

Hello, and welcome to our school, veterans. Thank you for taking time out of your day so we can gather here and appreciate you. We are so grateful to have these incredible women and men protecting our country. We are here today with rights because they were willing to fight for them. We are here with a vote because they were willing to fight for our voice. You have gone through things we can't even begin to imagine. We have had challenges in life. Like taking a test, starting a new school year, and making new friends. But nothing can compare to risking your life to help our country stay strong.

Now, we don't have a badge or a medal to give you. But look around, look all around you. What we do have is an auditorium full of young people who can say what they want to say, dream what they want to dream, who can be whoever they want to be, because you were willing to fight for it. I've been saying words this whole time, and words can do many things, like explain what my favorite color is, tell you what school I go to, and ask what day it is. What words can not do, is describe our appreciation. Your bravery, to leave home not knowing if you'll come back. You have sacrificed so much for this country, and it doesn't go unnoticed. All of these people are making sure it does not go unnoticed.

This school is so lucky to have these incredible people visiting it. So many people look up to you, and for a good reason. I hope you leave this place with a smile on your face, and knowing that you are appreciated. Thank you for your service.