



STAFFORD MUNICIPAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

November 10, 2009

Dear SMSD Key Communicator,

I want to remind each of you that tomorrow, November 11, 2009, is Veterans Day. This special day was created so that we can respect, recognize, and honor the individuals who have paid an expensive price or made the ultimate sacrifice for our country and our freedoms that we often take for granted.

This past Friday during lunch, the Oyster Creek Rotary Club celebrated Veterans from almost every war beginning with World War II. As the honored veterans around the room stood up and introduced themselves, I was struck by the consistent pattern of their comments, regardless of age and era, in which they served our country. There were young men who served recently in the Iraq War; older men who served during World War II; and men who served in every war in-between. The comments made by each veteran probably had a different impact on each person there, depending on their perspective. From my perspective, I sensed three common threads: 1) each Veteran had a genuine respect for country; 2) each Veteran displayed pride in the fact they served our country; and 3) each Veteran demonstrated an attitude of gratitude. It was almost as if each man was appreciative of the fact he was able to serve the United States and demonstrated this gratitude in words and action.

I simply bring this up to remind each of us that even though United States Veterans are typically representative of these three threads I mentioned, we must never forget to tell them thank you for their service and it is we who should demonstrate an 'Attitude of Gratitude' to each one of them.

If you served our great county in the armed forces, on behalf of the Stafford Municipal School District staff and Board of Trustees, please accept my sincerest 'Thank You!' We are grateful for your sacrifices.

Have a Great Day.

H.D.

H.D. CHAMBERS