful” which we will sing two times.

May God Bless America!