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## (Neb.)-Students Honor Local Veterans With Unique Programs And Events



By: Roxie Graham-Marski Posted at: 12/11/2012 10:03 AM

(LINCOLN)-More than 200 Nebraska schools are being recognized by Secretary of State John Gale for hosting Veterans Day events this year. Teachers say these events continue to be well received by students, their communities, and most importantly, local veterans.

Many schools invite servicemen and women to share their experiences during those programs. "They can be quite moving for those in attendance," said Sec. Gale. "It's really something for those veterans to see how young people respond to their stories. It's a very public way for our communities to say, 'Thank you.'"

Gale was invited to speak at two assemblies this year at Fremont High School in Fremont and Irving Middle School in Lincoln. "I'm always inspired by the variety of programs that the schools put together. We provide a detailed and helpful template that schools can follow on our web site. But many schools go above and beyond in their planning. My office heard from several schools that served either breakfast or lunch to the veterans who attended their programs."

Gale sponsors the Honor a Veteran program, which encourages schools to host Veterans Day events as a way to promote civics education as well as recognize the contributions and sacrifices of veterans. "In 2011, 157 schools took part in the program," explained Gale. "This year we saw quite a leap in participation. That's very encouraging, and I hope that even more schools will see the benefit of organizing these events." Veterans Day programs can include the presentation of the colors, the national anthem, the Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic music, student readings and a keynote address. Those organized this year involved other elements as well. SDA Public Schools in Syracuse awarded checks to students who had winning entries in a Voice of Democracy Essay Contest sponsored by the VFW. The program at Madison High School featured a student-made video. At Elm Creek Public Schools, students were treated to a demonstration by military dogs and their handlers from Offutt Air Force Base.

"Less than one percent of our citizens serve in our armed forces. They are the backbone for defending our nation as well as promoting freedom in the world," said Gale. We should say 'Thank you' every chance we get both to veterans and to those in active service."

Gale sent certificates of appreciation to each school and classroom that notified his office that it held a 2012 Veterans Day event.

### **Schools Holding Events**

Adams County: Hastings Middle School, Hawthorne Elementary School, Silver Lake Public School

Antelope County: Neligh-Oakdale Public Schools, Unified #1 District

### **Arthur County: Arthur County Schools**

Boone County: Boone Central High School; Boone Central Middle School, St. Edward Public School

### **Box Butte County: Alliance Public Schools**

Boyd County: Lynch Public School, West Boyd School

Brown County: Ainsworth Community Schools

Buffalo County: Gibbon Public Schools, Kearney Public Schools, Shelton Public School, Horizon Middle School, Sunrise Middle School, Elm Creek Public Schools

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

Butler County: East Butler Public Schools

Cass County: Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools, Louisville Public Schools, Plattsmouth Community School, Weeping Water Public Schools

Cedar County: Coleridge Community School, Randolph Public Schools, Wynot Public School

Chase County: Chase County Schools

**Cherry County: Cody-Kilgore Unified School District, German Settlement School, Goose Creek Rural School, Valentine High School, Wood Lake School, Cutcomb Lake County School**

**Cheyenne County: Potter-Dix Schools**

Clay County: Harvard Public School

Colfax County: Howells-Dodge Public Schools, North Bend Central Public Schools, Leigh Community School

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

Custer County: Anselmo-Merna School, Arnold Public Schools, Callaway Public School, Sargent Public School, Broken Bow Middle & High School

Dakota County: Homer Community Schools

**Dawes County: Chadron Public Schools, Crawford Public Schools**

Dawson County: Cozad Public Schools, Gothenburg Public Schools

**Deuel County: Creek Valley Schools**

Dixon County: Ponca Public Schools, Wakefield Community School

Dodge County: Johnson Crossing Academic Center, North Bend Central Public Schools, Scribner-Snyder Community Schools, Fremont Senior High School

Douglas County: Bennington Public Schools, Douglas County West Community Schools, Elkhorn High School, Elkhorn Public Schools, Millard Public Schools, Ralston Schools, Lewis & Clark Middle School, West Dodge Station, Hillrise Elementary School, Fire Ridge Elementary School, Holling Heights Elementary, Kiewit Middle School, Cottonwood Elementary School, Westside Community Schools, Oakdale Elementary School, Paddock Road Elementary School, Westbrook Elementary School, Swanson Elementary School, Westside Middle School, Hillside Elementary School, Loveland Elementary School, Rockbrook Elementary School, Prairie Lane School, Sunset Hills School, Westgate School, Westside High School

Dundy County: Dundy County Stratton Schools

Fillmore County: Fillmore Central Schools, Exeter-Milligan Schools

Franklin County: Franklin High School

Frontier County: Eustis-Farnam Public Schools, Maywood Public Schools

Furnas County: Cambridge Public School, Southern Valley Elementary School

Gage County: Beatrice Middle School, Beatrice High School, Freeman Public Schools

**Garden County: Garden County Schools**

Greeley County: Greeley-Wolbach Public School

Hall County: Centura Public Schools, Doniphan-Trumbull Public School, Walnut Middle School, Wood River Rural Schools, Grand Island Public Schools, Starr Elementary School, West Lawn Elementary School, Howard Elementary School, Grand Island Senior High

Hamilton County: Hampton Public School, Aurora Public Schools

Harlan County: Alma Public Schools

Hitchcock County: Hitchcock County Schools

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

Hooker County: Mullen Public Schools

Howard County: St. Paul Public School

Jefferson County: Fairbury Public Schools, Meridian Public Schools, Tri County Public School

Johnson County: Nemaha Valley Schools, Sterling Public Schools

Kearney County: C. L. Jones Middle School, Wilcox-Hildreth Public School, Axtell Community School

**Keith County: Ogallala Elementary Schools, Ogallala Public Schools**

**Kimball County: Kimball Public Schools**

Knox County: Creighton Community Schools, Niobrara Public Schools, SanteeCommunitySchools  
Lancaster County: District 145 (Waverly), Lux Middle School, Fredstrom Elementary  
Lincoln County: Brady Public Schools, Hershey Public Schools, Sutherland Public School, Wallace School District, Maxwell Public Schools  
Logan County: Stapleton Public Schools  
Loup County: Loup City Public Schools, Loup County Schools  
Nance County: Fullerton High School  
Nemaha County: Auburn Public Schools, Johnson-BrockSchools  
Nuckolls County: Superior Junior & Senior High  
Madison County: Battle Creek Public School, Bel Air Elementary School, Elkhorn Valley Schools, Madison Public Schools, Norfolk High School, Norfolk Middle School, Washington Elementary School, Woodland Park Elementary  
McPherson County: McPherson County Schools  
Merrick County: Palmer Public Schools  
**Morrill County: Bridgeport Public Schools**  
Otoe County: Nebraska City Public Schools, SDA Public Schools, District OR-1 Public Schools  
Pawnee County: Lewiston Consolidated Schools, Pawnee City Public Schools  
Perkins County: Grant Elementary School  
Phelps County: Bertrand Community School, Holdrege Public Schools  
Pierce County: Pierce Public Schools, Plainview Public Schools  
Platte County: Lost Creek Elementary School, Columbus Public Schools  
Polk County: Cross County Community School, Osceola Public School, Shelby-Rising City Public Schools, High Plains Community Schools  
Richardson County: Falls City Public Schools  
Rock County: Rock County Schools  
Saline County: Crete Middle School, Dorchester Public School, Friend Public Schools, Wilber Clatonia Public Schools  
Sarpy County: Springfield-Platteview Community Schools  
Saunders County: Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools, Cedar Bluffs Public School, Yutan Junior & Senior High School, Heartland Community Schools, McCool Junction Public School  
**Scotts Bluff County: Gering Public Schools, Morrill Public Schools, Northfield Elementary, Lincoln Elementary School**  
Seward County: Milford Public Schools, Seward Public Schools  
**Sheridan County: Gordon-Rushville Schools, Hay Springs Public Schools**  
Stanton County: Stanton Community Schools, Stanton Elementary School  
Thayer County: Bruning Public School, Bruning-Davenport Unified School District, Deshler Public Schools, Thayer Central Community Schools, Thayer Central Community Schools  
Thurston County: Pender School District, Walthill Public School, Winebago Public School  
Valley County: North Loup-Scotia Schools  
Washington County: Arlington Public Schools, Blair Community Schools  
Wayne County: Wayne Community Schools, Winside Public School  
Webster County: Blue Hill Community School, Red Cloud Community Schools  
Wheeler County: Wheeler Central Schools  
York County: York Middle School

--Office of Secretary of State John Gale