Naval Support Activity South Potomac SLP Monthly Newsletter



School Liaison Program News



FALL, 2024

THINGS TO KNOW...

- Dahlgren Library has <u>Teen Homework</u> time on Thursdays starting at 4 pm.
- <u>Tutor.com</u> is a FREE online tutoring and homework help, 24/7 for DOD families.
- 2025 <u>National 4-H Conference</u> Information Session is on Nov. 21, 2025 @4pm.
- Kids Included Together, funded by the Navy is a resource for professionals and families on special education topics.
- Special Ed Connection ® provides resources and tools that Navy staff and parents can use to gain a clear understanding of special education requirements and services form legal rights to practical application. It's FREE. Contact the School Liaison for access.
- Department of Education's Raise the Bar resources such as Strategies to Improve Student Achievement and Accelerate Learning for Every Student are available for parents at Raise the Bar: Resources for Parents and Families | U.S. Department of Education.
- PEATC offers workshops, webinars & training such as Wrightslaw Special Education Law & Advocacy Training, Anatomy of an IEP for Military Families and Empowering Beginnings: Unlocking Early Services and Supports to families.
- Penn State's Clearing House for <u>Military Families</u> have various programs and resources for military families.
- Nov. 2024 school breaks: CCPS & KGCS 11/27-29, Dahlgren 11/25-29,

HAVE A BLESSED THANKSGIVING!!!

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What is a Purple Star Designation for Schools?

Purple Star School designation means that it is a military- friendly school demonstrating a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. Schools that complete the following requirements can apply to their state's Department of Education who awards the special Purple Star School designation:

- 1. Has a designated staff as point of contact to serve as the primary link between the military-connected family and the school.
- 2. Provides professional development training for staff in relation to the needs of military-connected students and their families.
- 3. Has a student-led transition team to help familiarize incoming military-connected students with their new environments.
- 4. Has a dedicated school and/or district webpage that provides resources related to the military connected experience and,
- 5. Celebrates the military-connected students and families through school events.

Schools that meet the above requirements will be honored and awarded as the Purple Star School. In the Commonwealth of VA, the VA Department of Education's Military Student Support Process Action Team (MSSPAT), reviews all the school applications and the final approval is made by members of the VA Council on the Interstate Compact on the Education Opportunity for Military Children (Mic3). Information on the VA Purple Star Designation Program for Schools can be found at The Virginia Purple Star Designation Program for Schools Virginia Department of Education.

In MD, the MD State Department of Education (MSDE) provides guidance support to aid schools in preparing their applications. Currently, MSDE has approved 8 Purple Star Schools within the state. Application details can be found at Purple Star Schools Program.

UPDATE: Congratulations to Potomac Elementary School (PES) of the King George County Public Schools! PES just become a Purple Star School honoree and will be acknowledged during the VA Mic3 meeting. KG High School is waiting for the result of their application. Similarly, Charles County Public Schools are preparing their schools to apply for this program. We salute those schools who are diligently working hard to aid and provide resources to our military families that we serve!

(References: militarychild.org, doe.virginia.gov & marylandpublicschools.gov)

"Progress always involves risk, you can't steal second base and keep your foot on first." -Frederick Wilcox

Dahlgren & Indian Head Youth Center's **Youth Sponsorship Groups** are ready to help transitioning children. If you know of any child moving in and out of the area, please contact **Dahlgren Youth Center at** 540-653-8009 and Indian Head My Generation Youth Center at 301-743-5456 for more details.