

May 2, 2017

Dear OLSS families,

I am very excited to share details about our upcoming all-school patriotic program scheduled for Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Please let me know if you have any questions after reading the following information:

**PROGRAM DATE AND TIME: Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m.** All students should report to their classrooms at 6:15. The program will last under an hour. This performance involves all students, grades Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**STUDENT DRESS: Girls:** A dress, skirt, or dress pants with a dressy shirt or blouse, in patriotic colors if possible. Modest dress, please, with no jeans or tee shirts. Leggings may only be worn under a skirt or dress, not as pants. School dress uniform is also appropriate. **Boys:** Dress pants or uniform pants and nice shirt or uniform shirt- no jeans or tee shirts. Boys in 4<sup>th</sup> grade and up are asked to wear dress shirts and ties. Patriotic colors are requested if possible. **6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys:** As a special tribute to veterans, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade boys will be dressing as soldiers. They are asked to wear camouflage, sweat pants, tee shirts, and other military uniform items they may have. If any parents have old uniform items (shirts, hats, etc.) that they would be willing to loan for the program, we would be very grateful to use them and ask that you send them in.

Though we are requesting clothing in patriotic colors if the students have them, I've reminded the students that parents are not expected to go out and purchase new outfits. Dress clothing of any color or school dress uniforms are perfectly appropriate.

**SALUTE TO SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS:** A main focus of our program is to express our gratitude to the men and women who have served or are serving in our military. This will include a procession of our older students carrying items used by their relatives who have served or are serving in our military. We invite families to send in items that will be carried in our tribute procession. Appropriate items include such things as hats, boots, helmets, medals, dog tags, religious items, or pictures of family members who have served in combat. You are asked to send in those items any time between now and May 15<sup>th</sup> so that students (grades 4 and older) can practice carrying them in a respectful way. We also plan to have a picture display in the lobby, and would appreciate pictures of military relatives you would wish to include.

**If you send in items:** Please know that every precaution will be in place to keep the items safe and treated with respect. They will be stored in a locked closet except when in use. They will be assigned to specific children (your child only, unless you have additional items you are willing to loan to another child). **Very important: Please label anything you send in** (a small piece of masking tape with your child's first name and grade is great). Articles used in the procession will be returned the night of the concert.

I have been so impressed by the patriotism our students have been demonstrating as we prepare for this program. We look forward to sharing our love of country and appreciation for our military with you. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Debbie Smedley smedley@verizon.net