



AGENDA

THE ARKANSAS COUNCIL FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

Thursday, September 5, 2024, 10:00 A.M.

Van Buren Public Schools Professional Development Center
60 Northridge Drive
Van Buren, Arkansas 72956

OR

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82658879558?pwd=dVdzVU9OWWt2VzFzNGpRWmpYdy9ZQT09>

Meeting ID: 826 5887 9558

Passcode: 967781

-
- I. Call to Order and Roll Call (J. Kaminar, A. Cress)
 - II. Pledge of Allegiance (J. Kaminar)
 - III. Recognition of Host School District (J. Kaminar)
 - IV. Introduction of Guest (J. Kaminar)
 - V. Approval of Agenda*** (J. Kaminar)
 - VI. Approval of Minutes (May 2, 2024 and July 18, 2024)*** (J. Kaminar)
 - VII. Public Comments (J. Kaminar)
 - VIII. Presentation – Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Award Program (D. Campbell)
 - IX. Chair’s Report (J. Kaminar)
 - 1. DMEC Status
 - 2. DMEC/SML Training

- X. Vice Chair’s Report (A. Wright)**

- XI. Reports by Committees, Task Forces, or Liaisons**
 - A. Awards Committee (Dr. J. Walker)**
 - 1. Purple Star School Applications*****
 - 2. Outstanding Military Scholar Award**
 - B. Outreach Committee (J. Bergstrom)**
 - 1. Military Family Forum on August 27, 2024 (J. Kaminar)**
 - 2. LRAFB Deployed Families Dinner (J. Saum)**
 - C. Strategic Planning Committee (J. Reynolds)**
 - D. Student Advisory Committee (A. Wright)**
 - E. Military Family Education Liaison (B. Olles)**
 - F. Department of Defense Liaison (Col. N. Estelle)**
 - G. Special Education Liaison (R. Porter)**
 - H. School Choice Advisor (D. Wood)**

- XII. Old Business (J. Kaminar)**
 - A. Schedule of Committee Meetings**

- XIII. New Business (J. Kaminar)**
 - A. Minute Man Day (C. Harper)**
 - B. Change to Meeting Schedule for 2024-25**
 - C. Change to Military Dependent Reporting Requirement*****

- XIV. Date/Time/Place for Next Meeting – November 7, 2024, 10:00 AM, Room 149, Arkansas State Capitol Building, 500 Woodlane Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (J. Kaminar)**

- XV. Adjournment*** (J. Kaminar)**

*** Indicates a vote is required



MEETING MINUTES
ARKANSAS COUNCIL FOR MILITARY CHILDREN
Thursday, September 05, 2024
10:00 A.M.

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The Arkansas Council for Military Children (the Council) met Thursday, September 5, 2024. Chair John Kaminar called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

PRESENT:

Mr. John Kaminar, Chair
Ms. Andelyn Wright, Vice Chair
Ms. Jody Bergstrom
Rep. Karilyn Brown (proxy for Rep. Brian Evans)
Kevin Hesslen (proxy for Mr. John Ciesla)
Sen. Jane English
Lt. Col. James Garvey
Cristina Harper
Mr. Brian Melton
Ms. LaShawnDa Noel
Ms. Bobbie Olles (MFEL)
Ms. Christyal Parker
Ms. Allison Pitts
Ms. Jennifer Reynolds
Ms. Jessica Saum
Dr. Kerry Schneider
Ms. Emily Taylor (Proxy for Dr. Tony Thurman)
Ms. Teri Williams
Mr. Rick Porter (Special Education Liaison, Non-Voting)
Mr. Dustin Wood (School Choice Advisor, Non-Voting)
Ms. Sonya Smith (Student Advisor, Non-Voting)

ABSENT:

Dr. Janice Walker (proxy for Dr. Jeremy Owoh)
Ms. Brittany Edwards (Excused)
Col. N'Keiba Estelle (DOD Liaison, Non-Voting)

Mr. Weston Arnett (Student Advisor, Non-Voting)
Ms. Madison Williams (Student Advisor, Non-Voting)

A quorum was established.

II. Pledge of Allegiance (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar asked Ms. Sonia Guerrero, the District Military Education Coordinator for the Van Buren School District, to lead the Council members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Recognition of Host School District (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar thanked the Van Buren School District for hosting this month's council meeting. He stated that Van Buren is a Purple Star School District which demonstrates the commitment that the district has made to serving military families. The Van Buren District has 120 children of military families enrolled, which gives the district a high proportion of military children, and that the district is preparing for an influx of military families because of the expansion of the training mission at the Ebbing Air National Guard Station. Chair Kaminar pointed out that the Superintendent, Dr. Harold Jeffcoat, is a former member of the Arkansas Army National Guard and that the district board chairman, Mr. Bob Freeman, is a retired Army Lieutenant Colonel, and that their work in the district demonstrates their commitment to military families.

Chair Kaminar commended the district for its effort to become a Purple Star School District and cited Ms. Guerrero for her leadership. Chair Kaminar then announced that Dr. Jeffcoat had nominated Ms. Guerrero for recognition as an Outstanding District Military Education Coordinator. He presented Ms. Guerrero with a certificate on behalf of the Council.

IV. Introduction of Guests (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar introduced Ms. Danielle Campbell, the Family Support Services Program Coordinator for Operation Homefront. Ms. Campbell is a Navy spouse of nineteen years and has served as an ombudsman for military families during her husband's service. She currently serves with Operation Homefront, a nonprofit organization that supports military families in need.

V. Approval of Agenda (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Emily Taylor moved to amend the agenda to adopt or designate a Purple Up Day for the State of Arkansas. Dr. Schneider seconded. Without objection, the agenda was adopted with the amendment.

VI. Approval of Minutes (May 2, 2024 and July 18, 2024) (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar asked for a motion to approve the May 2, 2024, and the July 18, 2024 minutes. Ms. Reynolds made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Ms. Parker. Without objection, the minutes were approved.

VII. Public Comments (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar recognized Ms. Chelsey Swindle, the Family Center Coordinator at the Beebe School District. Ms. Swindle and her children are a Gold Star family, her husband having been killed in action in Afghanistan in 2012. Ms. Swindle requested that the requirement for school districts to report children of military families be expanded to include reporting the children of fallen and disabled veterans. She stated that the children of former military members are very much a part of the military community, but that they are often overlooked because school districts do not identify and report them.

Ms. Taylor moved for Purple Up Day to be held Friday 11, 2025. Dr. Schneider seconded. Motion carried.

Chair Kaminar addressed an item leftover from the July agenda in which Mr. Don Berry suggested that he thinks that the seats for the Student Advisory Committee are misallocated. Chair Kaminar reviewed how the Council had decided to allocate the seats. He suggested that the Council could revisit the issue later.

VIII. Guest Presentation - Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Award Program (D. Campbell)

Chair Kaminar turned the floor over to Ms. Danielle Campbell. Ms. Campbell presented information to the Council on Operation Homefront's Military Child of the Year award program. She described the application process and eligibility requirements and what the winners receive as a prize. She stated that Operation Homefront is accepting nominations from September 10, 2024, through December 2, 2024. Ms. Campbell answered questions from Council members and thanked the Council for allowing her to present.

IX. Chair's Report (J. Kaminar)

1. DMEC Status

Chair Kaminar reported that currently there are 62 school districts in Arkansas that meet one or both criteria to appoint a District Military Education Coordinator. The Department of Education published Commissioner's Memo 25-003, which reminded school districts of the obligation to appoint a District Military Education Coordinator; that Commissioner's memo also asked them to have their District Military Education Coordinators and their School Military Liaisons to register online so that council can put together a consolidated roster of those persons and then post it online for military families to find.

2. DMEC/SML Training

Chair Kaminar reported there have been a number of rounds of training for District Military Education Coordinators and School Military Liaisons, with 10 to 15 people attending each one of those sessions. Chair Kaminar thanked Ms. Terri Williams and Technical Sergeant Arlene Williams for helping with those training sessions.

Chair Kaminar stated that the Legal Services Unit of the Department of Education was reviewing whether the Council may have inadvertently violated the Freedom of Information Act. Chair Kaminar introduced Mr. Andres Rhodes, General Counsel for the Department of Education, and Ms. Alisha Price, legal advisor

to the Council, who explained the situation further. Following their explanation, Chair Kaminar stated the Council members should avoid direct communication until the Legal Services Unit could complete its review.

X. Vice Chair's Report (A. Wright)

No report.

XI. Reports by the Committees, Task Forces, or Liaisons

A. Awards Committee (Dr. J. Walker)

1. Purple Star School Applications

Chair Kaminar reported on Dr. Walker's behalf. There are two Purple Star School applications, Central Park Elementary in Bentonville, and Lavaca Elementary. Both schools have met all requirements. Dr. Schneider motioned to approve both Purple Star Applications. Seconded by Vice Chair Wright. Motion carried.

2. Outstanding Military Scholar Award

Chair Kaminar noted that Commissioner's Memo 25-002 was published on September 2, 2024 to publicize the Outstanding Military Scholar award to all school districts. Chair Kaminar hopes to start receiving nominations for the award in January so that the first award can be presented in the spring of 2025

B. Outreach Committee (J. Bergstrom)

1. Military Family Forum on August 27, 2024 (J. Kaminar)

Chair Kaminar reported the first military family forum of the 2024-2025 academic year was held on August 27, 2024 from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM online. The Council had publicized that event in advance through the network of District Military Education Coordinators through the school counseling listserv and through Commissioner's Memo 25-009. Three families called in. Based on the conversations during the forum all of the families are well satisfied with how well they are being served by the law in Arkansas and the support that it gives for military family members. One suggestion was received that the committee include Gold Star children in the reporting that school districts are required to do for their military connected students. That suggestion was made by Ms. Chelsey Swindle. Chair Kaminar reported all in all, it was a productive forum and he thanked several of the Council Members who participated.

2. LRAFB Deployed Families Dinner (J. Saum)

Ms. Saum reported on the upcoming Deployed Families Dinner at the Little Rock Air Force Base.

C. Strategic Planning Committee (J. Reynolds)

Ms. Reynolds reported the next Strategic Planning Committee meeting will be held September 20, 2024 at 11:00 AM as a zoom meeting.

D. Student Advisory Committee (A. Wright)

Ms. Wright reported the student advisors completed the forms regarding their schedules. The committee is working through their schedules to solidify a calendar to schedule and advance the committee calendars for meetings. Ms. Wright will send the schedule out as soon as it is prepared so the council is aware of when the meetings will be. One seat (for the Fourth Congressional District) is still currently open.

E. Military Family Education Liaison (B. Olles)

Ms. Olles reported that the mathematics unit at ADE is currently working on a math intervention plan. The templates for the schools to use will be released through a Commissioner's Memo sometime in October.

F. Department of Defense Liaison (Col. N. Estelle)

Ms. Williams reported in Col. Estelle's absence. Ms. Williams wanted to thank the school districts for their support with the upcoming deployments from the Little Rock Air Force Base. She applauded the school counselors and the military family life counselors that are working within these districts and with the families.

G. Special Education Liaison (R. Porter)

Mr. Porter reported that upon reaching age 16 students with an IEP must have a plan for transitioning to post-secondary education. He shared information on a newsletter with links to resources for families of students with special needs and asked the Council members to share the information with their school districts.

H. School Choice Advisor (D. Wood)

Mr. Wood reported that the Education Freedom Accounts for this year are rapidly approaching a point that ADE will have to implement a waiting list for the approval of the accounts. He asked the Council members to inform their military families that ADE is addressing the issue as rapidly as possible.

XII. Old Business

A. Schedule of Committee Meetings

Chair Kaminar asked the committee chairs to provide a schedule of committee meetings for the remainder of the academic year.

Chair Kaminar stated that Secretary Oliva is ready to start a focus group to help solve issues in school districts serving the Little Rock Air Force Base. Assistant Commissioner Darrell Smith is likely to lead

the group and that several staff members from ADE, including Mr. Wood and himself, as well as representatives from several of the districts that serve the installation, would be involved.

XI. New Business (J. Kaminar)

A. Minute Man Day (C. Harper)

Ms. Harper that Minute Man Day will be held at Camp Robinson on September 14. The gates will be open to the public that day. There will be tables set up for profit and nonprofit organizations. There will be high schools in attendance which will provide opportunities to interact with those schools, students and their families.

B. Change to Meeting Schedule for 2024-25

Chair Kaminar reported that the November 7, 2024 meeting was scheduled to be held at the Sheridan School District, but a suggestion was made by Mr. Wood to host the meeting at the state capitol building. Representative Brown has arranged for the council to use one of the committee rooms on November 7. Chair Kaminar encouraged the council to attend that meeting in person if possible.

C. Change to Military Dependent Reporting Requirement

Chair Kaminar reported that when Ms. Swindle spoke at the forum on August the 27, she had suggested changing the requirement for school districts to report the enrollment of children of military families. The Arkansas Code Annotated 6-28-117 requires that school districts report the enrollment of children current military service members. Ms. Swindle suggested that school districts should report their Gold Star children as well. Chair Kaminar said the purpose of that would be so that the Council would not lose visibility of a very special population of military connected children, and it would in turn enable school districts to continue to serve those family members better. Chair Kaminar stated that the Council has the ability to make recommendations to the legislature for changes to state law. Dr. Schneider moved to assign this issue to the Strategic Planning Committee for further study. Ms. Taylor seconded. The motion carried.

XIV. Date/Time/Place for Next Meeting – November 7, 2024, 10:00 AM, Room 149, Arkansas State Capitol Building, 500 Woodlane Street, Little Rock, Arkansas 72201 (J. Kaminar)

XV. Adjournment (J. Kaminar)

Dr. Schneider moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Williams seconded. No discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Minutes recorded by A. Cress



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MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR[®] AWARDS

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Military Child of the Year[®] Award

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Nominations will open in September 2024 for the esteemed 2025 Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year® Award.

[Click here to sign up to be notified when submissions open.](#)

ABOUT THE AWARDS

The annual awards recognize outstanding young people ages 13 to 18. Recipients will represent a branch of the armed forces — the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, National Guard, and Space Force — for their scholarship, volunteerism, leadership, extracurricular involvement, and other criteria while facing the challenges of military family life.

All Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Award recipients will be flown with a parent or guardian to Washington, D.C., and recognized at the April 2025 gala, during which senior leaders of each branch of service will present the awards. They also will receive \$10,000 each, a laptop computer, and other donated gifts. The gala is usually held in April, the month of the military child, as a way to recognize the support and appreciation we provide to military families.

WHAT ARE THE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS?

- Child must be a legal military dependent. Status confirmed by DEERS enrollment form.
- Military children must be between the ages of 13 and 18, at the time of nomination.
- Child and one adult guardian must be available to travel to the Washington, DC area April 8-11, during the month of the military child, for the Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Awards Gala award presentation.
- Officers, directors, employees, and agents of Operation Homefront and its subsidiaries or affiliated organizations, and their immediate family members (parent, child, sibling, and spouse of each) and those living in the same households of each are not eligible to receive programs, services, grants, or donated goods intended for use by Operation Homefront's clients.
- Previous Operation Homefront Military Child of the Year Award Recipients, including Innovation Award recipients, are no longer eligible.

In addition to the above eligibility requirements, if selected as a Semifinalist, must:

- Provide Letters of recommendation
- Provide Form 1172- DEERS
- Be willing to participate in media and donor opportunities

2024 WINNERS IN DC



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Help us find Operation Homefront's next

MILITARY CHILD OF THE YEAR[®] AWARD RECIPIENTS!

WHAT: Operation Homefront's Military Child of the Year Awards celebrate and recognize the tremendous achievements of outstanding military children.

WHO: Each year, hundreds of military teens (ages 13-18) are nominated by a parent, teacher, mentor or guardian. Candidates for the Military Child of the Year Awards demonstrate resilience, strength of character, and the ability to thrive in the face of the challenges of military life.

WHEN: The Awards Gala will be held in Washington, D.C. on April 10, 2025 during the Month of the Military Child.

RECIPIENTS: Military Child of the Year Award recipients receive a \$10,000 cash award, a laptop computer, and are flown with a parent or guardian for a 3-night stay in Washington, D.C.



**NOMINATIONS ACCEPTED
SEPTEMBER 10—DECEMBER 2, 2024**



For more information, scan the QR code or visit
OPERATIONHOMEFRONT.ORG/MCOY

Enrollment of Children of Military Families
As of 7/11/2024

District Name	Total Enrollment	Children of Military Families
Alma School District	3093	134
Arkadelphia School District	1812	21
Arkansas Connections Academy	3804	43
Arkansas Lighthouse Charter Schools	434	65
Arkansas Virtual Academy	3937	9
Batesville School District	3119	32
Beebe School District	3320	169
Benton School District	5763	138
Bentonville School District	19137	92
Bryant School District	9615	211
Cabot School District	10336	1276
Charleston School District	880	22
Clarksville School District	2512	23
Conway School District	9914	170
El Dorado School District	3884	19
Estem Public Charter School	2739	48
Farmington School District	2823	49
Fayetteville School District	10164	92
Fort Smith School District	13622	240
Fountain Lake School District	1212	21
Greenbrier School District	3766	84
Greene County Tech School District	3430	3
Greenwood School District	3836	245
Harmony Grove Sch Dist(Saline)	1235	25
Harrison School District	2746	43
Hot Springs School District	3533	13
Jacksonville North Pulaski School District	4174	325
Jonesboro School District	6471	10
Lake Hamilton School District	3954	35
Lakeside School Dist(Garland)	3364	43
Lamar School District	1193	21
Lavaca School District	784	45
Lisa Academy	4015	28
Little Rock School District	19952	218
Lonoke School District	1544	43
Magnolia School District	2514	39
Marion School District	3886	42
Mena School District	1697	25
Mountain Home School District	3839	38
Nettleton School District	3723	5
North Little Rock School District	7295	136
Ozark School District	1696	27
Paragould School District	3026	27
Paris School District	966	22
Pea Ridge School District	2527	20
Perryville School District	915	20
Prairie Grove School District	2117	39
Pulaski County Special School District	11875	253
Quitman School District	870	23
Rogers School District	15529	118
Russellville School District	5459	67
Searcy School District	3924	94
Sheridan School District	4241	98
Siloam Springs School District	4511	46
South Conway County School District	2233	23

Enrollment of Children of Military Families
As of 7/11/2024

Springdale School District	21712	73
Texarkana School District	3758	0
Valley View School District	2895	40
Van Buren School District	5709	120
Vilonia School District	2921	131
West Memphis School District	4619	6
White Hall School District	3068	4

Commissioner's Memo
9/2/2024

Outstanding Military Scholar Award

Memo Information

Memo Number **COM-25-002**

Memo Date 9/2/2024

Memo Type Informational

Unit School Choice and Parent Empowerment

Regulatory Authority

Response Required NO

Attention Assistant Principal; Assistant Superintendent; Principals; School Counselors; Superintendents

Primary Contact Information

Name John Kaminar

Phone Number 501-683-5188

Email John.Kaminar@ade.arkansas.gov

Memo Text

The Arkansas Outstanding Military Scholar Award (OMSA) is presented by the Arkansas Council for Military Children (the Council) annually during the spring semester to a scholar enrolled in grade 12 in an Arkansas school and who is the child of a current or former member of the uniformed services. The Council will select four Finalists, one of whom will be selected as the State Winner. The Finalists and the State Winner will be selected on the basis of academic performance, extracurricular participation, leadership, and community service learning.

Nominations are made online using the [OMSA Nomination Form](#). The nomination must include OMSA Form 1 (Academic Achievement), OMSA Form 2 (Extracurricular Participation and Leadership), and OMSA Form 3 (Community Service Learning Record).

Nominations must include an essay by the nominee.

Each of the four Finalists will be interviewed by members of the Council.

A full description of the program, including essay instructions, all three forms, and evaluation rubrics for the essay and interview are attached to this memorandum and are available [at this link](#).

The Council accepts nominations during the month of January and announces the winner during the Month of the Military Child (April).

Each Finalist will receive a Certificate of Achievement from the Council. The State Winner will receive a plaque and a laptop computer.

Attachments

- [2024_ACMC_OutstandingMilitaryScholarAward_DecrsiptionAndParameters_July_02_142955.pdf](#)
- [2024_ACMC_OutstandingMilitaryScholarAward_OMSAForm1_Fillable_143108.pdf](#)
- [2024_ACMC_OutstandingMilitaryScholarAward_OMSAForm2_Fillable_143136.pdf](#)
- [2024_ACMC_OutstandingMilitaryScholarAward_OMSAForm3_Fillable_143250.pdf](#)
- [2024_ACMC_OMSA_EssayRubric_143318.pdf](#)
- [2024_ACMC_OMSA_InterviewRubric_143337.pdf](#)

Commissioner's Memo
8/9/2024

Military Family Education Coordinators and School Military Liaisons

Memo Information

Memo Number **COM-25-003**

Memo Date 8/9/2024

Memo Type Regulatory

Unit School Choice and Parent Empowerment

Regulatory Authority A.C.A. § 6-28-116

Response Required NO

Attention Assistant Principal; Assistant Superintendent; Principals; Superintendents

Primary Contact Information

Name John Kaminar

Phone Number 501-683-5188

Email John.Kaminar@ade.arkansas.gov

Memo Text

A.C.A. § 6-28-116 requires public school districts with 20 or more children of military families or 3,000 students overall to designate a staff member to serve as its Military Family Education Coordinator (previously referred to as District Military Education Coordinator). School districts with fewer than 20 children of military families or fewer than 3,000 students overall may designate a Military Family Education Coordinator if they so choose.

Schools that wish to earn the Arkansas Purple Star School designation (sponsored by the Arkansas Council for Military Children) must designate a School Military Liaison in order to meet one of the Purple Star Qualification requirements. Appointment of a School Military Liaison is not required by state law.

A list of school districts that meet either or both criteria to require appointment of a Military Family Education Coordinator as of July 11, 2024 is attached. Superintendents are requested to designate a Military Family Education Coordinator by August 15, 2024.

Principals of schools that have achieved Purple Star School status or who intend to pursue Purple Star School status are requested to designate a School Military Liaison by August 15, 2024.

Military Family Education Coordinators and School Military Liaisons are requested to register with DESE using this [online form](#). The information collected will be made available online. Personal contact information will not be collected; school phone numbers and e-mail addresses only will be collected.

DESE is offering training for Military Family Education Coordinators and School Military Liaisons during August and September 2024. Sessions are one hour long and will be conducted via Zoom. Six sessions have been scheduled. Military Family Education Coordinators and School Military Liaisons may register for any of the sessions at [this link](#).

August 20, 2024, 9:00 AM

August 22, 2024, 1:00 PM

August 28, 2024, 11:00 AM

August 29, 2024, 2:00 PM

September 3, 2024, 10:00 AM

September 6, 2024, 12:00 PM

Additional sessions may be scheduled if there is a need.

Attachments

- [2024_ACMC_ChildrenOfMilitaryFamiliesEnrollment_July_11_110515.pdf](#)

Commissioner's Memo
8/27/2024

Military Family Forum

Memo Information

Memo Number **COM-25-009**

Memo Date 8/27/2024

Memo Type Informational

Unit School Choice and Parent Empowerment

Regulatory Authority A.C.A. § 6-28-204(f)

Response Required NO

Attention Assistant Principal; Parent Involvement Coordinators/Facilitators; Principals; School Counselors; Teachers

Primary Contact Information

Name John Kaminar

Phone Number 501-683-5188

Email John.Kaminar@ade.arkansas.gov

Memo Text

At least annually, the Arkansas Council for Military Children holds a virtual or in-person public forum to receive feedback from Arkansas uniformed services families regarding the effectiveness of the provisions of Arkansas law pertaining to the children of military families.

The Council will hold its first forum of the 2024-25 academic year on August 27, 2024, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. This forum will be held virtually. Military family members may join the forum at any time during the two hour period to speak with Council members.

The Zoom link to join the forum is:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82658879558?pwd=dVdzVU9OWWt2VzFzNGpRWmpYdy9ZQT09>

Meeting ID: 826 5887 9558

NEW PURPLE STAR SCHOOL APPLICATIONS
August - September 2024

Name of School	Name of School District
Hot Springs World Class High School	Hot Springs School District
Hot Springs Junior Academy	Hot Springs School District
Langston Elementary Leadership Academy	Hot Springs School District
Park Magnet School	Hot Springs School District
Main Street Visual and Performing Arts Magnet	Hot Springs School District
Oaklawn STEM Magnet School	Hot Springs School District
Perryville Elementary	Perryville
Perryville High School	Perryville

From: dkberry2@sbcglobal.net
To: [John Kaminar \(ADE\)](#)
Cc: lashawnda.noel@arlcs.org; "Wright, Andelyn M CIV NG ARARNG (USA)"; [jwalker](#); "WILLIAMS, TERRI L CIV USAF AMC 19 MSG/SLP"; "Brown, Karilyn"; "English2, Jane"; "Jody Bergstrom"
Subject: RE: ACMC Student Advisory Committee Seat Allocation Error
Date: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 1:24:11 PM

Caution: This is an external email and may contain a suspicious subject or content. Please take care when clicking links or opening attachments. When in doubt, contact [ADE IT Services](#).

School year is weeks from being over for the year, so SAC members aren't going to be seated until the fall. I recommend inclusion on the July ACMC agenda to include 'Amending SAT membership'. This will allow ACMC to amend SAT guidance in order to appropriately provide an opportunity **for the 223 military connected students who attend ten Arkansas open enrollment charter schools** to contribute to the ACMC picture from military connected students.

r/dkb

From: John Kaminar (ADE) <John.Kaminar@ade.arkansas.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, 30 April, 2024 13:02
To: dkberry2@sbcglobal.net
Cc: lashawnda.noel@arlcs.org; 'Wright, Andelyn M CIV NG ARARNG (USA)' <andelyn.m.wright.civ@army.mil>; [jwalker](mailto:jwalker@jnpsd.org) <jwalker@jnpsd.org>; 'WILLIAMS, TERRI L CIV USAF AMC 19 MSG/SLP' <terri.williams.4@us.af.mil>; 'Brown, Karilyn' <karilyn.brown@arkansashouse.org>; 'English2, Jane' <jane.english@senate.ar.gov>; 'Jody Bergstrom' <jb@campallianceinc.org>
Subject: RE: ACMC Student Advisory Committee Seat Allocation Error

Mr. Berry,

Thank you for your comments. The Council members debated the composition of the student advisory committee at some length and made a deliberate decision. I do not believe it is appropriate to ask the Council members to reconsider at this point, although they may choose to do so in the future.

Respectfully,

John I. Kaminar
Colonel, Infantry, Army Reserve (Ret.)
Military Family Support Specialist
Office of School Choice and Parent Empowerment
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education
Arkansas Department of Education
4 Capitol Mall
Mail Slot 26
Little Rock, AR 72201
Office: (501) 683-5188
[The Arkansas Council for Military Children](#)

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From: dkberry2@sbcglobal.net <dkberry2@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 30, 2024 12:46 PM
To: John Kaminar (ADE) <John.Kaminar@ade.arkansas.gov>
Cc: lashawnda.noel@arllcs.org; 'Wright, Andelyn M CIV NG ARARNG (USA)' <andelyn.m.wright.civ@army.mil>; jwalker <jwalker@jnpsd.org>; 'WILLIAMS, TERRI L CIV USAF AMC 19 MSG/SLP' <terri.williams.4@us.af.mil>; 'Brown, Karilyn' <karilyn.brown@arkansashouse.org>; 'English2, Jane' <jane.english@senate.ar.gov>; 'Jody Bergstrom' <jb@campallianceinc.org>
Subject: APMC Student Advisory Committee Seat Allocation Error

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Mr. Kaminar – An observation: The Student Advisory Committee “provides a means **for children of military families** to have direct, regular input to and interaction with the APMC”. Assigning a seat on the advisory committee to the Arkansas Military and First Responder Academy does not meet that objective.

If SAC is limited to five students, it makes sense for the selection of **one military connected student** from a public school in each congressional district **plus an open enrollment charter school**.

Like the public-school seats ... the open enrollment military connected student seat should have been left open to all open enrollment charter schools. Designating a seat for the Arkansas Military and First Responders Academy is not fair to military connected students in the other 22 Arkansas open enrollment charter schools. Plus as shown below... **AMFRA has no military connected students enrolled**.

Here are the number of military connected students by open enrollment charter from My School Info:

Name	Mil Connected (30 Apr 24)
Arkansas Lighthouse Charter Schools	65
Estem Public Charter School	46
Arkansas Connections Academy	43
Lisa Academy	28
Academics Plus Public Charter Schools	16
Haas Hall Academy	11
Arkansas Virtual Academy	9
Graduate Arkansas Charter	3
Arkansas Arts Academy	1
Hope Academy of Northwest Arkansas	1
Founders Classical Academies of Arkansas	0

Friendship Aspire Academies Arkansas	0
Imboden Charter School District	0
Kipp Delta Public Schools	0
Premier High Schools of Arkansas	0
Exalt Academy of Southwest Little Rock	0
The Excel Center	0
Scholarmade Achievement Place of Arkansas	0
Responsive Ed Solutions Premier High School of North Little Rock	0
Westwind School for Performing Arts	0
Arkansas Military And First Responders Academy (Amfra)	0
Future School of Fort Smith	0
Responsive Ed Solutions Premier High School of Springdale	0

Suggest APMC revise its SAC seat assignment guidance and request an update to the Commissioner memo.

r/Don Berry
MOAA Arkansas
501 773 5189

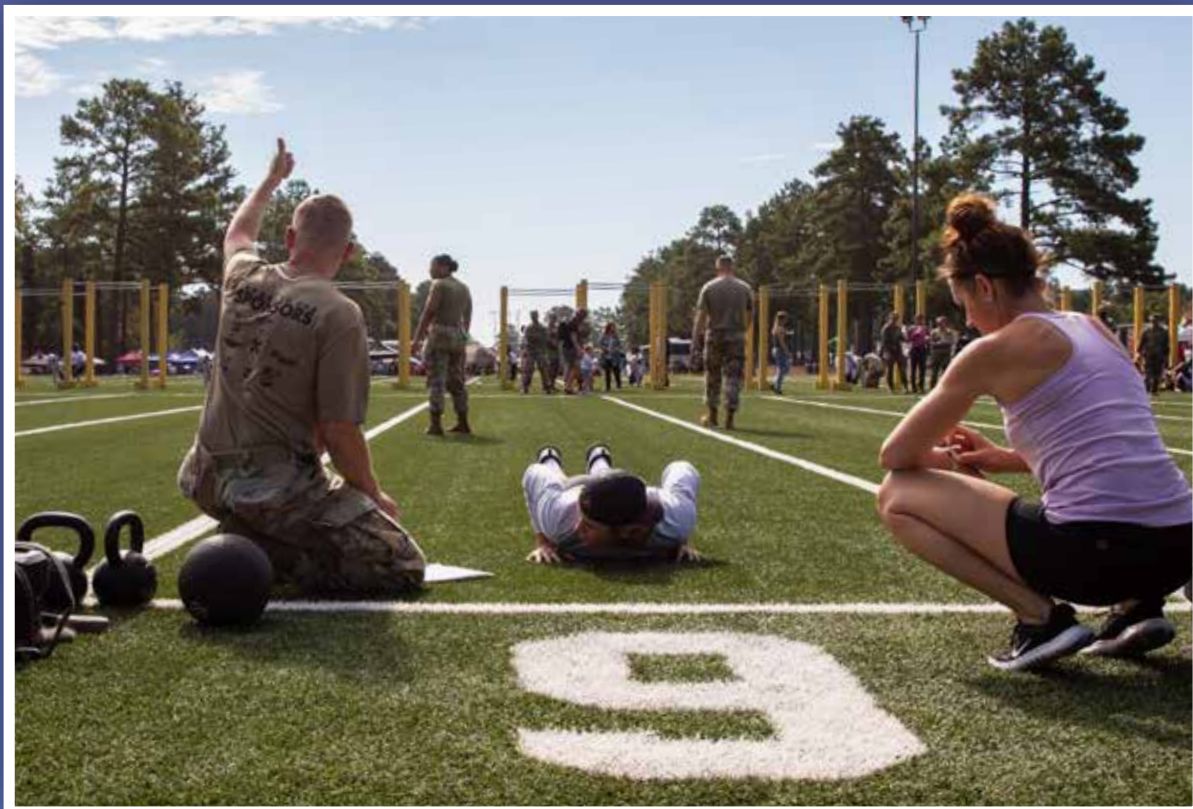


ARKANSAS NATIONAL GUARD MINUTEMAN DAY

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2024

Join us for a day of community and family fun!
Enjoy music, food, and interact with your Arkansas National Guard!



Gates Open at 8:00 AM
Opening Ceremony at 9:00 AM

5k Trail Run
High School Cross Country Race
BBQ Cook-Off
Military Displays & Exhibitions
JROTC Drill Competition
Combat Fitness Competition
Combatives Competition
Food Trucks

CAMP JOSEPH T. ROBINSON
378 MILITARY ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, AR 72199

