

WE HONOR YOU NARRATION

Sofia: Good morning. Today we gather to honor our nation's brave veterans - men and women who have served our country in moments of turmoil and in moments of peace.

Bo: Alongside these heroes, we also honor the current members of our military who sacrifice everyday so that we might enjoy all that it means to be an American.

Dylan: Please rise. Remove your hats. We invite you to salute or place your hand on your heart as we sing together our national anthem, *The Star-Spangled Banner*.

SONG 1: *The Star-Spangled Banner*

Piper: Every day many of us think about our family, friends and loved ones who are serving in the military, now or in the past.

Karson: But today we set aside this special day to come together and truly honor these fine men and women, and consider the sacrifices they have made in order to keep us safe and free.

Jackson: Many of them have found themselves far from home in strange and foreign lands; away from their families and friends.

Anabelle: At times, it may seem to them that they have been forgotten by the very people they serve and protect.

Dawson: So today we gather together here to send the message to our soldiers and veterans that you are never far from our minds and you are always deep in our hearts.

SONG 2: *A Time to Remember*

Caden: The flag of the United States of America stands as a symbol of all that the soldiers and veterans have fought to protect.

Dawson: The white stripes stand for the purity and innocence of the American ideal.

Bo: The red stands for the hardiness and valor exemplified by our soldiers and veterans.

Amos: And the blue stands for the vigilance, perseverance and the justice that is the heart of our nation.

Jaxon: Put them all together and they become the very symbol of America, the land we love, the land our veterans fought and sometimes died for.

Alejandra: Today we celebrate America and the flag that reminds us of all we are and all we work to be!

SONG 3: *I Love That Grand Old Flag*

Piper: One of the most difficult challenges for our soldiers and veterans is the time they spend away from their families and loved ones.

Caden: From the time of the Revolutionary War to the battles of today, our soldiers have risked their lives storming dangerous beaches and sandy deserts

Amos: They have found themselves in steamy jungles and on frigid tundra, far from the comfort and warmth of the country and home they know and love.

Lainey: Today, we want to remind them that they have never been forgotten, and we hope they know that when at last they are able to come home, we will be here waiting for them, with open arms and open hearts – saluting them and singing the beautiful words we all long to hear – Welcome Home.

SONG 4: WELCOME HOME

Aria: Will any current or former members of our military please rise if you are able?

Anabelle: What can we say to men and women who have given so much to make certain that we can live lives in peace and freedom?

Jacie: What can we do to show you how much we appreciate all you have done?

Mia: The answer of course is never enough. But today we want to at least try to let you know how much we appreciate you.

Karson: Today we want to say, “Thank you.”

Lainey: Today we want to put our hands on our hearts and say to all our soldiers and veterans – “ladies and gentlemen, we honor you.”

Sofia: You may be seated. At this time, the students would like to honor you with a little token of our gratitude. They will be presenting you with a pin that you can proudly wear on a lapel, a coat or a hat. Please come

forward when your name is called for your gift and a photo with your student.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO VETERANS

SLIDESHOW

SONG 5: We Honor You

SONG 6: God Bless the USA

SONG 7: God Bless America

Madelyn: Dear soldiers and veterans, thank you for making it possible for us to live freely in this great country.

Aria: As we leave here today, we want to promise you that we will do our best to honor your sacrifices.

Bo: We know that the best ways to do that is by living lives as represented in the colors of our flag; lives of purity and innocence, hardiness and valor, vigilance, perseverance, and justice.

Dylan: Today, we want to promise you that your sacrifices have not been in vain, for the Spirit of America that you have served to protect is alive in each and every one of us. For that we all say:

ALL: Thank you!

SONG 8: THE SPIRIT OF AMERICA