

## We're Proud of our Students' Generous Spirits

---

---



Since school started, Canton Middle School students have been giving back to the community and have even created service projects of their own design. The Canton Board of Education thanks the students and staff for their thoughtful contributions to the local and world-wide community. We're proud of what you are doing for others.

---

**November 9<sup>th</sup>** -- As part of the Middle School's Veterans' Day activities, the students in each advisory group went to the website <http://www.anysoldier.com>, where they selected a soldier or two to whom they would write letters and mail packages. The 19 advisory groups wound up with 66 packages loaded with letters from students and the kinds of things the soldiers had asked requested, items we often take for granted such as powdered drinks, granola bars, soup, Band-Aids, and Chapstick. The response from the kids and teachers was inspiring, and one after one the boxes were filled. As part of the Veteran's Day Ceremony at the Middle School, they were piled onto the stage so that students could appreciate their collective efforts.

Now, in turn, the response from the soldiers has been equally amazing, with a couple of the soldiers writing a note to each and every child in an advisory group. [Second Lieutenant Jason K. wrote back](#),

"We are a little overwhelmed by your generosity that you showed us." (To read a larger portion of the letter he sent to Ms. Sarah Foster's advisory group and to see a few pictures the soldiers sent back to the class, click on his name.) Similarly,

[Captain Paul K. responded](#), "You have humbled us with your incredible generosity and kindness." (To read more of his letter and to view a few of his pictures, click on his name.) EMT Lauren K. was very specific in her gratitude. "You all are great!!!" she wrote, "Thank you so much for the Captain Crunch! It reminds me of home."

The bill to mail the 66 packages was \$622. The Middle School Student Council and the PTO split the cost. At the Collinsville post office, a very kind postal worker, who was moved by the project, took \$20.00 out of her pocket and donated it to the kids' cause on the spot. Packages were mailed on November 9th, and some arrived at their destinations in Iraq or Afghanistan in less than a week. The Hartford Courant also published an article about this project and the response it drew from our troops overseas, ["Kids Care About Troops"](#) in the December 12<sup>th</sup> town news section.

**November 19<sup>th</sup>** -- At Canton Middle School, Team Hybrid (7th and 8th graders) collected non-perishables for the Canton Food Bank. As a result of an Advisory group competition, they wound up delivering over 700 pounds of food.

