



STATE OF ILLINOIS  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

**Pat Quinn**  
GOVERNOR

November 19, 2009

*Send a Holiday Card to Our Illinois Heroes Overseas*

Dear Illinois Principals, Teachers and Students,

About 80 miles southwest of Frankfurt Germany – and a five-hour medevac flight from Iraq – there is a bustling military hospital where skilled medical personnel treat American servicemembers wounded in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) is the largest American military hospital outside of the continental United States. LRMC has about 110 physicians, 250 nurses, 40 Medical Service Corps officers, 900 enlisted personnel, and 550 civilian employees who work together to treat the most seriously wounded.

I need your help to remind the servicemembers working or recovering at LRMC that they are in our hearts this holiday season. I am asking all Illinois schoolchildren to take part in a mission to make holiday cards for our troops.

I have had the opportunity to visit the Landstuhl Regional Medical Center four times. In fact, I was there last Thanksgiving to deliver messages from Illinois schoolchildren to our servicemembers and those who care for our wounded soldiers.

On each mission to LRMC, I have had the opportunity to visit with men and women from across Illinois who are serving as doctors and nurses. Some grew up in small towns in Illinois, others grew up in Chicago. Some are Cubs fans, others root for the Sox. But they all agree on one thing: It means a lot when folks from home send their love.

I will return to Landstuhl the week of Christmas to personally deliver the handmade cards. I look forward to sending messages of love and support from Illinois to our troops overseas. All cards should be received at one of the below addresses by December 16, 2009.

***Holiday cards may be mailed or carried to:***

Illinois State Board of Education  
Attn: Illinois Heroes  
100 North 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
Springfield, IL 62777-0001

Illinois State Board of Education  
Attn: Illinois Heroes  
100 West Randolph Street, Suite 14-300  
Chicago, IL 60601-3283

Please package all of the cards and letters into one bundle using ribbon or a box to keep them together. If you have any questions, please visit [www.operationhomefront.org](http://www.operationhomefront.org) and click on "Holiday Cards for the Troops."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pat Quinn".

Governor