**Veteran’s day program   2017**

 Written by Jan Courtney

ORDER OF SONGS AND STUDENTS SPEAKING

ENTRANCE:  ALL AMERICAN ME, AND YOU

                        YOU’RE A GRAND OLD FLAG

**STUDENTS 1-6   SPEAK**

                        STAR SPANGLED BANNER

**STUDENTS 7-9   SPEAK**

                        PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

STUDENTS 10-30   SPEAK

FLANDERS FIELDS AFTER SPEAKERS 21,22,23

SLIDE SHOW AND SINGING “PROUD OF OUR VETERANS”

**SPEAKER 31**

AMERICA THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD

**SPEAKERS 32-39**

SERVICE SONGS

TRIBUTE TO FALLEN SOLDIERS

CANDLE CEREMONY

SINGING OF “THINKING OF YOU.”

PLAYING OF TAPS

CALL UP STUDENTS TO GIVE THEIR VETS A FLOWER AND SING

“GOD BLESS AMERICA”

MARCH OUT TO ALL AMERICA ME AND YOU

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**STUDENT 1**              WELCOME TO OUR ANNUAL VETERAN’S DAY PROGRAM.  WE HAVE BEEN WAITING A YEAR FOR THIS AND WE ARE PROUD TO WELCOME ALL OUR VETERANS.

**STUDENT  1**            WE GATHER HERE TODAY TO HONOR AND THANK ALL OF AMERICA’S VETERANS.

**STUDENT 2**            ON SEPTEMBER 14, 1814 , FRANCIS SCOTT KEY SAW THE AMERICAN FLA WAVING IN THE BREEZE AFTER THE DEFEAT AT FORT MCHENRY.

**STUDENT 3**            THE SIGHT OF OUR FLAG STANDING TALL IN THE AFTERMATH OF WAR INSPIRED HIM TO WRITE A POEM TITLED, “DEFENSE OF FORT MCHENRY.”

**STUDENT 4**            LATER, THIS POEM WAS SET TO MUSIC AND THE NAME WAS CHANGED TO “THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER.”

**STUDENT 5**              ON MARCH 3RD, 1931 CONGRESS PROCLAIMED “THE STARSPANGLED BANNER” AS OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM.

**STUDENT 6**            PLEASE STAND, REMOVE HEAD COVER, AND PLACE YOUR RIGHT HAND ON YOUR HEART OF THE SINGING OF THE “STAR SPANGLED BANNER.”

ALL SING “STAR SPANGLED BANNER”

**STUDENT 7**              PLEASE REMAIN STANDING..  TO HELP SCHOOL CHILDREN

HONOR AMERICA AND THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES, FRANCIS BELLAMY WROTE “THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE” IN 1892

**STUDENT 8**            SOME WORDS HAVE BEEN ADDED SINCE THE ORIGINAL PLEDGE WAS WRITTEN.

**STUDENT 9**            IN 1954  PRESIDENT EISENHOWER INCOURAGED CONGRESS TO ADD THE WORDS “UNDER GOD”  CREATING THE 31 WORD PLEDGE WE SAY TODAY.  I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE……

**STUDENT 10**            VETERAN’S DAY IS A VERY IMPORTANT HOLIDAY IN OUR COUNTRY, FOR IT HONORS ALL MEN AND WOMEN, LIVING AND DEAD, WHO BRAVELY SERVED OUR COUNTRY IN ON THE THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES.

**STUDENT 11**            IN 1918  ON THE 11TH HOUR OF THE 11TH DAY IN THE 11TH MONTH, THE WORLD REJOICED AND CELEBRATED.

**STUDENT 11**            AFTER FOUR YEARS OF BITTER WAR THE ALLIED POWERS SIGNED A CEASE-FIRE AGREEMENT CALLED AN ARMISTICE.

**STUDENT 12**            THIS ACTION BROUGHT WORLD WAR I TO AN END.

**STUDENT 13**            NOVEMBER 11, 1919 WAS SET ASIDE AS ARMISTICE DAY IN THE UNITED STATES, TO REMEMBER  THE SACRIFICES THAT OUR ARMED FORCES MADE DURING THE TIME OF WORLD WAR I.

**STUDENT 14**            ARMISTICE DAY OFFICIALLY RECEIVED ITS NAME IN THE UNITED STATES IN 1926.

**STUDENT 15**            TWELVE YEARS LATER ARMISTICE DAY BECAME A NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

**STUDENT 16**            THEN IN 1938, TWENTY YEARS AFTER WORLD WAR I, IT BECAME A FEDERAL HOLIDAY.

**STUDENT 17**            IN 1953 THE TOWNSPEOPLE IN EMPORIA, KANSAS, CALLED THE HOLIDAY VETERANS DAY.

**STUDENT 18**            THEY DID THIS SO THAT ALL OF THE VETERANS LIVING IN THEIR TOWN COULD BE HONORED FOR THEIR SERVICE AND THEIR SACRIFICES.

**STUDENT 19**            BEGINNING IN 1954, THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED NOVEMBER 11TH AS VETERANS DAY TO HONOR ALL THE VETERANS WHO SERVED OUR COUNTRY.

**STUDENT 20**         SO EVERY YEAR ON NOVEMBER 11TH WE HONOR THE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN WHO MAKE THIS COUNTRY THE “LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE.”

**STUDENT 21**          IN FLANDERS FIELD IS A WAR POEM WRITTEN BY A  CANADIAN DOCTOR , JOHN MCCRAE, ON MAY 3 . 1915  DURING WORLD WAR I AFTER PRESIDING OVER A FUNERAL OF A FELLOW SOLDIER.

**STUDENT 22**  DR. MC CRAE, WASN’ SATISFIED WITH WHAT HE HAD WRITTEN AND THREW IT AWAY. THE POEM WAS RETREIVED BY HIS MEN AND HAS BECOME ONE OF THE MOST FAMOUS POEMS OF WORLD WAR I.

**STUDENT 23**   OUR FIFTH GRADERS WILL RECITE THE POEM, “IN FLANDERS FIELD.”

**STUDENT  24**WE CAN NEVER FULLY REPAY OURT DEBT OF GRATITUDE TO OVER 650,000 AMERICAN   SERVICE MEMBERS WHO HAVE DIED IN BATTLE.

**STUDENT 25**WE CAN’T REPAY OVER 1.4 MILLION SERVICE MEMBERS WHO WERE WONDED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

**STUDENT 26**WE CAN, HOWEVER, RECOGNIZE, HONOR, AND THANK MORE THAN 25 MILLION VETERANS STILL LIVING TODAY.

**STUDENT 27**   TODAY IT IS OUR PRIVILEGE AND HONOR TO SAY “THANK YOU” TO ALL OF AMERICAN’S VETERANS.

**STUDENT  28**   TO LET THEM KNOW THAT WE APPRECIATE THEM FOR THEIR SERVICE AND HONOR THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR THEIR SACRIFICES.

**STUDENT  29**   PLEASE SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE PICTURES OF VETERAN’S WHO ARE OUR PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS OR GREAT GRANDPARENTS.

**STUDENTS 30**    MRS. COURTNEY WILL TELL YOU FIRST ABOUT THE  FOUR SLIDES WHICH  BELONG TO ELIJAH WOODY’S FAMILY..

**STUDENT 31**   WE ARE SO HAPPY TO SING THIS NEXT SONG EVEN THOUGH ITS COMPOSER WAS UNABLE TO ATTEND.  MR. FROSTY LAWSON WROTE THIS SONG 17 YEARS AGO RIGHT AFTER 9/11.  AMERICA, THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD.

**STUDENT 32**  THE PRICE OF FREEDOM IS HIGH.  WE CANNOT AFFORD TO FORGET THOSE WHO ARE WILLING TO PAY FOR IT.

**STUDENT 33**   FORMER PRESIDENT GEORGE H. BUSH ONCE SAID, “MEMORY IS THE FIRST MEASURE OF GRATITUDE.  THOSE WHO ARE TRULY GRATEFUL DO NOT FORGET THE SERVICE THAT HAS BEEN RENDERED FOR THEIR SAKE.”

**STUDENT  34**    AND JOHN F. KENNEDY PROCLAIMED, “AS WE EPRESS OUR GRATITUDE, WE MUST NEVER FORGET THAT THE HIGHEST APPRECIATION IS NOT TO UTTER WORDS, BUT TO LIVE BY THEM.”

**STUDENT 35**   WE NEED TO DO OUR BEST TO MAKE OURSELVES WORTHY OF OUR VETERANS’ COURAGE AND SACRIFICE.

**STUDENT 36**   WE NEED TO LIVE WITH THE SPORIT BY WHICH OUR NATION’S VETERANS HAVE SO NOBLY SERVED.

**STUDENT 37**    THE SPIRIT OF COURAGE.

**STUDENT 38**   THE SPIRIT OF HONOR.

**STUDENT 39**   THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA.