

Veteran's Honors Funeral Assistance

WIRT COUNTY FILE: KE-RA

Adopted: October 11, 2005

VETERANS HONORS FUNERAL ASSISTANT

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAM

Wirt County Schools encourages young people to assist with the sounding of *Taps* at military funerals honoring our veterans and to help students develop a better understanding of the sacrifices, a respect for the commitment, and an appreciation of the privileges that the men and women of the armed forces have protected through their service. The purpose of this document is to provide guidelines for the establishment of school level programs that encourage capable students in grades six through twelve to sound *Taps* on a standard valved bugle, trumpet, coronet, or flugelhorn during military honors funerals held in our community.

Administrative Procedures

The band director/music teacher of Wirt County High School will compile a registry of qualified volunteers to sound *Taps*. This registry will include: Students full name and phone number, school name and phone number, band director/music teacher, and school principal. The registry will be developed, maintained, updated, and kept on file at the school and in the Board of Education office. The registry will be made available upon request to funeral directors and established veterans organizations.

The band director/music teacher 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*.

Wirt County Schools will grant credit toward work-based learning or community service for those students who participate in sounding *Taps* as per Policy 2410, §126-42-6.4.4. Students are responsible for verifying that the credit is recorded with the appropriate designated person or officer in the school who is responsible for Community Service/Work Based Learning Credit.

The sounding of *Taps* for military honors funerals shall be considered a co-curricular activity as per Policy 2420.1 (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 defined in Policy 2510 §126-42-5.18.

Student participation in the Veterans Honors Funeral Assistant Community Service Program is voluntary. The sounding of *Taps* for veteran's funerals is not a school sponsored event. Parent/guardian permission must be obtained for each occurrence. A parent/guardian or student must be responsible for transportation and this information must be part of the permission form.