

**How To
Make Your
Veteran's Day Assembly
Pumped With Patriotism**



**With Amber Rider
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Kalama High School



#1

"If You Can Make Them Cry, You Will Win Their Attention"

- **Powerful Visuals (slideshow, videos, photos)**
 1. Sappy music does make a difference
 2. Present a balance of tragic and uplifting visuals
 3. Diversity
 4. September 11th, Vietnam, WWII, Iraq, etc.

#2

Survey the School (crowd involvement)

For this, you can ask the audience to stand if they have a **relative** or **family friend** who has served or is serving in the Navy, Marines, Air Force, National Guard, Army, or Coast Guard. By the end of this, most of the audience will be standing. Then ask members of the audience to stand if they know **anybody** who has served or is serving in the United States Military. They will all be standing at the end. This is normally a very powerful moment during the assembly. At this point, everyone will be standing and will look around. It is very moving.

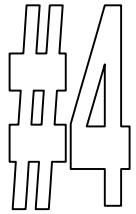
#3

Create a Flag

This is what the assembly can revolve around. The flag is made out of construction paper and cut into 5 puzzle pieces. One word should be pasted onto each piece of the flag (i.e.-pride, courage, diversity, trust, etc.)

For each piece of the flag, a speech should be written and read from somebody in the community. It is nice to get different groups of people to speak. Ask a veteran or even a couple of veterans to talk about their stories. A currently enlisted soldier, son/daughter of a soldier, or parent of a soldier who graduated from the school make powerful speech givers also. If you have the R.O.T.C. program at your school, ask if someone from the group would like to speak at the assembly.





Star Soldiers Wall of Honor

Make enough red, white, and blue stars for the entire student body and staff. To do this, use a die-cut press. It is way easier than to cut them all by hand. When students come into the area where the assembly will be held, give them one star and tell them to keep it until the end of the ceremony. Then at the end of the assembly ask everyone to put the name of their family members or friends who are veterans, deceased soldiers, or currently serving in the United States Military on the stars they received at the beginning. Then ask them to come down to the front and set them on a table when they leave the assembly.

With these colorful stars, make a “Wall of Honor.” To make it, take a huge sheet of butcher paper (large enough to fit all of the stars on). Have a table with writing utensils so everyone can participate. After everybody’s stars are hung up, place the “Wall of Honor” somewhere it will be seen by students and other community members. Make your Veteran’s Day assembly a memory worth a million words. The possibilities are endless!

