## Superintendent's Highlight of the Week June 1, 2018

A new tradition has begun at the Old Bethpage Elementary School as they have found an outstanding avenue for recognizing the sacrifice and service our soldiers have given to our country. This past week our students, staff and veterans from the VFW gathered on the front steps of Old Bethpage to provide a fitting tribute to the memory of those who served our



nation and gave their all. The ceremony included patriotic songs from our fourth graders and



"My Country 'Tis of Thee" performed on recorder by a select group of third graders. Most impressive was an original song, created by Ms. Candal "A Day for Honor" that you will find on our district's website, <u>www.pobschools.org</u>.

The students displayed 15 boxes of needed items that they had



collected for homeless veterans at the Northport VA Hospital. First grade students decorated lunch bags with patriotic themes and filled them with the donations for our veterans. During a

STEAM lesson, students created mini-circuits to power LED poppies for our veterans. These illuminated poppies were attached to our "Lunch Bags of Love." These "Lunch Bags of Love" will be delivered to the hospital by the VFW along with a cash donation collected to support them in their mission of providing assistance to returning soldiers and families who lost a loved in service to our country.



In the backdrop were patriotic banners created by the students with their art teacher, Mrs. Frimmer. Students personalized their own star to reflect and demonstrate the meaning of Memorial Day. This was accomplished via a combination of written and artistic expression. I challenged each class to consider writing a letter to a Gold Star family to thank them for the sacrifice and selfless service that their loved ones gave to our nation.

A special thanks to the PTA for their support of this event. They lined the driveway and surrounding fields with flags to enhance the patriotic-feel for the celebration. I am already looking forward to next year's event.