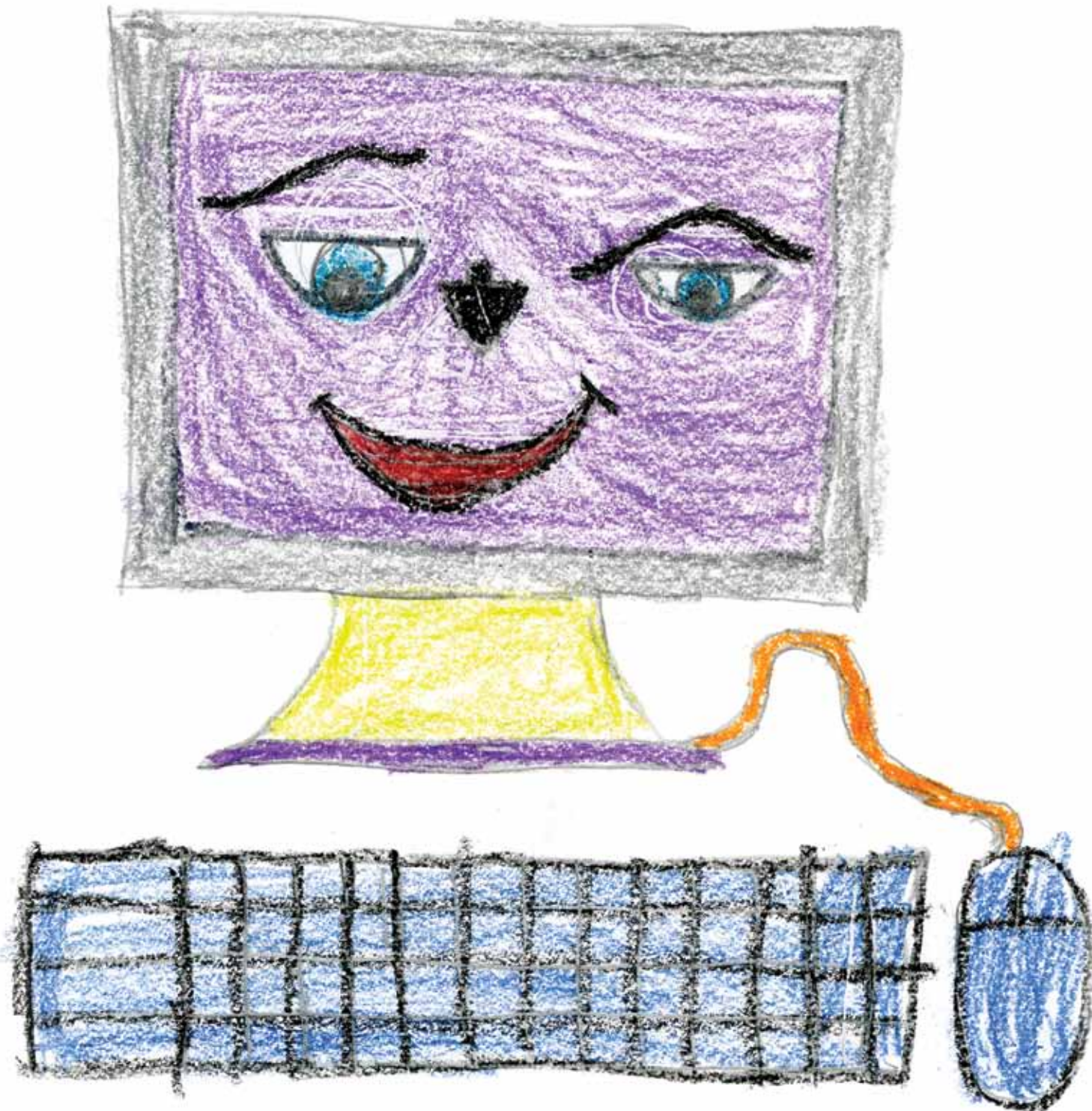


Providing Support through the

MCEC's Technology Tools



Today's family leads a fast-paced life with tons of extracurricular activities, and families need quick access to information. In response to this need for timely, easily accessible information and in recognition of the technical savvy of today's family, the MCEC has developed a variety of technology tools to aid military-connected children and their parents as they deal with transition, deployments and other unique challenges of military life.

Whether it be through websites, e-mail, blogs, or video conferencing systems, the Military Child Education Coalition tries to employ every technological method of communication possible to connect with our military families.

Learning about schools near other duty stations is now just a click away:

- MCEC website (www.MilitaryChild.org)
 - ~ Education Resource Center™
 - ~ Ask Aunt Peggie™
 - ~ MCEC Blog
- SchoolQuest™ (www.SchoolQuest.org)
- Interactive Counseling Center™ (ICC™)

"The office Aunt Peggie referred me to in Miami was wonderful. Within one day, a lady had found the information I needed. I toured the schools... it is everything I was hoping for. The world needs more people like you."



We Provide Direct Support through the MCEC's Technology Tools

MCEC website (www.MilitaryChild.org)

Whether trying to find dates for professional development institutes, a checklist for transferring military-connected students, or what's going on at the MCEC, the MCEC website provides people with a one-stop shop for all of the organization's resources and opportunities. The website received an overhaul this past year and now is more user-friendly than ever.

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Between July and December 2008, the MCEC website received 35,000 hits.

EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTER:

This resource, available on the MCEC's website, provides parents an opportunity to obtain critical academic information and website links for all states, to include the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA).

Resource areas cover a wide array of topics, including Alternative Education, Assessment Testing, Curriculum and Stat Standards, ESL/Bilingual Education, Gifted and Talented Education, Planning for College, Preschool/Kindergarten, and Special Education.

MCEC SOCIAL MEDIA:

There are exciting things happening every day with the MCEC, military-connected children, and all over the world. In order to keep our friends and partners up-to-date on all of our happenings, the MCEC has linked in to several sources of social media, including creating a blog, (www.voiceformilitarychild.org). On the blog, the MCEC's Board of Directors and staff can share their thoughts, the MCEC's latest missions and accomplishments, and respond to comments from readers. Join the conversation, view videos, and more at other popular sites such as www.youtube.com/MilitaryChild; www.twitter.com/MilitaryChild; and Facebook.com "Military Child Education Coalition."

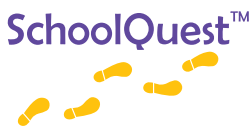
ASK AUNT PEGGIE:

Aunt Peggie, an expert researcher for the MCEC, has made it a point to learn about all things military and education. She is a former military-connected child who attended nine schools by grade 12. Her 34 years of experience in school administration and the classroom, combined with her personal history, have made her a fountain of information on all things related to military and education. The "Ask Aunt Peggie" feature on the MCEC's website allows users to e-mail questions related to the educational path of the mobile, military-connected child.



SchoolQuest (www.SchoolQuest.org):

The MCEC's SchoolQuest provides families who are planning a school move for their child with free, up-to-date information about both the sending and receiving school and the implications for their child's academic progress.



SchoolQuest is designed for military families and is a safe, secure online resource. It is organized so that military families can access information the MCEC has gathered to help them make decisions on future schools for their children. Users are asked to answer basic questions about their family and school-age children. Based on the answers they provide, SchoolQuest will then present, at no cost, meaningful facts, resources, and transition advice to help them find out about the area schools that serve the military community they select. SchoolQuest also offers an online library that provides additional resources for families in transition.

Interactive Counseling Center (ICC):

The ICC system provides students, parents, counselors, and others at sending or receiving schools with a full-featured video conferencing system, which has the ability to electronically exchange student records and other important information in secure, real-time communication using audio, video, data, and document imaging.



As of December 2008, there are 231 ICC systems in place. The MCEC Board made the strategic decision to evolve the ICC concept to a web-based system within the MCEC's SchoolQuest environment; this is in progress.