

HOPATCONG BOROUGH SCHOOLS
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Hopatcong, NJ - Tulsa Trail School Honors Veterans

Cynthia Randina, Hopatcong Superintendent of Schools, Announces -

On Wednesday, November 12th, Tulsa Trail Elementary School honored their distinguished veterans with a ceremony fit for heroes at Hopatcong High School. The program included speeches by teachers Mr. Michael Neu and Mrs. Michelle Tumminelli and principal Mr. Brian Byrne, songs sung by the third grade chorus, directed by music teacher Mr. Mendez, and Mrs. Pappa's class performing God Bless America in sign language.

Students also presented awards to the veterans, which were created in art class with Mrs. Britt Huss. Third grade students Emilia Turkington, Gabriel Wecht, Olivia Sachse, and Rachel Meyer-Pflug read speeches they wrote about what Veterans Day meant to them. There was also a video presentation created by Mrs. Tumminelli entitled "America Rocks", which included photos of friends and family members of students and staff, dating back to WWII. After the program, children got to meet in smaller groups with the veterans, and hear about their specific experiences, their service, their jobs, their travels, and their education. They were able to ask questions, see the equipment and pictures the veterans brought in, and show their appreciation.

The day was concluded with a luncheon provided by the Hopatcong Education Association, and organized by Mrs. Neu for the veterans. It was a wonderful experience for all of the children, and an opportunity for them to connect with the community and understand what this special holiday is about. The veterans truly appreciated being amongst their children and grandchildren, and all of the students, and enjoyed sharing their experiences with the children of Tulsa Trail.

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If you would like more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Cynthia Randina, Superintendent of Schools, please call JoAnne Murray at 973-398-8801 or email at jmmurray@hopatcongschools.org.