



## **Common Ground Partnership**

*Consists of 20 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/commonground](http://wvde.us/commonground)*

### **Social Media**

*[#CommonGroundWV](https://twitter.com/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 19, 2024**, 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 15-19, 2024**, offers an opportunity to create a military friendly climate for students through recognition





## PURPLE STAR AWARD

WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

**270**

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

**16**

County school board actions/resolutions for providing support to military children and their families

**14**

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





# MILITARY SIGNING WEEK

- In 2023, Military Signing Week and related events resulted in a minimum of **35 schools** recognizing **181 students**
- Events promote career exploration, bringing together educators, veterans, community members and students
- This year, Military Signing Week is **April 22 – 26, 2024**
- **42 schools** have registered events for this year and a complete list may be accessed on the homepage





# Activities and Resources Supporting Student Success:

## **Speaker series**

*Assists educators in finding a military guest speaker for school activities*

## **Military-based STEM education programs brochure**

*Provides information about a wide variety of career exploration opportunities*

## **Care packages for elementary schools**

*Offers educators strategies for supporting military students experiencing a deployment*

## **ASVAB mentor request system and self-help resources**

*Helps students find information about how to improve scores*

## **Operation Recognition**

*High school diplomas for honorable service in WWII, Korean War and Vietnam Conflict*

# 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



