

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION COLUMBUS, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT PITTSBURGH, THE US MARINE CORPS. RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE WEST VIRGINIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL, THE MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING COMMAND EASTER SECTOR, THE WV CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC (WEST VIRGINIA PTA), THE LEGAL AID WEST VIRGINIA, ADOLESCENT SUICIDE PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION (ASPEN)

SUBJECT: Establishing Partners in Education

1. **Purpose.** This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a mutual understanding between **THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION COLUMBUS, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT PITTSBURGH, THE US MARINE CORPS. RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE WEST VIRGINIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL, THE MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING COMMAND EASTER SECTOR, THE WV CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC (WEST VIRGINIA PTA), THE LEGAL AID OF WEST VIRGINIA, ADOLESCENT SUICIDE PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION (ASPEN)**

2. **Scope.** All parties recognize the importance of education as well as the development of leadership skills, life skills, serving the community, character education and the health and well being of the young men and women of West Virginia and America. The implementation of this MOU supports the missions of the partner institutions and organizations, to ensure that all students graduate from high school academically, socially and physically prepared for postsecondary options including college, vocational training, workforce or military service. Through these partnerships

we will increase the capacity of our districts and schools to provide greater exposure to best practice strategies, help to support and engage students who may otherwise drop out, help students attain 21st century skills and a more positive future; and ensure that communities have a productive, civically active, well-educated workforce. The additional resources to West Virginia students such as knowledge, human, social and financial, made available through community involvement and partnerships, will make a significant impact on students, families, schools and communities.

Education is imperative to the nation's economic and military security. This MOU creates a shared role, among all parties, in developing our country's youth to be future leaders and humanitarians in their communities, state and nation.

West Virginia students participating in elements of this agreement will benefit through enhanced opportunities for completing graduation requirements and receiving leadership training, and thereby increase the graduation rate in West Virginia. Graduates who choose to participate in active joint services will benefit from the various skill training opportunities, which include their choice of over 150 job skills, with their choice of training guaranteed. Additional benefits include joint services college funds, cash bonus programs, choice of duty location, as well as numerous other opportunities and options which are available to them as active duty service men and women (depending on their test scores, other eligibility criteria and program availability at time of enlistment). Students participating in the Reserve or WV National Guard programs will benefit from most of the various skills and benefits available to full-time military personnel, while serving in their communities and earning a good part-time salary.

Likewise, the West Virginia Department of Education will benefit by having students who become more intelligent, skill-trained, and responsible young men and women who will develop good character values, and will gain valuable experience and proven leadership skills.

Parents and families will benefit from the support and education that the West Virginia Congress for Parents and Teachers, Inc. will provide.

Students participating in the Civil Air Patrol after school program will be involved in a number of activities, such as character development, physical fitness, aerospace education, leadership training, drug demand reduction, and many others, all of which will help raise the high school graduation rate. West Virginia Department of Education Schools who participate will boost attendance through high student morale, strengthen student discipline, offer an alternative to drugs and violence, acquire new opportunities

for peer mentoring, improve student participation in community service, and provide students with a meaningful after-school activity. All parties understand that Civil Air Patrol is a volunteer organization, that it can not be used as a form of punishment, that it does not require any military service, and that it does not recruit for the military.

Students from military families will benefit from the many programs available to support military students. The West Virginia National Guard has valuable resources to provide support to military students. Through this partnership we are dedicated to ensuring every military child's right to a quality education regardless of location or how often the family moves. Students of military families will receive increased supports from the partnering through this memorandum of understanding between West Virginia National Guard Family Programs and the West Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.

All parties understand and acknowledge that endorsement of any non-federal entity by any employee or department of the federal government is strictly prohibited. Signature on this document in no way constitutes an endorsement, express or implied, of any interested entity or party by the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force or any other federal entity. Every effort will be made to ensure that there be no appearance of endorsement on the part of any party and appropriate disclaimers will be given in all circumstances.

This MOU is non-binding, but is intended to establish guidelines for cooperation among MOU parties.

3. The West Virginia Department of Education will:

- Promote that schools provide the opportunity for students to take the Career Exploration Program either at their home school or a school nearby, for the purpose of career assessment, exploration and development
- Encourage West Virginia schools to partner with all of the military partners, including West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol, to provide career and post-secondary education information to interested students in West Virginia schools.
- Encourage schools to offer space on school campus grounds for static displays of equipment or other displays/materials as approved by West Virginia schools.
- Communicate and coordinate with schools and The West Virginia National Guard, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Columbus, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Navy Recruiting District Pittsburgh, The US

Marine Corps. Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, , The West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol, The Military Entrance Processing Command Eastern Sector, The WV Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (West Virginia PTA), The Legal Aid of West Virginia, Adolescent Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention (ASPEN) to establish a **career mentoring program** (on a voluntary basis) for schools and school systems.

- Incorporate a voluntary **student exit process** that makes available the opportunity for The West Virginia National Guard, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Columbus, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Navy Recruiting District Pittsburgh, The US Marine Corps. Recruiting Stations, The West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol, The Military Entrance Processing Command Eastern Sector, The WV Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (West Virginia PTA), The Legal Aid of West Virginia, Adolescent Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention (ASPEN), personnel to **provide guidance about the benefits of graduating from high school to any students considering dropping out of school.**

- Foster all opportunities to ensure success of the mutual goal of ensuring that all students are career and/or college ready when they graduate.

-Create a communication plan to educate students, parents, faculty, administration and community members about the intent, purpose and benefits of this MOU.

-Support and encourage all efforts to make available career and mentoring programs to all students in West Virginia provided through this MOU.

-Explore the development of middle school programs.

-Ensure that all requirements of Public Law Public Law 106-398 are met in public schools in West Virginia.

- The West Virginia Department of Education understands that The West Virginia National Guard, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The US Army Recruiting Battalion Columbus, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Navy Recruiting District Pittsburgh, The West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol, The Military Entrance Processing Command Eastern Sector, The WV Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (West Virginia PTA), Legal Aid of West Virginia, Adolescent Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention (ASPEN), personnel service obligations may include many types of service, including weekend drills, annual training, additional duty training, search and rescue missions and deployments within the United States or to foreign locations.

4.. **THE WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION COLUMBUS, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT PITTSBURGH, THE US MARINE CORPS. RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA WILL:**

- Provide publicity items, career information, media and materials, and personal involvement in supplying these types of resources to schools in West Virginia.
- Provide career counseling services one on one or with groups of students in West Virginia schools.
- Provide a **Speaker Series** of topics related to promote student success. Provide military trained personnel to conduct approved presentations in classrooms on various topics such as: **Dropout Prevention, Substance Abuse, Suicide Prevention, and Bully Prevention** and many other specific to the different branches and organizations party to this agreement.

Work closely with counselors, faculty and administration to assist them in increasing the graduation rates for all students.

- Provide **tutors or access to tutoring programs** to assist students on a voluntary basis.
- Provide **career mentors** (when human resources allow) to inspire, advise and enlighten students interested in various career fields. **Career mentors** will mentor students about various careers, provide information about training and educational opportunities associated with that career field, provide career exploration interpretations, and provide information about the value of education.
- Foster opportunities to provide information, **presentations and/or demonstrations** of available **career programs, tutoring programs, physical fitness and student wellness** programs.
- Provide guidance in reference to the benefits of graduating from high school and future opportunities available to any student thinking about dropping out of school.

-Provide support to develop **JROTC programs and/or Civil Air Patrol programs** in WV Schools.

-Cooperate with educators and district personnel to establish **Military Clubs** in selected schools that do not have existing JROTC programs.

-Provide a variety of free and relatively inexpensive resources for schools to use, like the **Career Exploration Program** and **March2Success online tutoring program**, and many other programs available from the individual branches.

-Provide schools, students and parents access to March2Success tutoring program that is a free, no obligation web based tool that provides educational content to help anyone improve their knowledge in Language Arts, Math and Science. The program also provides study aids to improve student performance on standardized tests like the SAT, ACT, and the Career Exploration Exam.

-Explore the development of middle school programs.

- Provide Educator Tours (as funds are available) to allow counselors, faculty and administration an inside look at the training and educational opportunities available to students who enlist in the joint services after high school graduation.

5. The West Virginia National Guard Family Programs will:

-Help to create networks of people, organizations, and other resources to help support military children.

-Help children better understand and cope with military life, family member deployment and reintegration, as well as the unique challenges facing their families.

-Offer a wide array of recreational, social, and educational programs for military youth living in civilian communities.

-Educate and increase community awareness of the impact of the deployment cycle on service members, families, kids, and the community as a whole.

-Provide In-Service training for educators on the impact of being a member of a Service related family on students and their educational process.

6. The West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol will:

- Provide information to interested schools upon request and appoint a project officer/mentor when appropriate.
- Provide recruiting materials to help gain student interest in the cadet program.
- Upon start of cadet a program provide instructor guides, lesson plans, activity books, and other program resources at no cost.
- Upon student membership provide textbooks, uniforms, and additional training materials.
- Conduct an FBI background check on ALL adult members joining at no cost.
- Foster all opportunities to ensure the accomplishment of the joint goals of all parties to this MOU.

7. Beckley, Pittsburgh, & Baltimore Military Entrance Processing Stations will:

- Provide the opportunity for every student in West Virginia who participates in the Career Exploration Program (ASVAB), the interpretation services at their home school or a school nearby, for the purpose of career assessment, exploration and development.
- Provide professional development and technical assistance to principals, school counselors and teachers in reference to the Career Exploration Program and the benefits for students.

8. West Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. will:

- Provide education and resources to its members of students, parents, faculty, administration and community members about the positive supports, including career development and tutoring services, available through military personnel through bulletin articles and displays/materials at WV PTA conventions.
- Help to create networks of people, organizations, and other resources to help support military children.

-Support and encourage all efforts to make available career and mentoring programs to all students in West Virginia provided through this MOU.

-Educate and increase community awareness of the impact of the deployment cycle on service members, families, kids, and the community as a whole

-Encourage parents who are military personnel to become actively involved in their community schools as career mentors.

9. Legal Aid of West Virginia will:

-Create and launch groups on Youth MOVE WV website (www.youthMOVEwv.com<<http://www.youthMOVEwv.com>>) that allow group facilitators to use the site to gather youth voice, collect data, and track outcomes in a variety of settings

-Provide access to online tools on Youth MOVE WV website for social networking, promotion of events, mapping of activities, resources and other outreach capabilities

-Compile data and report to partners as requested

-Facilitate focus groups as requested

-Promote Common Ground around the state

10. The Adolescent Suicide Prevention and Early Intervention (ASPEN) will:

-Provide for Train the Trainer opportunities for associated parties.

-Provide suicide prevention classroom trainings.

-Provide for technical assistance regarding suicide prevention initiatives.

-Promote Common Ground in schools and communities throughout the state.

-Provide consultation services for identification and referral of at-risk youth.

10. **Termination.** Any of the parties hereto may terminate this MOU upon 30 days notice to the other parties.

11. Participation under this MOU in no way obligates the U.S. Government or the WV Government to any financial or contractual obligations.

12. **Effective Date.** This MOU will become effective on the date signed by representatives of THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, THE WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE US ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION COLUMBUS, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT PITTSBURGH, THE US MARINE CORPS. RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE WEST VIRGINIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL, THE MILITARY ENTRANCE PROCESSING COMMAND EASTER SECTOR, THE WV CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC (WEST VIRGINIA PTA), THE LEGAL AID OF WEST VIRGINIA, ADOLESCENT SUICIDE PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION (ASPEN) and will be reviewed and resigned two years after the effective date.



Dr. James Phares

State Superintendent of Schools
West Virginia Department of Education




Maj Gen James A. Hoyer

The Adjutant General
West Virginia National Guard



LTC Chris Wood

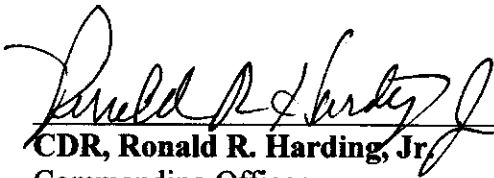
Commander
US Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley



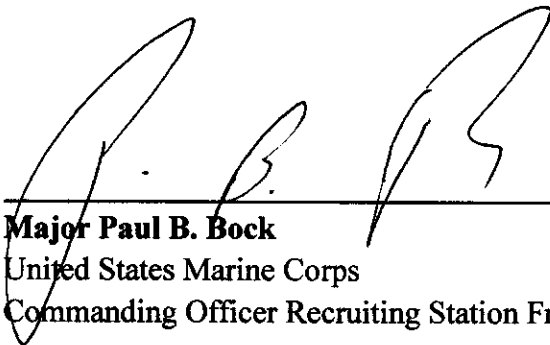
LTC Tong I. Smith
Commander
US Army Recruiting Battalion Columbus



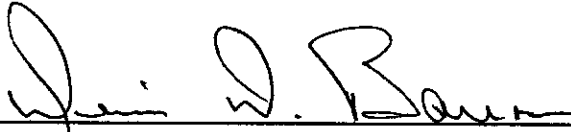
CDR, John Nguyen USN
Commanding Officer
Navy Recruiting District Ohio



CDR, Ronald R. Harding, Jr.
Commanding Officer
Navy Recruiting District Pittsburgh



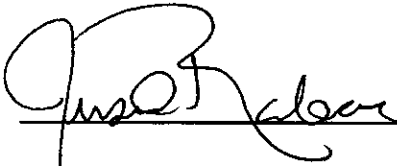
Major Paul B. Bock
United States Marine Corps
Commanding Officer Recruiting Station Frederick, MD



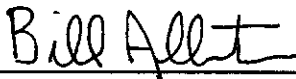
Col Dennis D. Barron
Commander
West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol



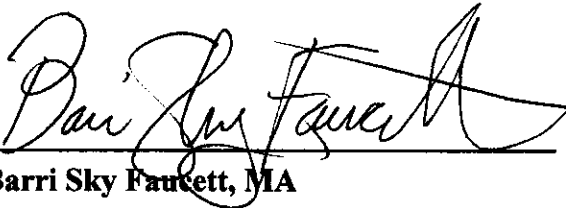
Maj Adam Clark
Commander
Beckley Military Entrance Processing Station



Justin Raber
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Bill Albert
Advocacy Program Director
Legal Aid of West Virginia



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