



Common Ground Partnership

Consists of 24 military, government and community-based organizations

Mission

Supporting the Success of All Students

Contributing to WVBE Career Readiness Goals

Education, Employment, and Enlistment

Homepage

wvde.us/academics/common-ground-partnership

Social Media

#CommonGroundWV



April is
**Month of the
Military Child**



- On average, military children experience school transitions between **6 and 9 times** in their K-12 education
- **Purple Up Day in West Virginia is April 23, 2026**, recognizing the strength and resiliency of military children
 - *A Purple Up Toolkit for school staff may be accessed on the homepage
- **Spirit Week on April 20-24, 2026**, offers an opportunity to create a military friendly climate for students through recognition





PURPLE STAR AWARD

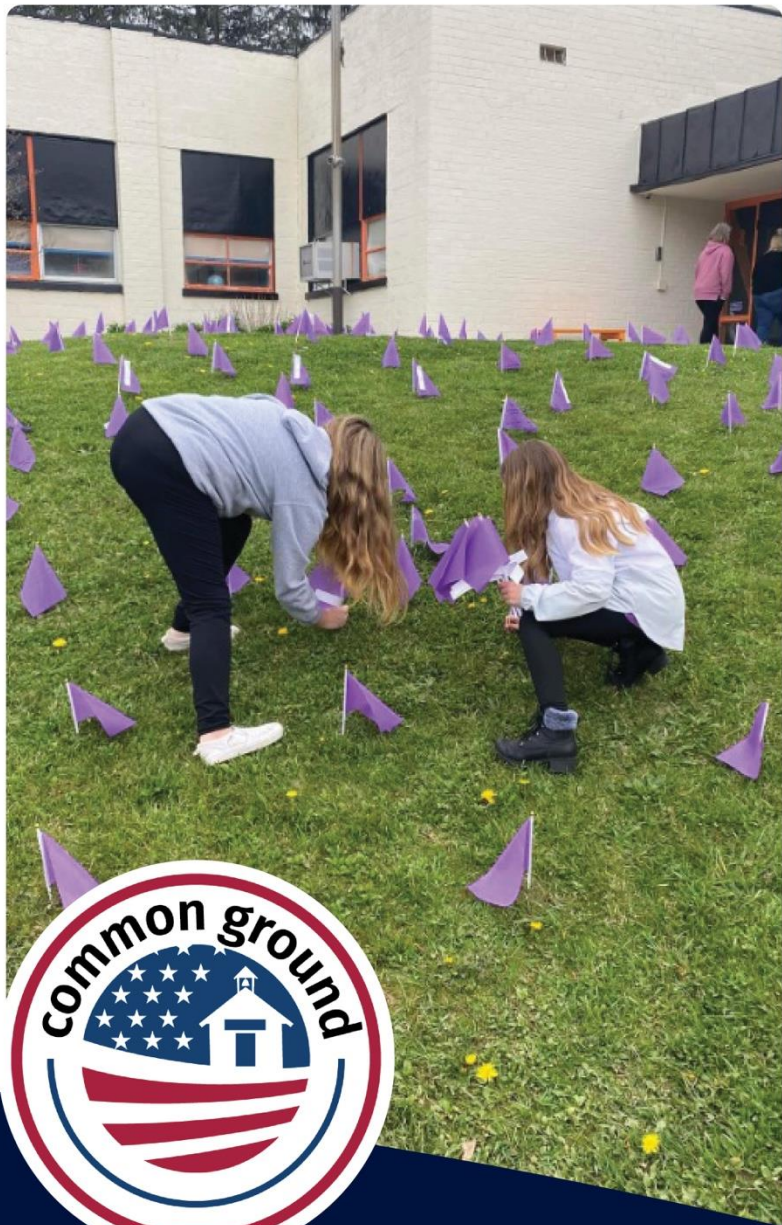
WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

315

West Virginia schools received a Purple Star Award recognizing their commitment to supporting military children and their families

17

Purple Star Districts received a Purple Star Award with 100% of their schools receiving the award





MILITARY SIGNING WEEK

- In 2025, Military Signing Week and related events resulted in a minimum of **49** schools recognizing **288 students**
- Events promote career exploration, bringing together educators, veterans, community members and students
- This year, Military Signing Week is **April 20 – 24, 2026**
- **44 schools** have registered events for this year and a complete list may be accessed on the homepage





Operation Recognition At Clay County High School

Operation Recognition provides qualifying veterans of WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam Conflict with a high school diploma.

Mr. Charles Bird:

- 99-Year-Old World War II veteran
- 1 of 4 remaining WWII veterans in county
- Received high school diploma
- Oldest person to graduate from the school
- Joins granddaughter's graduating class



