

A background graphic consisting of a network of interconnected nodes and lines, with nodes in shades of purple and blue. A yellow banner with a drop shadow is overlaid on the network.

2016 PETE TAYLOR PARTNERSHIP of EXCELLENCE AWARD



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Military Child Education Coalition
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During his tenure as Chairman of the Military Child Education Coalition, Lieutenant General (Ret) Pete Taylor played a critical role in the establishment of partnerships between military installations and school districts serving military-connected children.

In 2004, the MCEC Board of Directors established the Pete Taylor Partnership of Excellence Award in recognition of General Taylor's work and dedication to helping America's military children. This annual award encourages and applauds the outstanding partnerships that exist between military installations and school districts, and brings special recognition to those partnerships that demonstrate General Taylor's long-held belief that "goodness happens at the local level."

Congratulations to the 2016 winners of the Pete Taylor Partnership of Excellence Award.

OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD – K-12

Paying it Forward – Educating and Inspiring the Next Generation, OK

NAMES OF PARTNERS:

- Fort Sill Family & MWR
- Lawton Public Schools
- Elgin Public Schools
- Cache Public Schools
- Lawton Christian School
- Comanche County Memorial Hospital
- Comanche County Health Department
- State Representative Ann Coody
- Fort Sill Museums
- Fit Kids SWOK

Enduring partnerships between Fort Sill area schools and the local community have created an optimal educational environment for the Fort Sill family. While there are many long standing community partnerships, the cornerstone union of the Fort Sill community is the Army Partnership with Local Area Schools (APLAS). Through this program, uniformed service members and civilians spend more than 500 hours per month enhancing educational opportunities and providing positive role models for the next generation of leaders.

In an average week, you could walk into any school in the Fort Sill area and find service members engaged in some type of volunteer activity such as helping children learn to read, dressing up as "Cat in the Hat" for a school fund-raiser, or helping combat childhood obesity by implementing the President's Physical Fitness Challenge. Targeted STEM programs like the STARBASE partnership with the Oklahoma National Guard, the four-week Summer Escape experiential science camp, and the National Math and Science Initiative Advanced Placement program have improved results during state testing, provided a high pass rate on Advanced Placement Tests, and an increased the number of students choosing a math, science, or engineering related major in college.

DoDEA grant funds have been instrumental in improving the quality of education and facilities. Recently, a group of Fort Sill parents shared with new teachers that the partnership between Fort Sill and the community was the strongest they have seen, speaking volumes about the impact and sustainability of their partnerships.

EXEMPLARY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD – K-12

Charles Cotesworth Pinckney Elementary School STEM Initiative and Fort Jackson, SC

NAMES OF PARTNERS:

- Charles Cotesworth Pinckney Elementary School (CCP)
- Fort Jackson
- South Carolina/Fort Stewart/DoDDS Cuba School District
- Fort Jackson Garrison Commander
- Fort Jackson Command Sergeant Major
- Fort Jackson Chief of Staff
- Fort Jackson Master Fitness School
- Fort Jackson Commissary
- Fort Jackson FIRST LEGO League
- Fort Jackson Military Police
- Fort Jackson Moncrieff Nutritionist
- Fort Jackson School Liaison office
- CCP Parent Teacher Organization
- Fort Jackson The Leader
- Clemson University 4-H Program
- Fort Jackson Child, Youth and School Services Center
- Fort Jackson Thomas Lee Hall Library

During the 2015-2016 school year, the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) ushered in the College and Career Readiness Standards in Mathematics (CCRSM). These actions compelled CCP to question and then re-focus on closing the widening gap between the knowledge and skills of our students and the rigorous demands of college and careers. CCP developed a plan for STEM education that partnered with professionals who used their engineering degrees to support the mission of the Army and CCP. Listed below are some of the STEM activities from the partnership:

- > **STEM in the Gym:** Assisted in supporting the engineering design process. This process included generating a plan, hands-on inquiry, open ended exploration, team work, and rigorous math and science content and improvement.
- > **Fort Jackson FIRST LEGO League:** Participated in the *FIRST LEGO League South Carolina State Regional Competition*. This competition challenged students to think like scientists and engineers by applying the steps of the engineering design process.
- > **STEM Parent Night:** Presented College and Career Readiness Standards in Mathematics to the Fort Jackson community stakeholders. This event introduced the integration of math and science for the 21st century learner.
- > **STEMposium:** Showcased student knowledge and application of the engineering design process.
- > **STEM Night at the Commissary:** Explored math problem solving, technology, and the engineering design process in a real world arena, such as the grocery store.
- > **Math Prize Patrol:** Enhanced community relationships with all Fort Jackson stakeholders' to impact student achievement in the area of math.

Holloman Air Force Base & Alamogordo Public Schools: A Partnership Committed to Excellence, NM

NAMES OF PARTNERS:

- Holloman Air Force Base
- Alamogordo Public Schools
- Otero STEM
- New Mexico State University-Alamogordo
- New Mexico Space History Museum

The partnership between Alamogordo Public Schools (APS) and Holloman Air Force Base (HAFB) is one that continues to flourish. While the city of Alamogordo has enjoyed a rich history with HAFB, the pairing of the public schools with USAF personnel and resources is relatively new. In three short years, collaborating with Holloman's School Liaison Officer, they have created programs that support over 1600 military-connected students in all 15 schools.

Last year, the HAFB STEM program, hosted by the 96th Test Group, entered into a partnership with APS and a community organization, Otero STEM, to develop a program that would enhance STEM-related activities in this community. In just one short year, the goal of providing every school with equipment for robotics competitions was realized. Additionally, this partnership has grown to include New Mexico State University and the New Mexico Space History Museum and together they have successfully created a *Traveling Classroom*, with the ability to reach all APS students providing them with real world science applications taught by experts.

Currently, they are also working together to develop a *Science Lending Library*, providing every teacher in the district with opportunities to enhance science-related curriculum with equipment for hands-on lessons and demonstrations. United in the common goal of providing their students with an excellent education in an environment where they may thrive, APS and HAFB will continue to work together in the true spirit of "Real goodness happens at the local level."

The Military and School Partnership of Monterey, CA

NAMES OF PARTNERS:

- US Army Garrison, Presidio of Monterey
- Naval Support Activity – Monterey
- Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center
- Monterey Peninsula Unified School District

The Military and School Partnership of Monterey includes a diverse military and civilian population. Three of the military partners; USAG Presidio of Monterey, Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center (DLIFLC), and NSA Monterey include all U.S. military branches. In addition, Service members from 150 U.S. allied nations around the world attend the Naval Postgraduate School.

Monterey Peninsula Unified School District is a Transitional Kindergarten-12th grade district with an enrollment of 10,256. The close proximity and mutual interests of the military and school partners has intensified and diversified their collaboration. This mutually beneficial partnership supports academic and interpersonal growth and success, promotes cultural awareness and respect, fosters public service, and builds character in participants.

Partnership activities include service member volunteering and weekend tutoring, and youth sponsorship at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. The California Highway Patrol Every 15 Minutes Program challenges juniors and seniors to think about drinking driving, and personal safety. Other activities include Language Day, Operation Homefront, and Motivating Others through Outreach (MOTO).

RECOGNIZED COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AWARD – HIGHER EDUCATION

Wheelock College Military Center Partnership, MA

NAMES OF PARTNERS:

- Wheelock College
- Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation
- Massachusetts National Guard State Family Program
- Tri-Ad Veterans League
- Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care
- Head Start State Collaboration Office

The Children of Fallen Patriots Foundation Partnership Initiative: This partnership works with school districts across the country to recruit military-connected students who have lost a parent in the line of duty. Admitted students receive college scholarships, educational counseling, and participate in services offered by the Wheelock Military Center.

The Veterans Reading Brigade Partnership Initiative: Wheelock's Military Center team, in partnership with the Tri-Ad Veterans League, under the leadership of Mr. Haywood Fennell, is working on the Veterans Reading Brigade initiative. This initiative is an effort to address literacy gaps for youth in middle schools.

The Survivor Assessment Partnership Initiative: This initiative is an effort to identify and support the needs of military survivors across Massachusetts. Working with the Massachusetts National Guard State Family Program, this partnership will fulfill a gap for military survivors.

Military Families Regional Institute Project: Wheelock's Military Center in partnership with the Military Child Education Coalition, the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care (EEC), and the Head Start State Collaboration Office conducted professional development training for early care service providers across Massachusetts in the spring and summer of 2013. Trainings were conducted on the Boston and Brookline campuses, in Worcester, Springfield, and Bridgewater Massachusetts.

"Triumph! Unsung Black Veterans in US History" Art Exhibit: In partnership with the Tri-Ad Veteran League, various Boston based organizations, the Wheelock Military Center, and under Dr. Malone-Fenner's leadership, "Triumph! Unsung Black Veterans in US History" Art Exhibit was created. The Art Exhibit was commissioned by Tri-Ad Veterans League and created by talented youth across the commonwealth.

OUTSTANDING INDIVIDUAL PROJECT AWARD – K-12

Mission PREVAIL, TX and AL

NAME OF COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS:

- Meadows Elementary School
- Liberty Middle School
- 2-82 FA, ICAV

Mission PREVAIL! provided students from Meadows Elementary in Texas and Liberty Middle School in Alabama the opportunity to collaborate with each other and soldiers from 2-82 FA, the Adopt-A-School Unit for Meadows Elementary School, in a robotics competition via videoconferencing. They designed, built, and programmed robots to complete tasks within a specific timeframe. This required creativity, problem solving, resiliency, and teamwork.

Soldiers, who were also coaches from Fort Hood, helped the students from Alabama through videoconferencing. They gave tips and suggestions when needed, as well as support. These students built a strong camaraderie with their soldiers as well as learned a great deal about robotics, programming, and teamwork.

The Meadows Elementary students were able to work with their soldiers one-on-one. As military children, Meadows students were accustomed to seeing soldiers at school and in their community. This competition allowed them to work side-by-side with these soldiers in order to accomplish their goals. This teamwork gave them self-confidence, reassurance, and brought an added understanding of their programming skills.

Using videoconferencing, Mission PREVAIL! gave students at Meadows Elementary and Liberty Middle Schools the ability to talk to and feel connected to each other in unique ways not only by using robotics, but also through projects such as reading to Meadows kindergarteners and participating in Veterans' Day and Ride 2 Recovery events. With the partnership between students, educators, and soldiers, Mission PREVAIL! enriched and expanded the knowledge and experiences of students in innovative ways that excited and challenged them!

2015 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership – K-12

- Tyndall Air Force Base; Naval Support Activity Panama City; Bay District Schools, Florida

Exemplary Partnership – K-12

- Holloman Air Force Base; Alamogordo Public Schools; 846th Test Squadron; 46th Test Group; New Mexico State University – Alamogordo; New Mexico Museum of Space History; Alamogordo Squadron – Civil Air Patrol; Bethel Baptist; Parent and Community representatives, New Mexico

Recognized Partnerships – K-12

- Joint Base Lewis McCord Army Medical Center; Steilacoom Historical School District No. 1; Clover Park School District No. 400, Washington
- Fort Jackson; DoDEA South Carolina/Fort Stewart/DoDDS Cuba School District; C.C. Pinckney Elementary School; Fort Jackson 282nd Army Band; Fort Jackson Military Police; HHC, 171st Infantry Brigade; Fort Jackson Commissary; Fort Jackson Balfour Beatty Housing Agency; Fort Jackson Basic Combat Training Museum; Fort Jackson newspaper, *The Leader*; C.C. Pinckney Elementary School Parent Teacher Organization; University of South Carolina Athletics; Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Columbia, South Carolina

Outstanding Individual Projects – K-12

- Wiesbaden Middle School; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Germany
- Meadows Elementary School; 2-20 Field Artillery, 41st Fires Brigade, Fort Hood, Texas

2014 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership – K-12

- Joint Readiness Training Center & Fort Polk; Vernon Parish School District; Fort Polk Progress; The Rapides Foundation; Louisiana Department of Education; Louisiana Economic Development; Northwestern State University; Louisiana Technical Community College; Vernon Parish Chamber of Commerce, Louisiana

Exemplary Partnerships – K-12

- School District of Clay County; Naval Air Station Jacksonville; Department of Defense Education Activity; Clay Action Coalition, Inc.; University of North Florida, Brooks College of Health; Saint Leo University; St. Johns River State College; Thrasher-Horne Conference Center; Florida Department of Environmental Protection; Girl Scouts of Gateway Council; Navy Entomology Center; Fleet Readiness Center Southeast; University of Florida; Naval Hospital, Florida
- Barksdale Air Force Base; Bossier Parish Schools; Bossier Chamber of Commerce; Military Affairs Council; Barksdale Forward; Cyber Innovation Center; Greater Bossier Economic Development Foundation; Representative Henry Burns, Republican District 9, Louisiana

Recognized Partnerships – K-12

- Holloman Air Force Base; Alamogordo Public Schools; City of Alamogordo, New Mexico
- Portsmouth Naval Shipyard; Kittery School Department; Rotary Club of Kittery; Maine Department of Education; Maine Military Interstate Compact Council, Maine

Exemplary Partnerships – Higher Education

- University of Southern California; Navy Region Southwest; Marine Camp Installations West; Bar-Ilan University; San Diego State University; University of California-Los Angeles; University of California-San Diego; Teachers College Press (Columbia University); Bonsall Union School District; Chula Vista Elementary School District; Escondido Union School District; Escondido Union High School District; Fallbrook Union Elementary School District; Fallbrook Union High School District; Oceanside Unified School District; Temecula Valley Unified School District, California
- Old Dominion University; Navy Region Mid-Atlantic; Navy School Liaison Officers; Darden College of Education; Virginia Beach City Public Schools; Newport News City Public Schools, Virginia

Recognized Partnerships – Higher Education

- Kansas State University; Fort Riley; Geary County Public Schools (USD 475); Manhattan-Ogden Public Schools (USD 383); Riley County Public Schools (USD 378); Chapman (USD 473), Kansas

2013 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Virginia Beach City Public Schools; Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story; Naval Air Station Oceana; Old Dominion University; National Math and Science Institute; Virginia Advanced Study Strategies, Virginia

Exemplary Partnerships

- Waynesville R-VI School District; Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri
- West Point Elementary School (DoDEA); West Point Middle School (DoDEA); James I. O'Neill High School (Highland Falls-Fort Montgomery Central School District); West Point United States Military Academy, New York

Outstanding Individual Programs

- Camp Lejeune; Brewster Middle School; Bitz Intermediate School, North Carolina

2012 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Anchorage School District and Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

Recognized Partnerships

- DoDEA Fort Benning Schools: Herbert Dexter Elementary School; Don Faith Middle School; Frank Loyd Elementary School; Morris McBride Elementary School; Freddie Stowers Elementary School; Edward White Elementary School; Richard Wilson Elementary School, Georgia
Fort Benning: 1/29th Infantry; 1/10th Field Artillery; Directorate of Emergency Services; 2/58th Infantry; 192nd Infantry Brigade; 2/29th Infantry Regiment; OCS 11th Infantry Regiment; 197th Infantry HHC; 2/11th Infantry HHC; Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC); and
Fort Benning Community: Muscogee County Career and Technical Academy; WRBL News 3; Embracing Military Children; and Big Lots Stores, Georgia
- U.S. Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey; Naval Support Activity Monterey (NSA Monterey) and Naval Postgraduate School (NPS); Monterey Peninsula Unified School District; and National Naval Officers' Association (NNOA), California

Recognized Individual Programs

- Naval Air Station Key West and Sigsbee Charter Schools, Florida

2011 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Fort Bragg, Pope Air Field; Seymour Johnson Air Force Base; Camp Lejeune; Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point; Marine Corps Air Station New River; Marine Corps-East; North Carolina National Guard; North Carolina Department of Instruction, North Carolina

Exemplary Partnerships

- Naval Submarine Base New London, U.S. Coast Guard Academy, and local school districts in New London County, Connecticut
- Commander Fleet Activities Yokosuka, CFAY Complex Schools of the DoDEA Japan District, Japan
- Tyndall Air Force Base, Naval Support Activity Panama City, Bay District Schools, Florida

Recognized Individual Programs

- 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment-Vilseck, Germany; Bavarian Medical Command; 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion; Bavaria District Superintendent Office; Armed Forces Network; Vilseck High School; Vilseck Civilian Spouses Club; Vilseck Elementary School Parent Teacher Student Association, Germany
- Tanana Middle School; Ladd Elementary School; Child Youth Behavioral Military & Family Life Program; Military School Liaison Program, Alaska

2010 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- U.S. Army Garrison Wiesbaden and Wiesbaden School Complex; Heidelberg District; DoDDS Europe, Germany

Exemplary Partnerships

- Joint Military Service School Liaison Committee
Military Partners: Joint Base Langley-Eustis; Naval Weapons Station Yorktown; Fort Monroe; Naval Station Norfolk/Naval Support Activity; Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek; Joint Expeditionary Base Fort Story; Naval Air Station Oceana/Dam Neck and Norfolk Naval Shipyard/Naval Medical Center Portsmouth, Virginia
School/Community Partners: Virginia Operation Military Kids; Chesapeake Public Schools; Gloucester Public Schools; Hampton City Schools; Isle of Wight County Schools; Newport News Public Schools; Norfolk Public Schools; Poquoson City Public Schools; Portsmouth Public Schools; Suffolk Public Schools; Williamsburg/James City County Schools; Virginia Beach City Public Schools and York County School Division, Virginia

Recognized Partnerships

- Fort Sill, Oklahoma; Family, Morale, Welfare and Recreation; Child, Youth and Schools Services; School Liaison Officers; and Superintendents from the Southwest Oklahoma School Districts, Oklahoma
- United States Army Garrison, Redstone; Huntsville City Schools; Madison City Schools; Madison County Schools; National Children's Advocacy Center; The Huntsville/Madison County Schools Foundation; City of Huntsville; City of Madison; Madison County; Hands on Greater Huntsville; Association of the United States Army; Leadership Huntsville; Committee of 100; Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce; Workforce Development; YMCA Director of Children Programs; SciQuest; BRAC Support; Alabama Governor Bob Riley; Hudson Alpha Institute; Woody Anderson Ford, and Digital Radiance, Alabama
- Navy Region Southwest; Marine Corps Installations West; San Diego Unified School District, California

Outstanding Partnerships - Individual Projects

- Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune; Marine Corps Air Station New River; Onslow County Schools, Onslow County Public Library, North Carolina

2009 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and Oceanside Unified School District, California

Exemplary Partnerships

- Travis Air Force Base and Travis Unified School District, California

Recognized Partnerships

- Fort Campbell, Christian County Public Schools (KY); DDESS Kentucky District; Clarksville/Montgomery County School System (TN); Stewart County School System (TN); Todd County Public Schools (KY); Cheatham County School System (TN); and several private schools, Kentucky/Tennessee
- 2-20 Field Artillery; 41st Fires Brigade, Fort Hood; Meadows Elementary School, Killeen Independent School District, Texas
- Child and Youth School Services, Fort Riley; Geary County Schools USD #475, Kansas
- The U.S. Army Garrison, Schweinfurt; Schweinfurt Middle School nurses & various other community groups, Germany

2008 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Fort Sill and Lawton Public Schools, Oklahoma

Exemplary Partnerships

- Fort Bragg and Cumberland County Schools, North Carolina

Recognized Partnerships

- Los Angeles Air Force Base and Los Angeles Unified School District, California

Outstanding Partnerships - Individual Projects

- U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt; U.S. Army 172nd Brigade; 1-91 CAV Group, and Schweinfurt Elementary School, Germany
- U.S. Army Garrison Detroit Arsenal and Mount Clemens Community School District, Michigan
- Kaiserslautern Middle School and Defense Commissary Agency, Germany

2007 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Joint Military Services of Hampton Roads and Hampton Roads Communities; Virginia Installations - Fort Eustis, Fort Story, Fort Monroe, Langley Air Force Base, Fleet & Family Support Centers; School Districts - Virginia Beach City Public Schools; York County School Division; Chesapeake Public Schools; Gloucester Public Schools; Isle of Wight County Schools; Newport News Public Schools; Norfolk Public Schools; Poquoson City Public Schools; Portsmouth Public Schools; Suffolk Public Schools; Williamsburg/James City County Public Schools, Virginia

Exemplary Partnerships

- Partners-in-Education: Department of Defense Dependent Schools Korea and United States Forces Korea, Korea
- U.S. Army Garrison Grafenwoehr and Department of Defense Dependent Schools Bavaria, Germany

- Fort Carson Community: Fort Carson; Fountain-Fort Carson School District-8; Widefield School District-3; Colorado Springs Christian Schools; Academy District- 20; Falcon School District-49; Pueblo School District-70; and Pikes Peak Alliance Council, Colorado
- Center for Naval Aviation Technical Training Unit and Kings County School District; Shelly Baird School, California

Individual Program Recognitions

- Mids for Kids: United States Naval Academy and Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Maryland
- Helping Schools Provide for Deployment Success: Fort Lewis, Madigan Medical Center, and Clover Park School District, Washington

Honorable Mention - Individual Program

- "Army Kids Strong" Vicenza Elementary School, DoDEA Mediterranean, and USAG Vicenza, U.S. Army Southern European Task Force, Italy

2006 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Fort Campbell; Fort Campbell Domestic Dependent Elementary and Secondary Schools (DDESS); Christian County Public Schools of Kentucky; Todd County Schools of Kentucky; Clarksville/Montgomery County Schools of Tennessee; Stewart County Schools of Tennessee; and Cheatham County Schools of Tennessee, Kentucky/Tennessee

Exemplary Partnerships

- Fort Sam Houston and Fort Sam Houston Independent School District, Texas
- Fort Bliss and El Paso Independent School District, Texas

Outstanding Community/School Project

- Heidelberg School District and Heidelberg Military Garrison, Germany
- 52nd Fighter Wing Command, Mission Support Group Command, and Bitburg High School, Germany

2005 WINNERS:

Outstanding Partnership

- Groton Public Schools and New London U.S. Naval Submarine Base, Connecticut

Exemplary Partnerships

- Cumberland County Public Schools and Fort Bragg, North Carolina
- Fort Sam Houston Independent School District and Fort Sam Houston, Texas



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