

**MEMORNDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE UNITED STATES ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE
NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE MARINE CORPS RECRUITING
STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE WEST VIRGINIA
NATIONAL GUARD, THE WEST VIRGINIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL,
OPERATION MILITARY KIDS, WEST VIRGINIA CONGRESS OF PARENTS
AND TEACHERS, INC., THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION AND THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

SUBJECT: Establishing Partners in Education

1. **Purpose.** This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) establishes a mutual understanding between THE UNITED STATES ARMY RECRUITING BATTALION BECKLEY, THE NAVY RECRUITING DISTRICT OHIO, THE MARINE CORPS RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE RECRUITING STATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA, THE WEST VIRGINIA NATIONAL GUARD, THE WEST VIRGINIA WING CIVIL AIR PATROL, OPERATION MILITARY KIDS, WEST VIRGINIA CONGRESS OF PARENTS AND TEACHERS, INC., THE WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND THE WEST VIRGINIA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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 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 and the West Virginia State Board 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. Operation Military Kids is a valuable resource in West Virginia 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 Operation Military Kids 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 United States Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The United States Air Force Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The West Virginia National Guard will:

- Provide publicity items, career information media and materials and personal involvement by supplying these resources to schools in West Virginia.
- Provide career counseling services in West Virginia schools and agree to work with counselors, faculty and administration to assist them in increasing the graduation rates for all of their students. Furthermore, tutors will be permitted to assist underachieving students on a voluntary basis.
- Provide career mentors (when human resources allow) to students to inspire, advise and enlighten students interested in various career fields. Career mentors will mentor students interested in similar careers, to provide information about training and educational opportunities associated with that career field.
- Foster opportunities to provide information, presentations and/or demonstrations of available career programs, tutoring programs, physical fitness and student wellness 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.
- 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 JROTC programs and/or Civil Air Patrol programs during and or after school as mutually agreed upon by school and district personnel.

-Provide a variety of free and relatively inexpensive resources for schools to use, like the Career Exploration Program and March2Success online tutoring program.

-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.

4. Operation Military Kids 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.

5. 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.

6. The West Virginia Department of Education will:

- Allow military personnel, including West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol personnel, to present career information to interested students in West Virginia schools.
- 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 The United States Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The United States Air Force Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The West Virginia National Guard and the West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol 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 The United States Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The United States Air Force Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The West Virginia National Guard, West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol and/or Operation Military Kids personnel to provide guidance about the benefits of graduating from high school to any students considering dropping out of school.

7. The West Virginia State Board of Education will:

- Ensure that every student will have the opportunity to take the Career Exploration Program either at their home school or a school nearby, for the purpose of career assessment, exploration and development.
- 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.

- The West Virginia Department of Education and the West Virginia State Board of Education understand that The United States Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The United States Air Force Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The West Virginia National Guard , the West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol and Operation Military Kids 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.

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

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

11. **Effective Date.** This MOU will become effective on the date signed by representatives of The United States Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley, The Navy Recruiting District Ohio, The Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia, The United States Air Force Recruiting Stations in West Virginia , the West Virginia Wing Civil Air Patrol, Operation Military Kids, the West Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc., the West Virginia Department of Education and the West Virginia State Board of Education and will be reviewed and resigned two years after the effective date.



Priscilla Haden

President

West Virginia State Board of Education



Dr. Joree Marple

State Superintendent of Schools

West Virginia Department of Education



LTC Julie K. Rhen

Commander

US Army Recruiting Battalion Beckley



Maj Lauren S. Edwards

Commanding Officer

US Marine Corp, Recruiting Stations Charleston



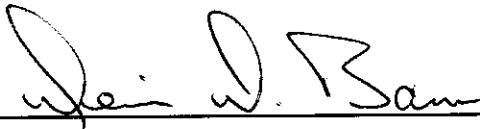
CDR Michael L. Hudson, USN

Commanding Officer

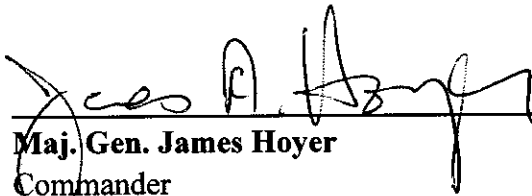
Navy Recruiting District Ohio



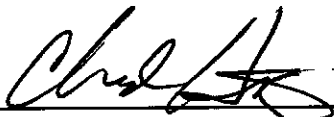
MSgt Eric Cepek
Regional Supervisor
US Air Force, Recruiting Southern West Virginia



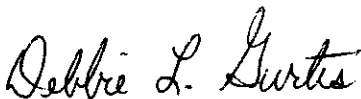
Col Dennis D. Barron
Commander
West Virginia Wing-Civil Air Patrol



Maj. Gen. James Hoyer
Commander
West Virginia National Guard



Chad Higgins (for Kaitlyn Rozich)
Project Coordinator
Operation: Military Kids



Debbie Gurtis
President
WV Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc. (WV PTA)