

Education, ON DECK!

As we transition into the 2021/22 school year, take a minute to pause and reflect. You made it through the last school year! Let's be real, the past year and half for our youth have not been easy. And, as parents and guardians, you have been through the ringer trying to stay on top of the challenges. But, YOU DID IT! You made it through what will be a historical landmark for our Nation and our world.

There is no need to face the new school year alone or with questions. No matter if you are newly relocated or have been in your local area for a while, it is never too late to reach out to the School Liaison for assistance in navigating the educational options for your child. Your School Liaison is familiar with the education options in your area. They know about the compacts that promote a level playing field for transitions, and have resources for numerous educational related questions. On page 16, you can find a list of the installation School Liaisons in Navy Region Southeast, or visit www.dodea.edu/partnership/school liaisonofficers.cfm for a directory of all School Liaisons in all branches.



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Educational Moving Tips:

If you are a military family preparing to “PCS” to a new duty station, know that support and services are available to you and your family. With the relaxing of COVID-19 protocols and the restoration of the local HPCON Bravo status, many families are enjoying what appears to be a return to “normal.” Still, many military families are scrambling to get to the next duty station over the summer. With some careful planning and attention to details, your next “PCS” can be successful for the whole family, but especially school-age children. Here are a few tips which might make this educational transition just a little bit easier:

1. Breathe and call the School Liaison — *Call the School Liaison before you go, so you'll be in the know!* Starting with your local education subject matter expert is your best first step. The School Liaison will connect you to a global network of professionals who can meet your needs whether your move is CONUS or OCONUS. If you prefer, you can find and make direct contact with the School Liaison using directories located at www.dodea.edu/Partnership/.

2. Notify the current school - As soon as possible, notify your child's school in writing and provide the date which will mark the end of your child's enrollment. Schools appreciate the advance notification that your child(ren) should not be expected to reenroll. Where possible, identify the name of the new school or district where the child will be enrolled in the coming year.

3. Request copies of records – Ask schools to make a copy of the student's records, e.g. report cards and standardized tests results. Military families can use the copies for registration purposes at the receiving school. Official school records will be transmitted from the sending school directly to the new school. Be prepared to give the new school address or contact information, if you know it.

4. Time your move – Typically, military parents are advised to avoid scheduling moves just prior to or during standardized testing. COVID-19 threw a wrench in most school schedules and school year endings. Still, it will be important to monitor what decisions are being made locally about the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The School Liaison at the next duty station will be a great help in this area.

5. Research schools - Parents should investigate schools **BEFORE** you choose a place to live! This is especially **critical for high school students!** You might find that important changes to graduation requirements, scheduling differences, and availability and/or eligibility for extra-curricular activities could impact some of your family's decisions.

6. Maintain open lines of communication - Talk to your child about his or her social and emotional stresses. Planning some sort of “good-bye” party may allow your child to have some “closure” before leaving. Zoom and other online meeting services provide wonderful ways to stay in touch. Your Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLCs) and therapists at the Fleet and Family Support Center can help your children deal with feelings of fear, grief, or separation.



7. Create an educational PCS folder for each child. Keep all of the important educational records in one place — report cards, standardized test results, or records of work completed at home during COVID-19. If you have a child who receives special education services or was enrolled in a gifted program, it is critical that supporting documents be kept in this folder — IEP, 504 Plans, etc. If you are an Exceptional Family Member Program enrollee, it will be important to speak with the EFMP Case Liaison Earl Murray if you are leaving this region. You can reach Mr. Murray at (912) 573-1079. At www.militaryonesource.com you can find an excellent tool for maintaining special needs records — the **Special Care Organizational Record (SCOR)**. The SCOR is offered in a new redesigned PDF format offering quick and easy document navigation, automatic expense calculations, and is accessible with screen readers and Braille printers. Remember, have birth certificates, shot records, and social security cards ready for registration purposes. **DO NO PACK THIS FOLDER!** Keep it with you.

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BACK TO SCHOOL TIPS

SUBMITTED BY CARISSA BERGOSH, NAS PENSACOLA SCHOOL LIAISON



PARTNERS IN EDUCATION (PIE)

Are you looking for volunteer hours that make a difference in the lives of your community youth? Reach out to your School Liaison on how you can get your slice of PIE while making a difference.



Whether you are sending your little one off to the start of his or her first year of school or waving good-bye as your teen drives off to high school, there are some things you can do to promote a positive start to the school year. Parents, review the list below to see how you rate on completion of your homework.

- **READ** and return promptly all the forms your child brings home. Some contain important information for your child to be successful.
- Read the school's student handbook and discuss important policies with your child. Review the rules for riding the bus too. A little time becoming familiar with the district's expectations may save you a lot of difficulties later.
- Instruct first-time locker users to record their locker combination and keep it in a place they will remember to look (maybe with you!).
- Ensure that your child's counselor, teachers, and the school's main office staff have accurate contact information for you and your emergency designee. Keep the school updated on any changes.
- Know the school's policies regarding cell phones,

medication, cameras, backpacks, etc.

- Inform the school in advance of planned absences. When possible, schedule your child's medical and dental appointments after school hours. Regular attendance is essential to maximum student achievement. When possible, inform the school of any upcoming deployments. Communication is essential!
- Mark your calendar for dates when grade reports will be issued. Some school districts record grades online.
- Initiate positive involvement in your child's school. Attend parent meetings and read school newsletters. Volunteer!! Resist the urge to criticize teachers and administrators in your child's presence. How can your child learn from someone they know you do not respect? Think about it.

While these directives do not guarantee success, if adhered to, they are sure to help you avoid some foreseeable challenges. If you have questions about local schools and anything in this article, please don't hesitate to reach out to the School Liaison on your local installation. Have a great school year!



IDEA terminology

For a more complete list of terms and definitions visit

<https://uscode.house.gov/view.xhtml?path=/prelim@title20/chapter33/subchapter1&edition=prelim>

Child with a disability

(A) In general

The term "child with a disability" means a child—

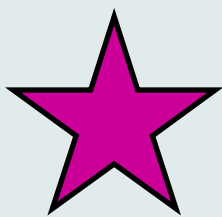
(i) with intellectual disabilities, hearing impairments (including deafness), speech or language impairments, visual impairments (including blindness), serious emotional disturbance (referred to in this chapter as "emotional disturbance"), orthopedic impairments, autism, traumatic brain injury, other health impairments, or specific learning disabilities; and (ii) who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.

(B) Child aged 3 through 9

The term "child with a disability" for a child aged 3 through 9 (or any subset of that age range, including ages 3 through 5), may, at the discretion of the State and the local educational agency, include a child—

(i) experiencing developmental delays, as defined by the State and as measured by appropriate diagnostic instruments and procedures, in 1 or more of the following areas: physical development; cognitive development; communication development; social or emotional development; or adaptive development; and

(ii) who, by reason thereof, needs special education and related services.



Purple Star School/ Military Flag Ship designations

If a school has the designation, it is meeting specific requirements to help support the needs of military connected youth.

This may include having a designated staff member on site for military families, peer support programs, professional development and more! Ask your School Liaison or local school about purple star/Military Flagship (GA) designations.



MILITARY INTERSTATE
CHILDREN'S COMPACT
COMMISSION

Students Covered Under the Compact

Children of the following:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders (Title 10)
- Members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year
- Members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death
- Uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and United States Public Health Services (USPHS)

WHAT ARE SOME OF THE SPECIFIC EDUCATIONAL ISSUES THAT THE COMPACT COVERS?

Enrollment

- Educational Records
- Immunizations
- Kindergarten & First Grade Entrance Age

Placement & Attendance

- Course & Educational Program Placement
- Special Education Services
- Placement Flexibility
- Absence Related to Deployment Activities

Eligibility

- Eligibility for Student Enrollment
- Eligibility for Extracurricular Participation

Graduation

- Waiving courses required for graduation if similar course work has been completed
- Flexibility in accepting state exit or end-of- course exams, national achievement tests, or alternative testing in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state
- Allowing a student to receive a diploma from the sending school instead of the receiving school

Visit www.mic3.net for more information about the MIC3

HOMESCHOOL TIDBITS TO KNOW

- Get familiar with the State requirements for homeschool. Once you have decided to homeschool, be sure to complete the requirement for the State. This usually includes a Notice of Intent to Homeschool (NOI) and in many cases a copy of the curriculum or examples of the curriculum you will be using.
- Be sure to use an accredited program. It will be crucial if you and your child decide to go to public school. It is vital for the home school curriculum be accredited for the high school diploma for your child to go to college or to join the military to prevent admission delays or additional hoops to jump through.
- Visit www.hslda.org (Home School Legal Defense Association) for more great homeschool information and resources.



MCC.COM

Registering with this site is the first step in obtaining care at your Child and Youth Programs (CYP). This includes care for children and youth ages 6 weeks to age 5 at the Child Development Center (CDC). School-Age Care (SAC) offers care for youth in Kindergarten through sixth grade. SAC offers before school, afterschool, and the combination of before and after school care during school. SAC also offers camps during holiday breaks and the summer. Alternate care options may be available at some locations.

For local area information and phone numbers visit <https://www.navymwr.org/>

To request childcare visit: militarychildcare.com/

TUTOR.COM/MILITARY

HOMEWORK IS HARD!

Did you know tutor.com/military is a free online tutoring service? You can set up a time frame to meet virtually with a tutor who will walk you through the problem, or you can download the app on your device, snap a pic of the problem and the first available tutor will assist you through it.

Tutor.com offers over 100 personalized subjects for K-12 and college! This includes the core classes,

as well as study skills and test prep. The service is 24/7 with exception to January 1, July 4, Thanksgiving, and December 25 in observance of these holidays.

As of April 2020, all DoD service members, civilian personnel, and all dependent family members (kindergarten-college/adult) are eligible to use Tutor.com/military at no cost. Verify your eligibility and get started by going to www.tutor.com/military

Preventing Back to School Jitters.



As summer days dwindle, your children may feel excited about starting a new school year, or they may have some back-to-school jitters.

Time for Some Preseason Training

Have your kids been staying up late and sleeping in all summer? Is breakfast neglected due to that late-sleeping routine? How is summer reading going? Changing summer habits overnight is tough and creates more stress for everyone. Try to get the whole family back on track a few weeks before school starts:

Adjust everyone's sleep schedules to match what you'll need during the school week.

Prepare nutritious breakfasts.

Schedule a time for the whole family to read several days a week.

Check Your Equipment

Reduce back-to-school stress by starting early getting everything your kids need for the first day. Check with your kids' schools to see if they provide lists of required school supplies. Look at your budget and plan a few outings:

Make a date with your children to go school supply shopping, then eat out or go to a movie afterward as a reward for good behavior.

Write a list of what clothes your kids will need this year after they try on last year's school clothes. With your children's input on styles, replace essential items now and plan to shop again later to spread out the costs.

Designate a homework area for each child and stock it with supplies.

Post important dates and times on a family calendar, including school bus schedules and back-to-school night.

Know the Playing Field

Be sure to attend any orientations so that your children can meet their new teacher(s) before the first day of school. If your kids are going to a new school, arrange a tour if possible. Walking around the building and finding their classrooms may help ease their worries. If you can't visit the building, see if the school has a website and help your kids take a virtual tour.

Be a good coach

The best way to know if your children have any anxiety about starting a new school year is to ask them. Talk with them about specific concerns they may have. Share stories from your school days that will help them know their feelings are normal.

Read Together

Here is a list of some of my favorite Back to School Books! Visit the public library and spend time reading away those Back to School Jitters!



First Day Jitters – by Julie Danneberg

This is a spectacular book with a very surprising ending. It teaches children that everyone (even adults) experience the same emotions.

The Kissing Hand – by Audrey Penn

I'm not sure who enjoys this book more...the child or the mom! School is starting but Chester the Raccoon doesn't want to go. To help ease Chester's fears, Mama Raccoon shares a family secret called the Kissing Hand to give him reassurance of her love any time his world feels a little scary. (We ALL could use The Kissing Hand!)



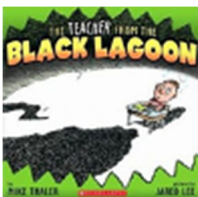
Wemberly Worried- by Kevin Henkes

Wemberly worries about EVERYTHING....When it is time for school to start...Wemberly worries EVEN MORE! Awesome lesson for the worry-wart in us all! Kevin Henkes is one of my favorite authors! Anything by him would be an awesome addition to your child's library!



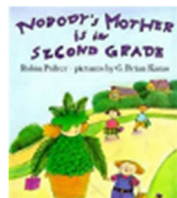
The Teacher from the Black Lagoon- by Mike Thaler

This is an outrageously funny tale of how rumors and a wild imagination can make a student create a monster out of any teacher! Mike Thaler writes many other books just like this using The Principal, The Bus Driver, The Music Teacher and other people children meet in the school setting. This book and illustrations are entertaining to adults as well!



Nobody's mother is in Second Grade- by Robin Pulver

This is a cute story about a little girl and her mother, who has extremely fond memories of being in second grade and wishes she could go back and visit. Her daughter, not sure if it is cool to have mom at school, comes up with an idea to have her mother dress as a plant ~ because nobody's mother is in second grade.



Submitted by Sharon Kasica, School Liaison for NS Mayport.

Month of the Military Child Highlights

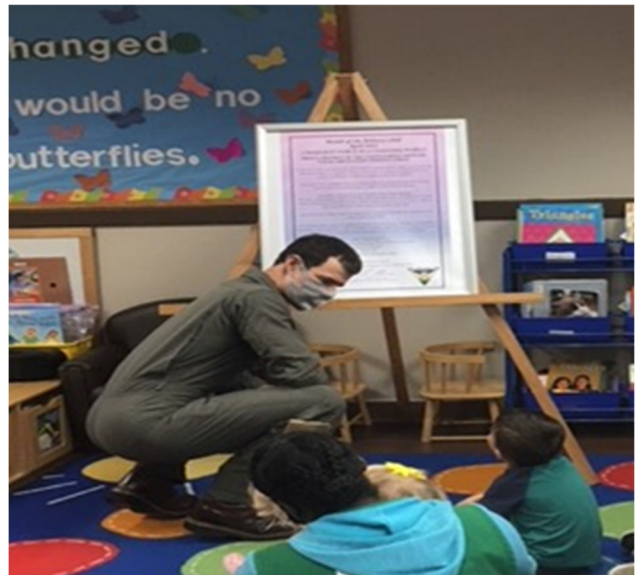
Naval Air Station Whiting Field's Month of the Military Child Proclamation

Submitted by Dawn Kaunike, NAS Whiting Field School Liaison

To kick off the Month of the Military Child at NAS Whiting Field, the NASWF CDC had a very special guest! The Commanding Officer at NAS Whiting Field, Captain Paul Flores, visited the CDC on 28 March to sign the Month of the Military Child Proclamation. Captain Flores took the time to visit with an active group of four year-olds, who were extremely excited to meet him! As one would imagine, the children had MANY questions for him. Captain Flores did an incredible job keeping up with the firestorm of questions from some very inquisitive minds! The kids loved him so much that Captain Flores was invited back on 16 April as a guest reader for the Month of the Military Child's weekly story time. Who knows, Captain Flores may have a job waiting for him at the CDC when he finishes his Navy career!



(Captain Flores reading the Month of the Military Child Proclamation to the classroom.)



(MANY great questions from the attentive 4-year olds!)

Month of the Military Child throughout the Region



DoDEA Virtual High School Expansion

DoDEA Expands Virtual High School Eligibility to Rural Installations

Submitted by Larry Mullins, NAS Meridian School Liaison

Children who grow up in a military family seldom have time to put down deep roots. In fact, the average military child will move 6-9 times during their parent's time in service. Each move for a school-age military dependent means a new school. These moves don't always occur at the end of a semester or school year but often in the middle of a 9 week grading period or semester. This can pose problems if the students are leaving a school on a 7 period day for a school on a block schedule or taking courses not offered by the receiving school. Since the quality of schools as well as the courses offered by schools can vary greatly, it is easy to understand the stress and anxiety parents may feel as they and their children change duty stations.

In an effort to address these issues the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) has created a new program known as the Expanded Eligibility Pilot Program or E2P2 for short. E2P2 provides the opportunity for dependents of active-duty military assigned to select installations in rural/remote areas to register for the DoDEA Virtual High School (DVHS) and take up to two courses per academic year. These online courses can be used for graduation requirements and college preparation. Courses offered include AP courses, world languages, and career and technical education.

All branches of the military had installations selected for the new program which will begin in the 2021-22 school year with 100 registrations allotted to each branch. The 4 Navy installations selected were NAS Meridian, NAS Lemoore, NAWS China Lake, and NAS Fallon.

Eligibility for E2P2 requires a student to be in grades 9-12 and a dependent of an active duty military member assigned to one of the selected installations. All Home School students at the *selected* installations are eligible, while public and private school students are eligible if the school/district approves the program for official transcript recording. Registration began April 28 and will continue until the start of the new school year, or all the allotted registrations are taken, whichever comes first. E2P2 is guaranteed for 4 years with the possibility of becoming permanent and adding additional military installations.

For more information on E2P2 or to register go to www.dodea.edu/dvs/e2p2.cfm





***Anchored 4 Life,
A Peer-to-Peer Support Program***

Welcome to our new A4L schools, and welcome back to our continuing schools! We are happy to have you as part of the A4L family in Navy Region Southeast! Thank you for supporting military-connected youth by being part of this collaboration.

Alimacani Elementary School

Avalon Middle School

Beulah Elementary School

Blue Angels Elementary School

Clay Charter Academy

Coppergate School of the Arts

Corry Station Youth Center

Discovery Oaks Elementary School

E. A. Harrold Elementary School

Ellendale Elementary School

Finegan Elementary School

Fleming Island Elementary School

Flour Bluff Elementary School

Flour Bluff Intermediate School

Hellen Caro Elementary School

Hobbs Middle School

Holley-Navarre Intermediate School

Jim C. Bailey Middle School

John Stockton Elementary School

Kernan Trail Elementary School

Mayport Coastal Sciences Middle School

Mayport Elementary Coastal Science Academy

Millington Elementary School

NAS Jacksonville Youth Activity Center

NAS Mayport Youth Activities Center

Navy Mid-South Youth Center

New Berlin Elementary School

Oakleaf Village Elementary School

Oceanway Elementary School

Pea Ridge Elementary School

Plantation Oaks Elementary School

Pleasant Grove Elementary School

Sigsbee Charter Middle School

Sigsbee Charter School

Sims Middle School

SS Dixon Intermediate School

Swimming Pen Creek Elementary School

Thunderbolt Elementary School

Tynes Elementary School

Venetia Elementary School

Waterleaf Elementary School

West Navarre Intermediate School



Educational Moving Tips,

(continued from page 3)

8. Network! One thing military families are often eager to do is share what they have learned by talking to neighbors and friends. Look for information online. Many schools and military support organizations post information on websites and social networking sites. Learn what you can from other military families who have had children attend schools in that same area remembering that every student and every family experience will be different!

9. Find transition programs – Research suggests that students whose emotional and social needs are met before, during, and after relocation show fewer signs of academic difficulty at a new school. Your new duty station may offer a Child and Youth Program, Youth Sponsorship Program or offer **Anchored4Life** in schools, to connect pre-teen and teenage students with other military children. Websites like Military Kids Connect (<http://militarykidsconnect.dcoe.mil>) offer great tools for connecting teens.

10. Breathe and call the School Liaison – *Yes, do it again!* Even when you think you have covered all the bases, it's great to check with the School Liaison *"one last time."* In these very fluid COVID-19 days, it is quite possible that information may have been updated or changed during your relocation process. Work with the School Liaison to ensure that you have gathered the latest and best information to make educational decisions for your family.

Submitted by Mrs. Clainetta Jefferson, School Liaison NSB Kings Bay.



7 CORE SERVICES

School Transition Services (PCS Cycle): School Liaisons assist families with school transfers.

Deployment Support: SL's connect educators about the cycles of deployment and the tools available to assist them when working with military children.

Command, School, Community Communications: SL's serve as subject-matter experts for installation Commanders on K-12 issues, helping to connect command, school and community resources.

Home School Linkage and Support: SL's assist military families by sharing information on home schooling issues, policies and legislation from local school districts.

Partnerships in Education (PIE): SL's creates a volunteer network of resources to support installation and community members who have a vested interest in the success of all youth.

Post-Secondary Preparations: SL's leverage access to post-secondary information and opportunities.

Special Needs System Navigation: SL's make referrals to the Exceptional Family Member Program, and offer assistance in navigating the administrative systems.

NRSE SCHOOL LIAISONS

Texas

NAS Corpus Christi

361-961-2625

corpuschristislo@navy.mil

NAS Kingsville

361-537-7595

KINGSVILLESLO@navy.mil

NASJRB Fort Worth

817-782-1873

CNI_FTWO_SLO@navy.mil

Louisiana

NASJRB New Orleans

504-210-7338

NORL-NewOrleansSLO@navy.mil

Tennessee

NSA Mid-South

901-874-5343

Mill_NSA_SLO@navy.mil

Mississippi

NCBC Gulfport

228-871-2117

Navyschoolliaison_gulfport.fct@navy.mil

NAS Meridian

601-679-2473

nasmer.slo.fct@navy.mil

Georgia

NSB Kings Bay

912-573-8986

kingsbayslo@navy.mil

Florida

NAS Jacksonville

904-778-2236

JAXS_NAS_MWR_SCHOOLLIAISON@NAVY.MIL

NS Mayport

904-270-6289 Ext. 1305

MayportSLO@Navy.mil

NAS Whiting Field

850-665-6105

NavySchoolLiaison.NASWF@navy.mil

NSA Panama City

850-238-9830

Panama_City_SLO@navy.mil

NAS Pensacola

850-458-6588

Pensacola_SLO@navy.mil

NAS Key West

305-393-9510

Naskw.slo.fct@navy.mil

Cuba

NS Guantanamo Bay

757-458-3665

Usn.gtmoslo@mail.mil

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