Earning the Purple Star Campus Designation

Spring Interest Meeting

February 20, 2024

Introduction

- **Dr. Jimmy Bowser**
  - Assistant Director, Highly Mobile & At-Risk Student Programs
  - TEA program lead for military-connected student programs
  - Family Liaison, State Advisory Council for the Educational Opportunity of Military Children
  - Texas Education Agency since August 2022
  - 20+ years experience as a teacher, campus administrator, central office administrator and principal supervisor
  - DoDEA Administrator (Japan)
  - Veteran (USMC)

Today's Agenda

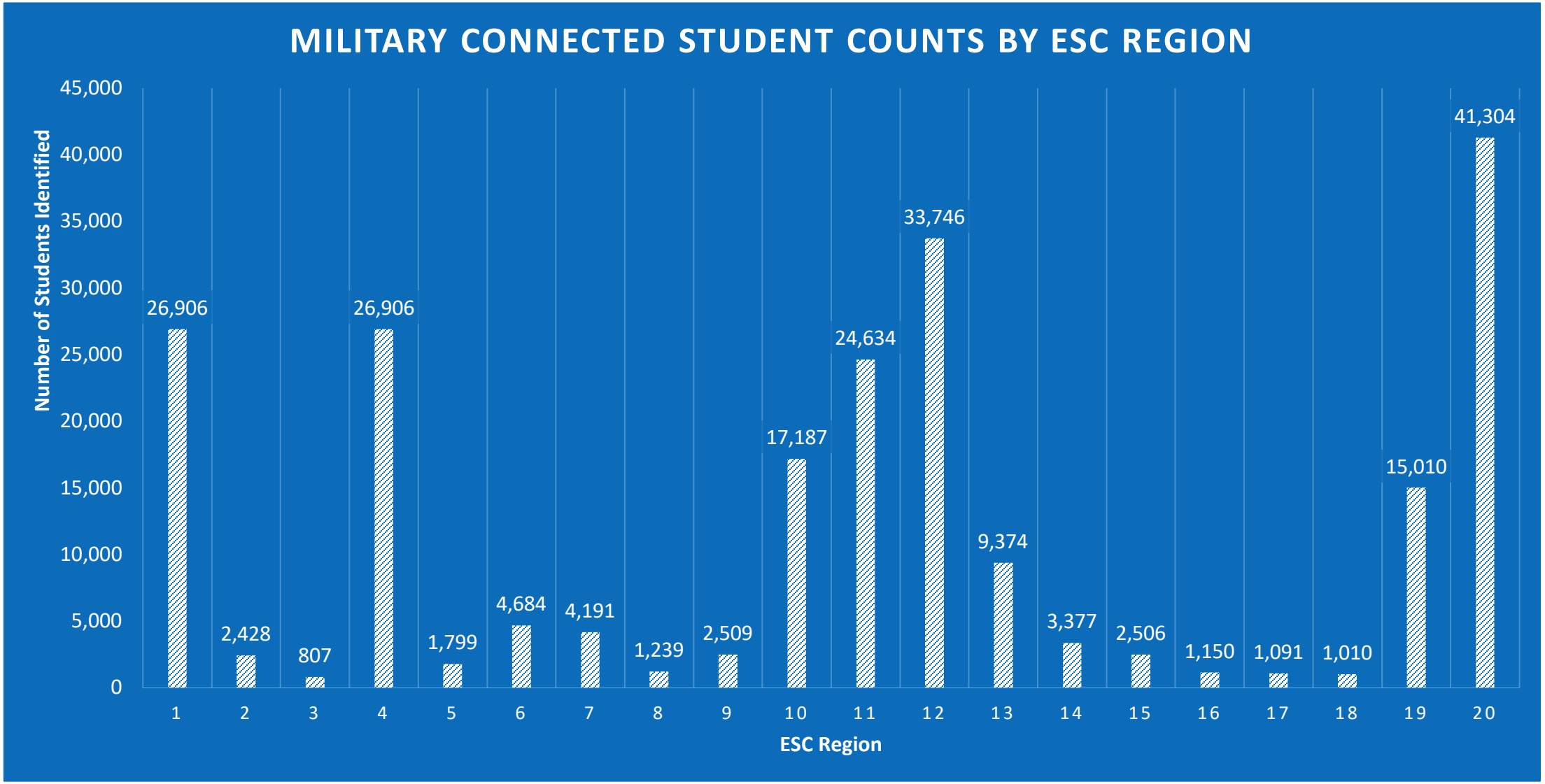
- Introduction
- Purple Star Campus Designation Program
  - Authority
- Program Requirements
- TXSchools.gov
- FAQ's
- Resources for support
- Contact Us!
  - Please provide us with feedback or send questions to me militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov

Military-Connected Students

- Approximately 915,000 school-age DoD military dependents*
- School-age dependents of military personnel are faced with numerous transitions during their formative years
- On average, military children move 3x more often than civilian peers^
- Military dependents who move from one school to another during high school years are faced with special challenges to learning and future achievement
- Texas is home to 15 active-duty military installations and nearly 200,000 military-connected students

Sources:
^ Revolving Doors: The Impact of Multiple School Transitions on Military Children
* 2020 Demographics: Profile of the Military Community

MILITARY CONNECTED STUDENT COUNTS BY ESC REGION



**PEIMS Data 2022-23

Federal and Statutory Authority

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), 2015 requires reporting of assessment data for military-connected students

TEC §25.006 requires LEAs to collect data on military-connected students ("Military Student Identifier or MSI")

TEC §33.909 Purple Star Campus Designation

Effective 2020-21 School Year, Awarded Annually

TAC Title 19 Chapter 61FF (Commissioner's Rule §61.1063)

Purple Star Campus Designation

- Created by 86th Legislature (SB 1577)
- Recognizes campuses for demonstrating support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families
- Effective 2020-21 school year – 4th year of program

Purple Star Campus Designation

- Criteria
  - Campus-based military liaison
  - Webpage for military-connected families
  - Student-led campus transition program
  - Professional development for staff
  - Participation in at least one of three initiatives to support military-connected students and families.
- Designation lasts for 2 years
- Congratulations to previous designees

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Designate **LEA staff member** as a military liaison
- Duties Include:
  - Identifying military-connected students enrolled and ensure PEIMS "military identifier" is correct;
  - Serve as POC between the campus and military-connected students and their families;
  - Determine appropriate campus services available to military-connected students; and
  - Assist in coordinating campus programs relevant to military-connected students

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Maintain an **easily accessible web page** that includes resources for military-connected students and their families, including info regarding:
  - Relocation to, enrollment at registration at, and transferring records to the campus;
  - Academic planning, course sequences, and advanced classes available at the campus;
  - Counseling and other support services
  - Contact Information for campus-based liaison and the liaison's responsibilities

Sample Internet Page – Socorro ISD

Translate ‹ Site Manager Login SCHOOLS JOBS CALENDAR

KEEP SISD SAFE

E-SWIPE

#TeamSISD

Socorro Independent School District Leading • Inspiring • Innovating

About Us | Departments | Superintendent | SISD Board | District Accountability | Policies | Parents | Students | Staff | Pre-K

Military Connect

- Welcome
- Contact Us
- Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission
- Military Family Events
- Things to Do in the El Paso Area
- Deployment
- Student Programs and Services
- Parent Involvement
- Academic Resources

SISD Military Connect

The Socorro Independent School District (SISD) is located on the far east side of the city of El Paso. SISD is one of the fastest-growing and most innovative school districts in Texas. We are educating over **47,200** students, which includes over **6,035** military-connected students. We proudly share with you that 45 out of our 49 state-of-the art schools are designated by the Texas Education Agency as **"Purple Star"** Campuses. We offer a multitude of programs for students from 3 years old to 12th grade. We understand and value your service to our nation and we are honored to serve you and your family here at Socorro ISD.

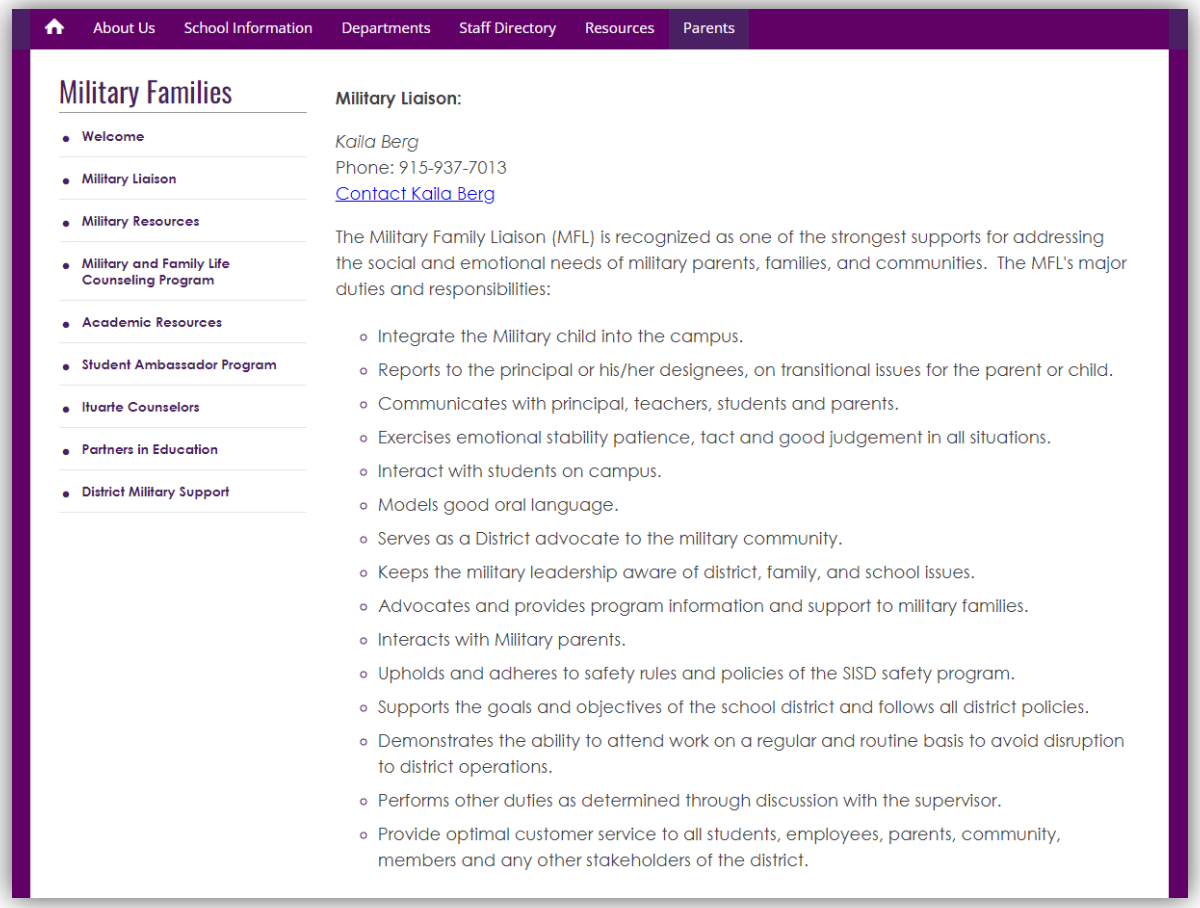
Adult Education

Elementary Academies

Free Online Tutoring

High School Advanced Programs

Sample Internet Page – Socorro ISD, Ituarte Elem



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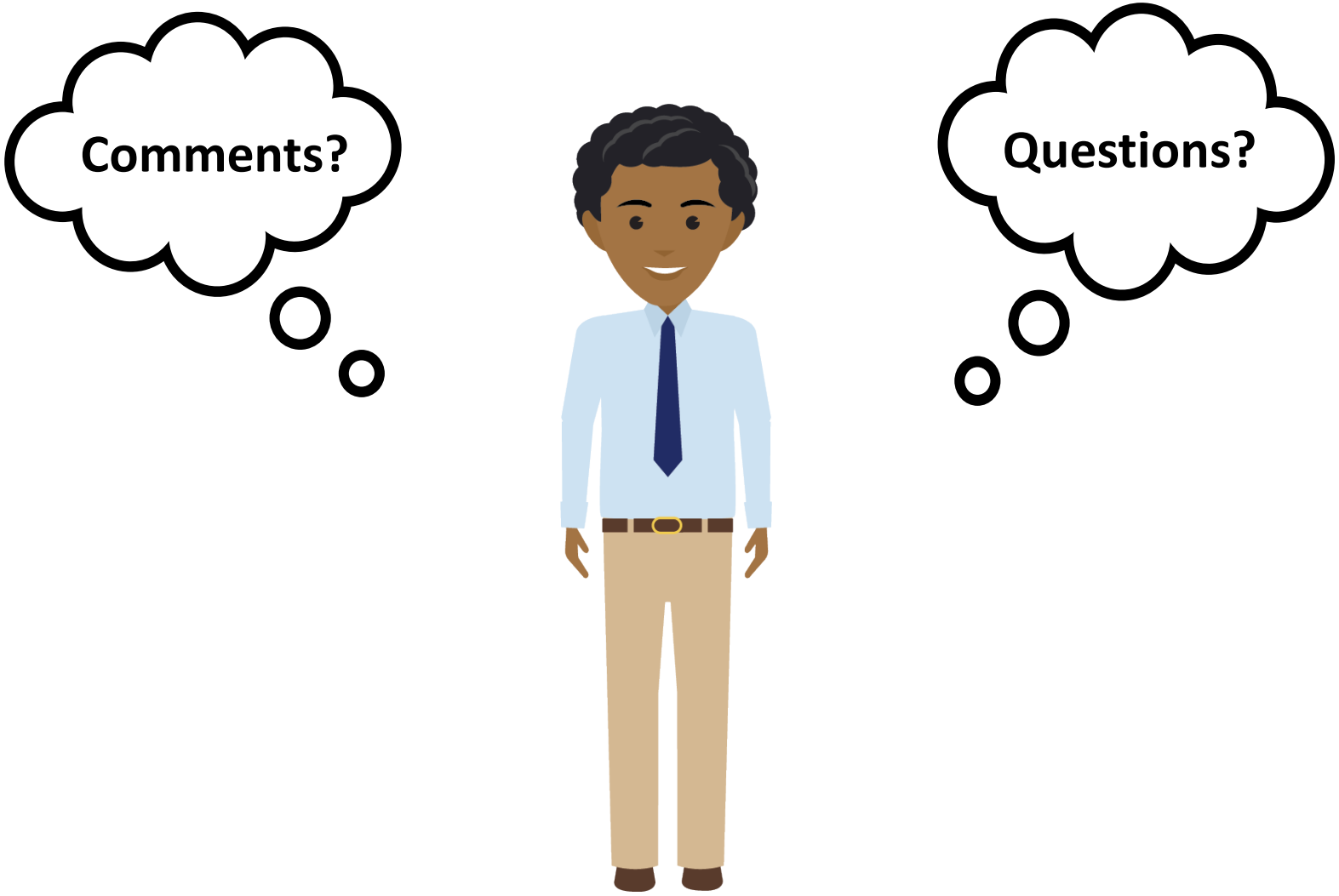

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Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Maintain a **transition program** *(led by students)* that assists military-connected students in transitioning to the campus
- Must be sponsored by a staff member, but does not have to be the campus-based military liaison
- Activities can include:
  - Tours of the campus
  - Walk student schedule
  - Lunch Buddy
  - Location/practice opening locker

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Activities can include (continued):
  - Invitation to campus events and activities
  - Introduction to key members of the staff (e.g. principals, counselors, registrar, librarian, attendance clerk, etc.)
  - Operational orientation (e.g. how *to add money to lunch account, where to turn in absence notes, hall passes, bus and parent pick up/drop off, etc.)

Student Transition Programs

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A Military Child Education Coalition® Initiative

Anchored Life

MCCS MARINE CORPS COMMUNITY SERVICES

NAVY CYP

CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAMS

CHILD & YOUTH EDUCATION SERVICES

STUDENT FOCUSED

PARTNERSHIP DRIVEN

AIR FORCE SCHOOL LIAISON PROGRAM

UNITED STATES ARMY

CHILD & YOUTH SERVICES

TEA

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Offer **professional development for Staff** members on issues related to military-connected students

- Can be done by campus-based military liaison, installation liaison or by a guest speaker from military advocacy group

- Topics may include:
  - Researched-based information on findings from studies of military-connected students;
  - Helping students build resilience

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Topics may include (continued):
  - Identifying and supporting students that struggle due to issues such as deployments or other areas that may cause separation
  - Becoming a Purple Star Campus
  - Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission or MIC^3
  - Assisting military-connected students with college applications and other post-high school choices; and many, many more!

Purple Star Campus Requirements

- Offer **at least one of the following initiatives:**
  - A resolution showing support for military-connected students and their families;
  - Recognition of the Month of the Military Child (April) or Military Family Appreciation Month (November) with relevant events hosted at the campus; or
  - A partnership with a local military installation that provides opportunities for active-duty military members to volunteer at the campus, speak at an assembly or host a field trip.

Celebrate Month of the Military Child (MOMC)

- Join TEA in Celebrating Month of the Military Child this April 2024
  - *PurpleUp!* Day – Monday, April 15th
  - LEAs may choose date(s) for MOMC celebrations

- Month of the Military Child (MOMC) Resources and Ideas
  - Department of Defense Spotlights Month of the Military Child
  - Military Child Education Coalition MOMC Toolkit
  - Military One Source MOMC Toolkit
  - Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) Toolkit

Support for Military Students & Families

Lake Dallas ISD Board of Trustees

Resolution for the Support of Military Children and Families

WHEREAS, our country owes the daily freedoms to the members of the Armed Forces, their family members and loved ones who share in their service, and sacrifice; and

WHEREAS, we celebrate the exceptional service, strength and character of military-connected students and families in Lake Dallas ISD Schools; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge that military families face unique challenges due to deployment, reintegration, service in combat zones and frequent relocations based on duty assignments; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Lake Dallas ISD Schools affirms their commitment to providing the resources and programs to support military-connected students academically, socially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the School Board of Lake Dallas ISD Schools calls for the continued creation of opportunities for military families and community members to purposely partner with schools in supporting student achievement, aspirations and social-emotional development.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED: That the School Board of Lake Dallas ISD Schools officially supports all military children and families; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the School Board of Lake Dallas ISD Schools encourages all school staff and community members to initiate support and participate in appreciation activities designed to recognize the exceptional role and unique sacrifices our military-connected youth make in our nation's best interest; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this resolution be spread across the official minutes

LDISD Board President

LDISD Board Vice President

8-17-2020

Date

8-17-2020

Date

- Resolution in support of military families
- Month of the Military Child (April)
- Military Family Appreciation Month (November)

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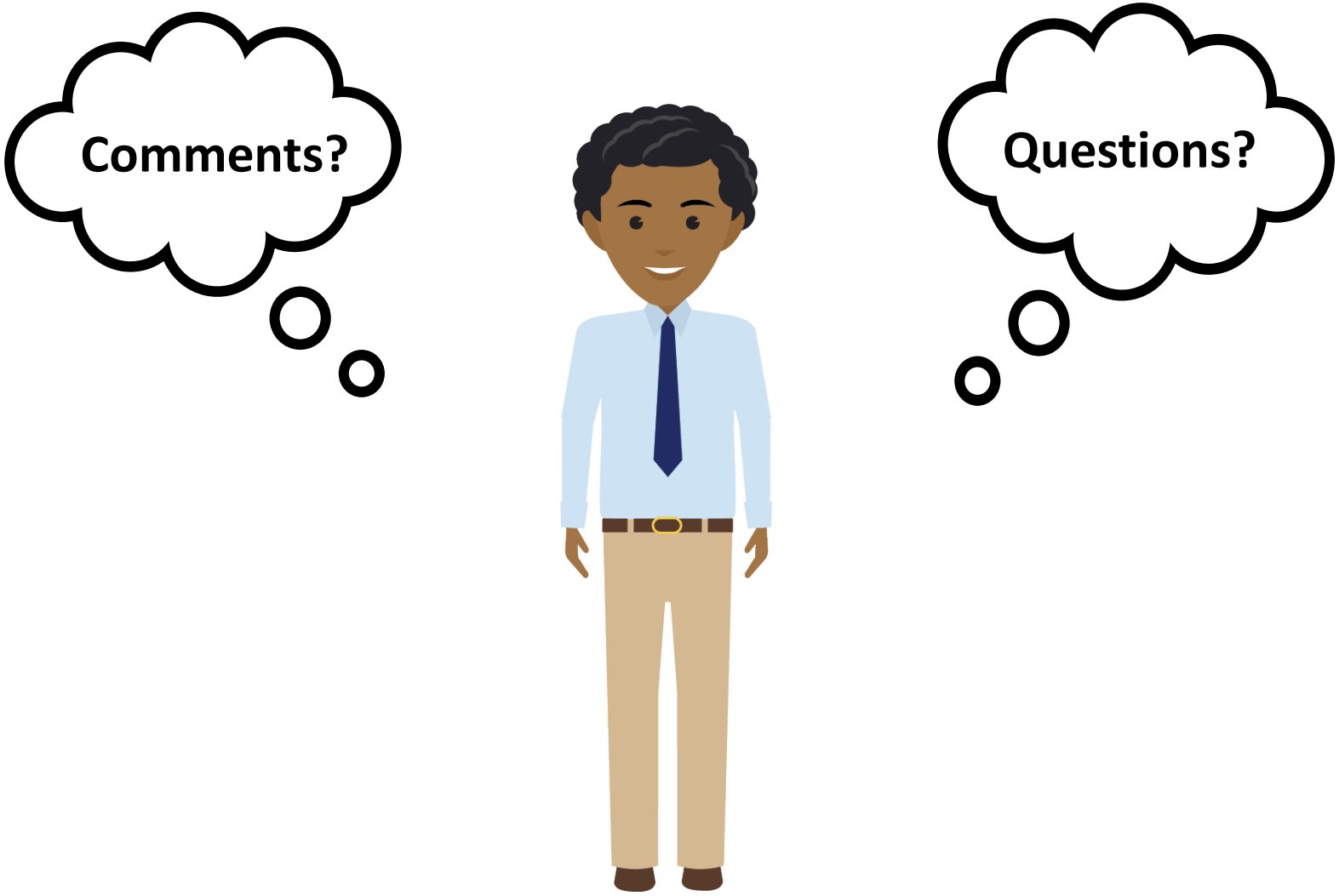

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Purple Star Campus Designees Receive…

A letter from the Commissioner of TEA recognizing them as a Purple Star Campus

A virtual logo to use on the school's campus and webpage

A searchable designation on their TxSchools.gov profile

SY 2023-24 Purple Star Campuses Announced

SY 2023-24 Purple Star Campus Designations announced by Governor Abbott on 8/24

- 150 schools announced
- 13 ESCs (vs 10 last year)
- 44 ISDs (vs 29 last year)
- 54% recertification rate
- Granbury ISD (100% Purple Star Campuses!)
- See the full list on our website

Flag Status: Full-Staff | Español | Contact

Office of the Texas Governor | Greg Abbott

Home | Governor Abbott | First Lady | Initiatives | News | Organization

Home › News › Governor Abbott Announces Purple Star Campus Designations For 150 Texas Schools

Governor Abbott Announces Purple Star Campus Designations For 150 Texas Schools

August 24, 2023 | Austin, Texas | Press Release

Governor Greg Abbott today announced that 150 Texas public schools have been awarded the Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2023-2024 school year. Established by Governor Abbott in 2019, the Purple Star Campus Designation program recognizes Texas public schools for their exceptional commitment to supporting and meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families.

"Texas proudly supports the brave men and women of our U.S. military and their families—and that includes the nearly 200,000 military-connected students attending public schools across our state," said Governor Abbott. "I signed a law in 2019 establishing the Purple Star Campus Designation program to encourage Texas public schools to expand resources and tools available on their campuses to help them meet the unique educational needs of military-connected students and their families. Together, we are giving back to our brave military families and paving the way for a brighter future for all Texas students."

"We recognize the challenges military-connected students often face when transitioning schools, and by fostering an environment that embraces their unique experiences, these schools are creating a nurturing atmosphere where every individual student can thrive," said Texas Education Commissioner Mike Morath. "Campuses with a Purple Star Designation let military families know that they are dedicated to providing the best quality educational experience for their children while in Texas public schools."

To receive the Purple Star Campus Designation, schools must designate a campus-based military liaison, create and maintain an easily accessible webpage that includes information for military-connected students and their families, institute a campus transition program for military-connected students, and support a military family assistance initiative. All Texas public schools are eligible to receive a Purple Star Campus Designation, regardless of their military-connected student population size. Applications for the designation are accepted annually.

View the list of 2023-2024 Purple Star Campus Designees here.

SY 2023-24 Purple Star Campuses Announced

TEA TAA Letter

Texas Education Agency

To the Administrator Addressed

Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

DATE:	**August 31, 2023**
SUBJECT:	**Purple Star Campus Designation Awardees SY 2023-24**
CATEGORY:	**Notice**
NEXT STEPS:	**Share with appropriate staff**

Overview:

The Purple Star Campus Designation recognizes Texas school district and open-enrollment charter school campuses that show their support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) accepted applications for the 2023-2024 school year from April 3, 2023, through June 2, 2023, for campuses to apply for the designation and demonstrate they have met the established criteria:

1. Designating a campus-based military liaison;
2. Creating and maintaining an easily accessible web page that includes information for military-connected students and their families;
3. Implementing a campus transition program; and
4. Offering at least one of the following initiatives:
    - A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families;
    - Participation in Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month; or
    - Partnership with a school liaison officer to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members.

Customized Campus Award Letters

Texas Education Agency

Commissioner Mike Morath

1701 North Congress Avenue • Austin, Texas 78701-1494 • 512 463-9734 • 512 463-9838 FAX • tea.texas.gov

Purple Star Campus Designation

2022-23 Award Letter

Date: September 22, 2022
Subject: Purple Star Campus Designation Award Announcement SY 2022-2023

Dear Dr. John Craft

The Texas Education Agency is pleased to announce that Killeen High School has fulfilled the criteria for earning the Purple Star Campus Designation for the 2022-2023 school year. This special designation, created by the 86th Texas Legislature through SB 1557, recognizes campuses for demonstrating support and commitment to meeting the unique needs of military-connected students and their families. The designation is effective for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years.

Applicants must have met the following eligibility criteria:

1. Designate a campus-based military liaison;
2. Create and maintain an easily accessible web page that includes information on military-connected students and their families;
3. Must have a campus transition program; and
4. Offer at least one of the following initiatives:
    - A resolution showing support for military-connected students and families;
    - Participation in Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month; or
    - Partnership with a school liaison officer to encourage and provide opportunities for active-duty military members.

Recipients of the award receive the following:

- Purple Star recognition to display (See the attached documents).
- Purple Star designations will be featured on the TxSchools.gov web page.

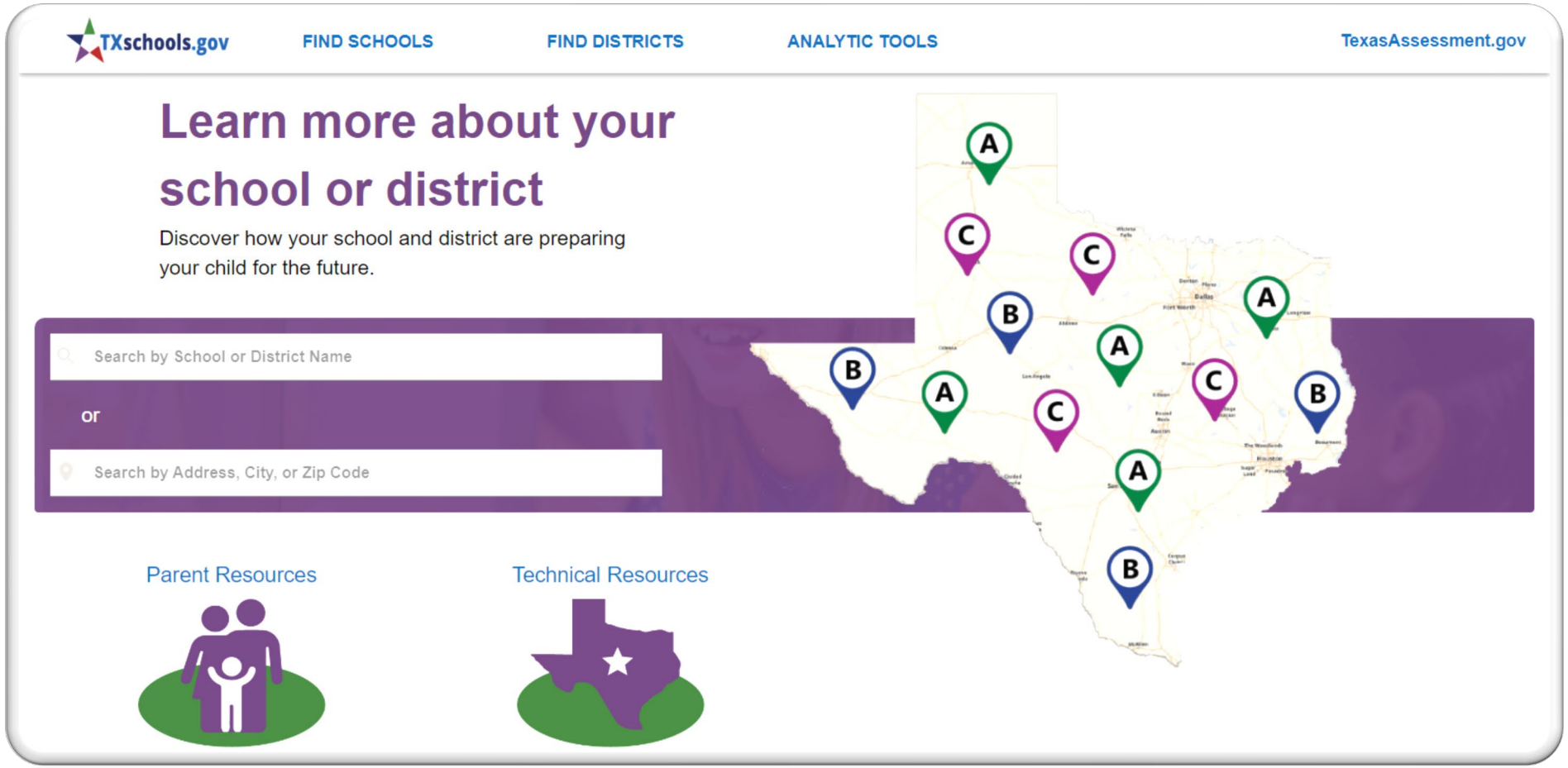
To see the Purple Star Campus Designation rule in its entirety visit: 19 TAC, Chapter 61, School Districts, Subchapter FF, Commissioner's Rules Concerning Veterans and Military Dependents, Division 2, Military-Connected Students, § 61.1063.

For questions regarding the Purple Star Campus Designation, please contact Dr. Jimmy Bowser, Highly Mobile State Coordinator, in the Highly Mobile and At-Risk Student Programs Division at militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov.

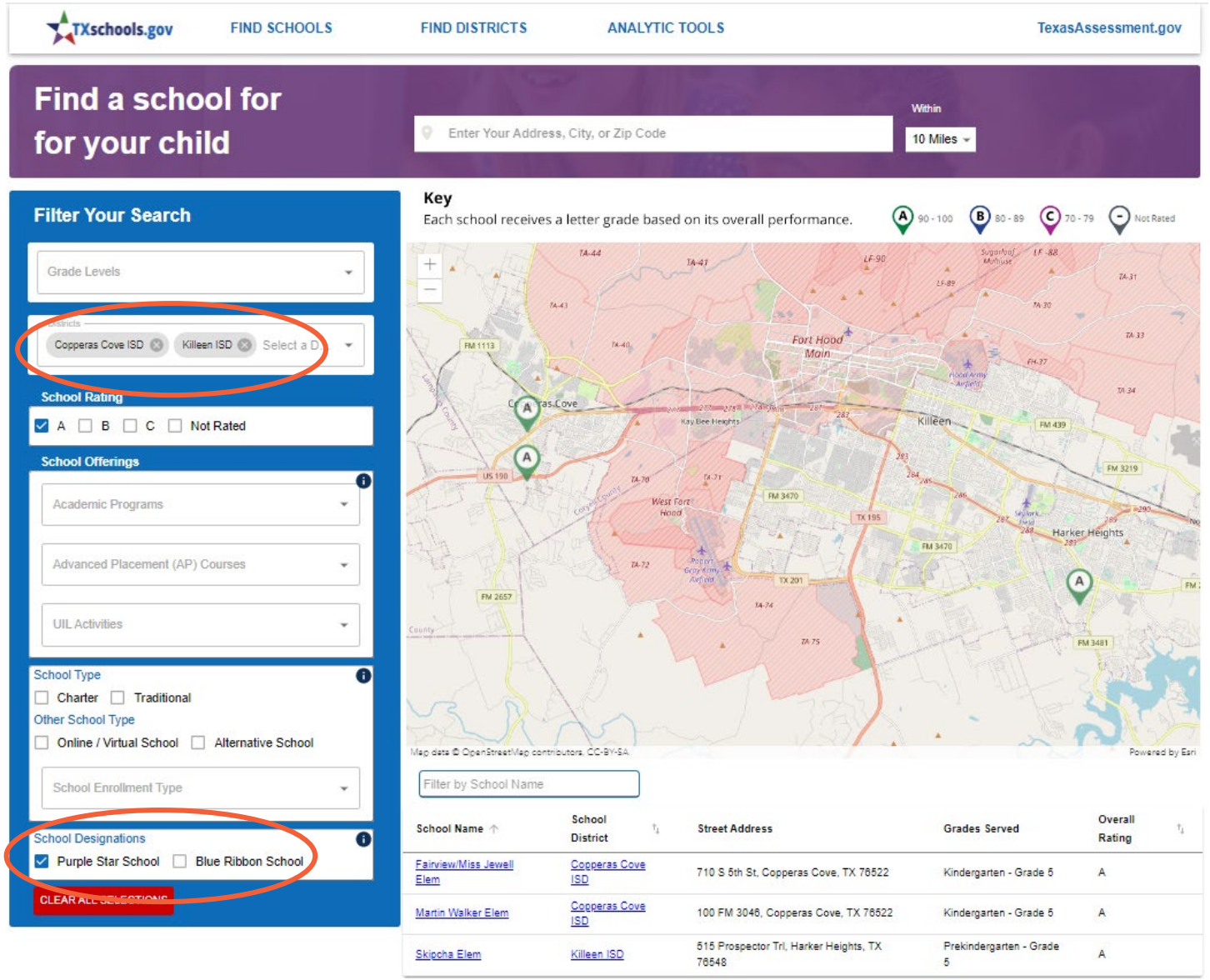
Sincerely,

Mike Morath
Commissioner of Education

Partnership with TXschools.gov



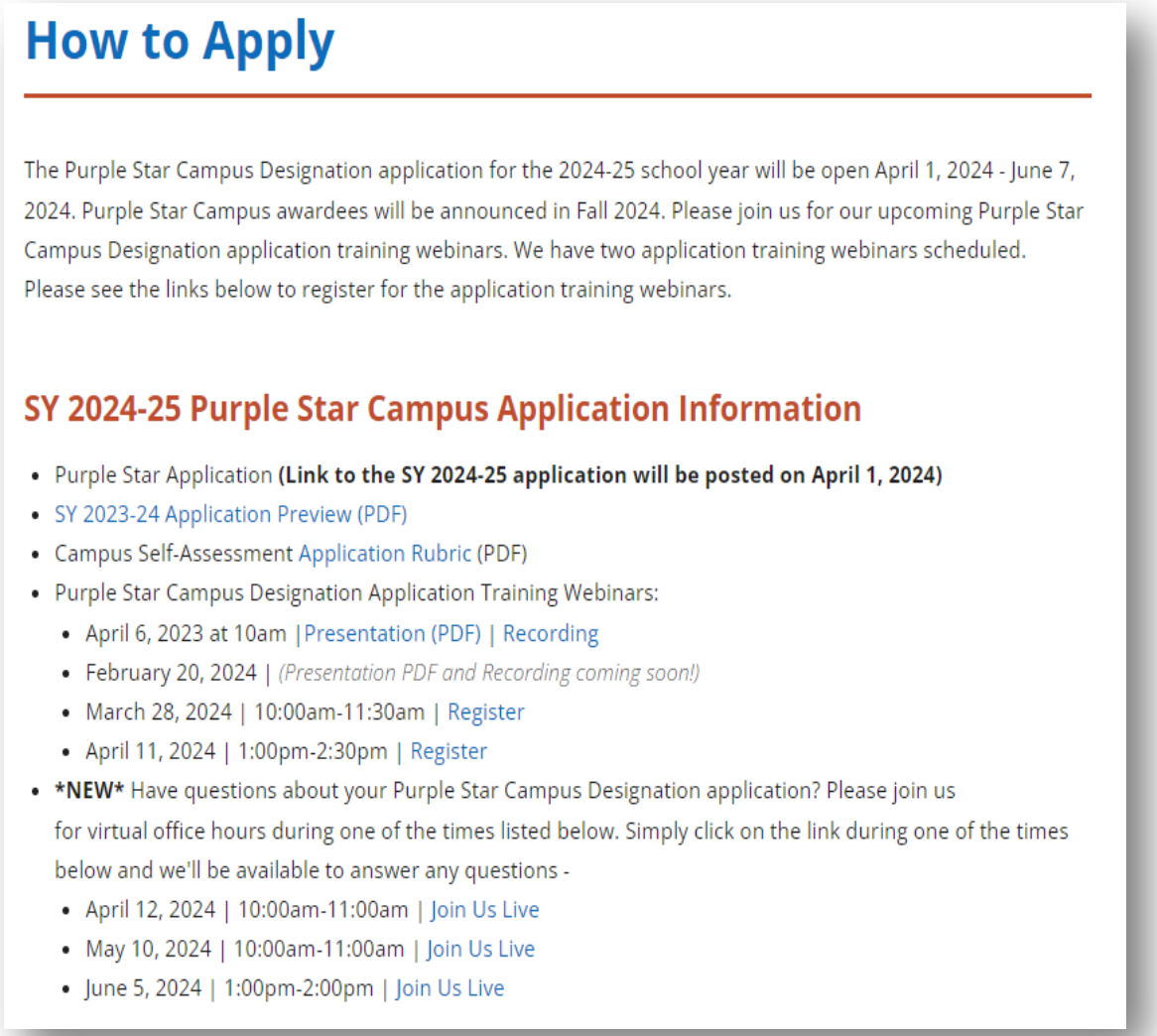
Partnership with TXschools.gov



- Search by ISD/Charter
- Several other filters
- Includes Purple Star filter

How to Apply

- Live application posted April 1, 2024 on TEA Purple Star campus designation website
- Application Window: **April 1, 2024 – June 7, 2024**
- Begin preparation activities and hosting events NOW
- Be sure to document activities
  - Pictures from events, sign-in sheets, screenshots of social media postings, etc.



How to Apply

The Purple Star Campus Designation application for the 2024-25 school year will be open April 1, 2024 - June 7, 2024. Purple Star Campus awardees will be announced in Fall 2024. Please join us for our upcoming Purple Star Campus Designation application training webinars. We have two application training webinars scheduled. Please see the links below to register for the application training webinars.

SY 2024-25 Purple Star Campus Application Information

- Purple Star Application **(Link to the SY 2024-25 application will be posted on April 1, 2024)**
- SY 2023-24 Application Preview (PDF)
- Campus Self-Assessment Application Rubric (PDF)
- Purple Star Campus Designation Application Training Webinars:
  - April 6, 2023 at 10am | Presentation (PDF) | Recording
  - February 20, 2024 | *(Presentation PDF and Recording coming soon!)*
  - March 28, 2024 | 10:00am-11:30am | Register
  - April 11, 2024 | 1:00pm-2:30pm | Register
- ***NEW*** Have questions about your Purple Star Campus Designation application? Please join us for virtual office hours during one of the times listed below. Simply click on the link during one of the times below and we'll be available to answer any questions -
  - April 12, 2024 | 10:00am-11:00am | Join Us Live
  - May 10, 2024 | 10:00am-11:00am | Join Us Live
  - June 5, 2024 | 1:00pm-2:00pm | Join Us Live

Frequently Asked Questions

- *Does the campus-based liaison have to be an employee of the school district?* Answer = YES

- *Can I work with my school district to help create my easily-accessible website?* Answer = YES, however your campus-based site must list the contact information and responsibilities for your campus liaison.

- *What is the best way to submit collected evidence?* Answer: Host videos on YouTube, Vimeo, etc. Post other forms of evidence as PDFs. Yes, these can be hosted or stored in Google Folder.

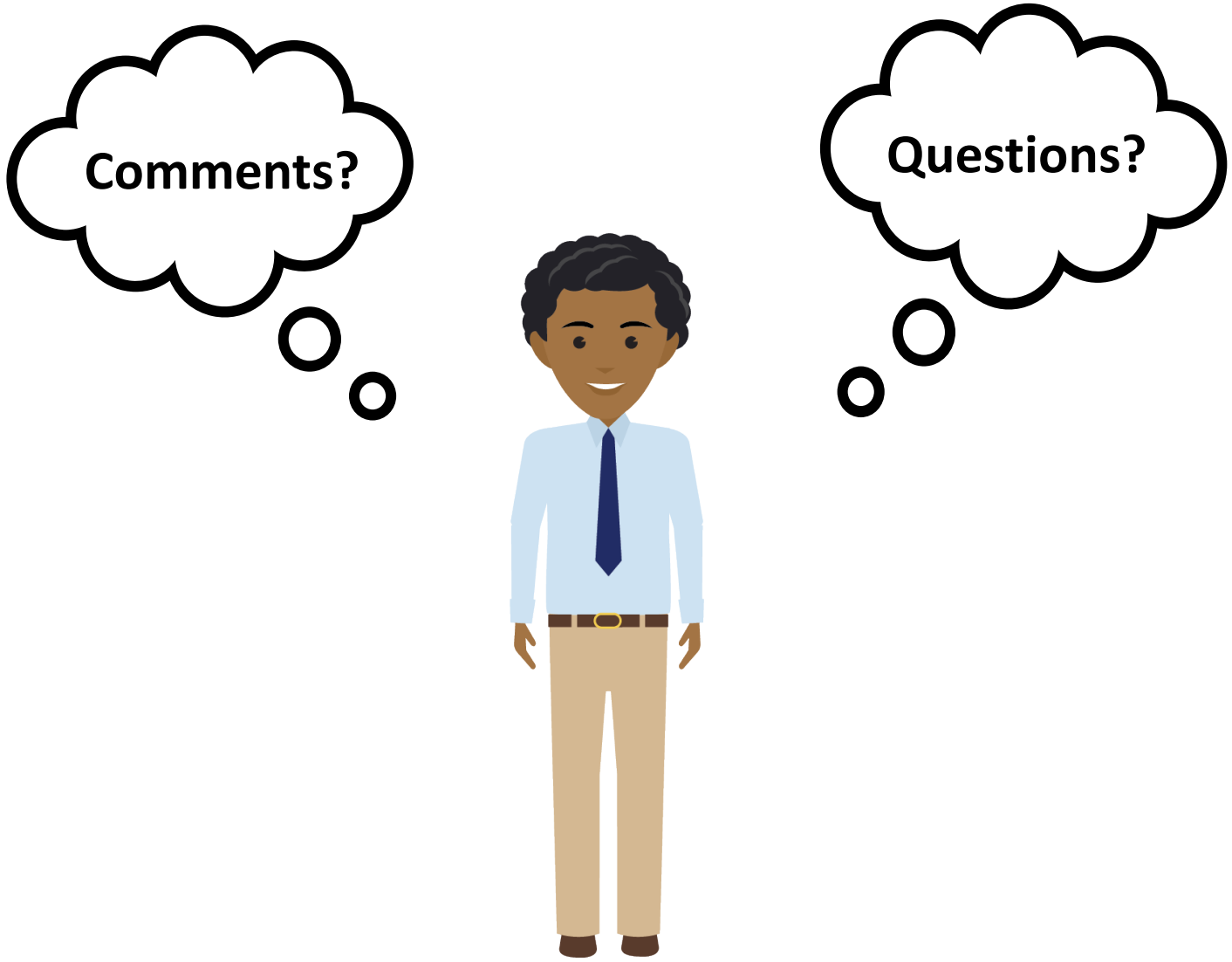
Frequently Asked Questions

- *How soon can I expect to know if our application has been approved to earn the Purple Star Campus designation?* Answer = August 2024

- *If I notice a mistake after I submit my application or I have questions before submitting my application, who do I contact?* Answer = You can send an email to militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov.

- *What resources are available to assist with completing my application?* Answer: Some resources are currently available on our Purple Star Campus designation website. Other resources will be added in Spring 2024.

Pause to Process



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Key Resources and Supports

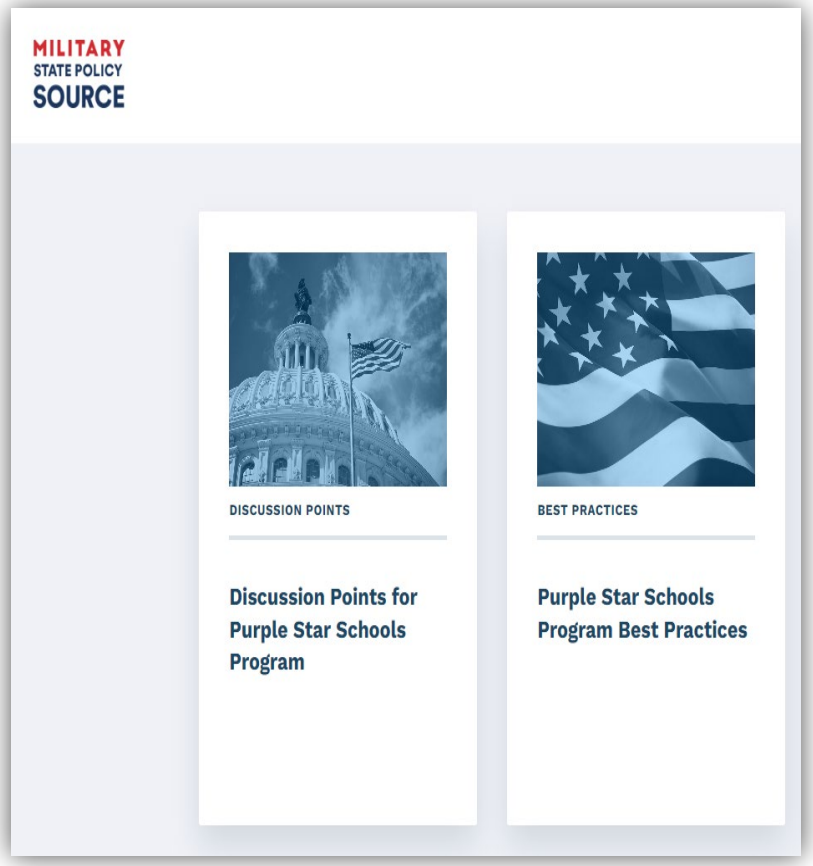
1) Students, Families & Schools Support

[Military-Connected Website]

2) MCEC Purple Star Support Page

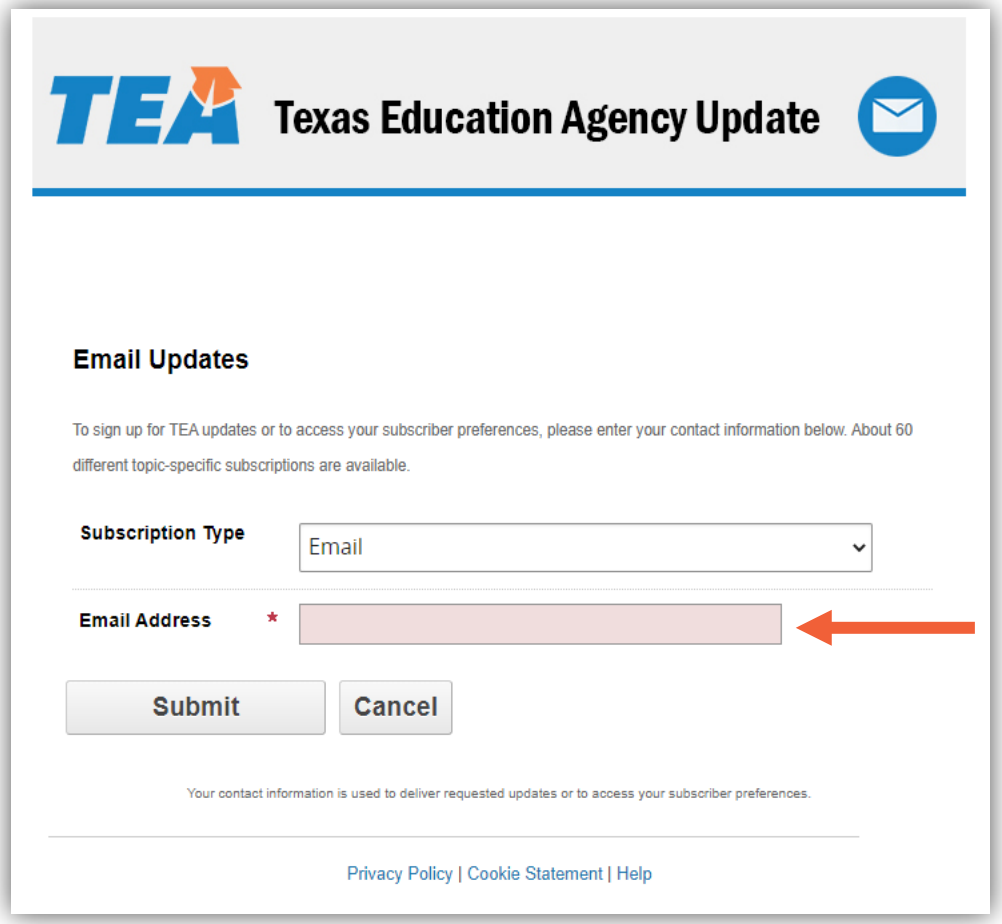
[MCEC Purple Star Website]

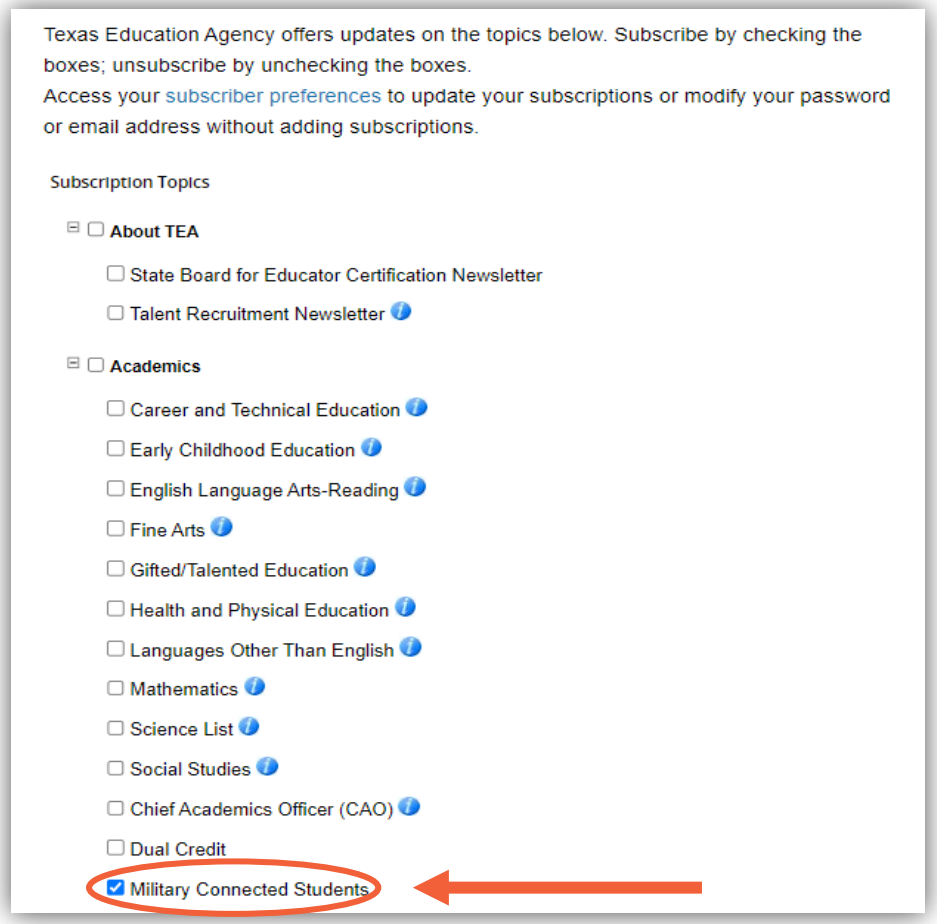
3) Military One Source Purple Star



[Military One Source Page]

Subscribe to the Military-Connected Student Listserv





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Contact Us

- Dr. Jimmy Bowser
  - Assistant Director, Highly Mobile & At-Risk Student Programs Unit
- militaryconnectedstudents@tea.texas.gov
- tea.texas.gov/mil
- Sign-up for TEA Military Newsletter here: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/TXTEA/subscriber/new
- Scan the QR Code to give us feedback