



# WPSD Middle School



2011/2012

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter News Letter



## 10 Year 09/11/01 Memorial Service

On 09/09/11, local fire, emergency medical services and police officers spoke with students about the events of 09/11/01. The tree standing tall in the background was a small sapling nine years ago when it was planted. Following the service, students were proud to shake the hands of the visiting emergency response member who keep us all safe.

## Best Buds!

On Monday, October 17, a special group of middle school students enjoyed a hike at Frick Park. The group is called Best Buds. Students with intellectual disabilities are given the opportunity to have a one-to-one friendship with a student without an intellectual disability. Our applied studies students develop new friendships, feel they are a part of the group, and learn new skills from their 1:1 friend. The friends that help these students also benefit from participating in this group. They are given an opportunity for leadership, develop acceptance of all students and their differences, and spread awareness to their peers about fairness, respect and compassion for our students in the applied studies classes. During our trip to Frick, the students enjoyed the sunshine, colorful leaves, a 1.5-mile hike on the trails, and games on the playground. Their friends kept them safe, identified objects along the way, and kept them engaged during the entire trip.



## Veterans' Day Wall of Honor

To celebrate Veteran's Day this year, we have created a Wall of Honor in the first floor hallway during the months of November and December. Students and staff are to bring in photos of family members or friends either currently serving in or retired from military service. Please fill out the information below and send it back to WPSD. You can send either a hard copy or email the information and photo of the service member. Give it to one of the following departments:

## Simmon's Farm

On October 26, the students in the Applied Studies department enjoyed a trip to Simmon's Farm. The rain held off long enough for us to enjoy the wonderful activities available to us. We got lost in a corn maze, 100 acres in size! We played on tractors and fire trucks, and went down the 100 ft slide. The staff gave us complimentary apples, apple cider, Indian corn and let us all find a pumpkin in the patch to bring home. It was a great day full of social opportunities, a few splashes of mud,



Congratulations to our 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Distinguished Honor Roll, Honor Roll and Hero Awards recipients!

Our next Honor Roll assembly will be on February 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012. Keep Up the Great Work!