

Nicholas County Schools
Grades 6-12
Veteran's Honors Funeral Assistant Community Service Program Policy

PURPOSE: In accordance with West Virginia H.B. 2286, Nicholas County students in grades 6 through 12 will be assisting with the sounding of *Taps* on a standard valved bugle, trumpet, coronet or flugelhorn at military funerals honoring our veterans.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The policy shall be in effect for grades 6-12 students in the school year 2005-2006.

PROCEDURES:

- A. Creating of Registry:** The band director shall compile a registry of qualified volunteers to sound *Taps*. The band director shall obtain consent of parents/guardians for voluntary registry as a candidate able to sound *Taps*.

The registry will include:

1. Student's full name and phone number
2. Parents/guardian's name and phone number(s)
3. School name and phone number
4. Band director's name
5. School principal's name

The registry will be developed, maintained, updated, and kept on file in participating schools and in the Nicholas County Board of Education office. The registry will be made available upon request to funeral directors and established veterans' organizations.

- B. Training Students to Play *Taps*:** The band director will recommend students after providing the appropriate musical training, information on the historical significance, and protocol necessary to ensure the integrity of the sounding of *Taps*. The band director shall contact West Virginia Department of education or nationally recognized veterans' organizations to gain appropriate information on proper military protocol.
- C. Credit:** According to State Policy 2510, participation in the sounding of *Taps* may be credited toward work-based learning or community service. Students are responsible for verifying that credit is recorded with the appropriate designated person in their school responsible for Community Service/Work-based Learning credit.

The sounding of *Taps* for military honors funerals shall be considered a co-curricular activity (Per Policy 2510.10 Music Content Standard 1: Performing and Music content Standard 4: Relating). Absences incurred through participation in the sounding of *Taps* will be addressed through state/county attendance policy as it pertains to co-curricular participation as a school approved curricular/extra-curricular activity.

- D. Suggestions for Incentive:** Students who participate in sounding of *Taps* can be presented certificates, medals, pins, or other appropriate award symbols. They may receive honorarium awards as well as public recognition at awards

assemblies. It is recommended that the band director to submit certified students names for certificate of recognition. to the West Virginia Veterans:

WV Division of Veterans Affairs
1321 Plaza East, Suit 109
Charleston, WV 25301

- E. Liability:** Student participation in the Veterans Honors Funeral Assistant Community Service Program is voluntary. The sounding of *Taps* for veterans' funerals is not a school-sponsored event. Parent/guardian permission must be obtained for each occurrence in accordance with our policy. A parent/guardian or student must be responsible for transportation to and from the funeral. Neither the school nor the Nicholas County Board of Education is responsible for any costs associated with the program.

VETERAN'S HONORS FUNERAL ASSISTANT COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

The Veteran's Honors Funeral Assistant Community Service Program was created to encourage capable young people to assist with the sounding of *Taps* at military funerals honoring our veterans.

Student participation in the Veterans Honors Funeral Assistant Community Service Program is voluntary. The sounding of *Taps* for veterans' funerals is not a school-sponsored event. Parent/guardian permission must be obtained for each occurrence in accordance with our policy. A parent/guardian or student must be responsible for transportation to and from the funeral. Neither the school nor the Nicholas County Board of Education is responsible for any costs associated with the program. By signing this consent, you agree to what is stated and you are giving your child permission to sound *Taps* at a military funeral.

STUDENT NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____

GRADE (6-12 ONLY): _____ PHONE #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____

PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: _____

WORK PHONE #: _____ CELL PHONE #: _____

VETERAN'S HONORS FUNERAL ASSISTANT
COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM REGISTRY

STUDENT NAME: _____ SCHOOL: _____

GRADE (6-12 ONLY): _____ PHONE #: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN NAME: _____

WORK PHONE #: _____ CELL PHONE #: _____

BAND DIRECTOR'S NAME: _____

PRINCIPAL'S NAME: _____