

**Time Travelers
Civil War Revisited
Ripperdan CDS**

Another first happened already for students at Ripperdan Community Day School during the 2019-20 school year! For the first time, Mr. Garcia's United States History and Civics class and Ms. Eller's History class attended one of the largest Civil War reenactments this side of the Mississippi River. This took place at Fresno's own Kearney Park, on Thursday October 17. Wow, did the students take a journey back into time! The time was the early 1860's to be exact; a time when our great nation was divided and in the midst of the Civil War.

Ripperdan students were able to see firsthand how a field hospital treated the wounded, how limbs were amputated and germs were spread due to the lack of sanitation. We were able to see how soldiers stood at attention, marched and stored their weapons, and fixed bayonets to the ends of their rifles. We even learned how a good soldier should have been able to load and fire three aimed shots in a single minute. That was no easy task, while under fire. Being able to listen to Abraham Lincoln, our 16th president, justify this terrible war and Jefferson Davis defend the South's decision to secede from the Union, was amazing to hear and a sight to see! To walk amongst the Union and Confederate camp sites and speak with time period character re-enactors, was a unique experience for our students that gave them a greater appreciation for the men and women that took part in this deadly period in our nation's history.

What an excellent field trip the Ripperdan Roadrunners had, traveling back in time, to witness life as it was during the Civil War. Where will our travels take us next?

**Mr. Garcia
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