

Kansas Purple Star Schools

Supporting military-connected children



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JOSHUA FERGUSON



MILITARY INTERSTATE
CHILDREN'S COMPACT
COMMISSION

**Adopted by all 50 States
Kansas was First
Passed by 2008 Legislature**

Kansas Military Child Educational Council (KMCEC)

KSDE Representative – MIC3 Commissioner

Department of Defense Liaison

Governor's Military Council Representative

Superintendents with High Military Children Concentration

Legislative Appointee

School Liaison Officers from Military Installations

**Kansas Active-Duty Military-
Connected Students**

Army	7,947
Navy	203
Marines	165
Air Force	1,542
Space Force	15
Coast Guard	77
US Public Health Service	40
Total	9,989

Military Bases in Kansas

Fort Leavenworth



Fort Riley



McConnell AFB



With an estimated 1.2 million active-duty military-connected U.S. children enrolled in schools in the US and abroad, the number of children affected by transitions is significant.

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Reginald Eggleston

Geary County Schools USD 475
Enrollment May 2022: 6,606
Military Student Count: 3,165



Keith Mispagel

Fort Leavenworth School District USD 207
Enrollment May 2022: 1,681
Military Student Count: 1,650

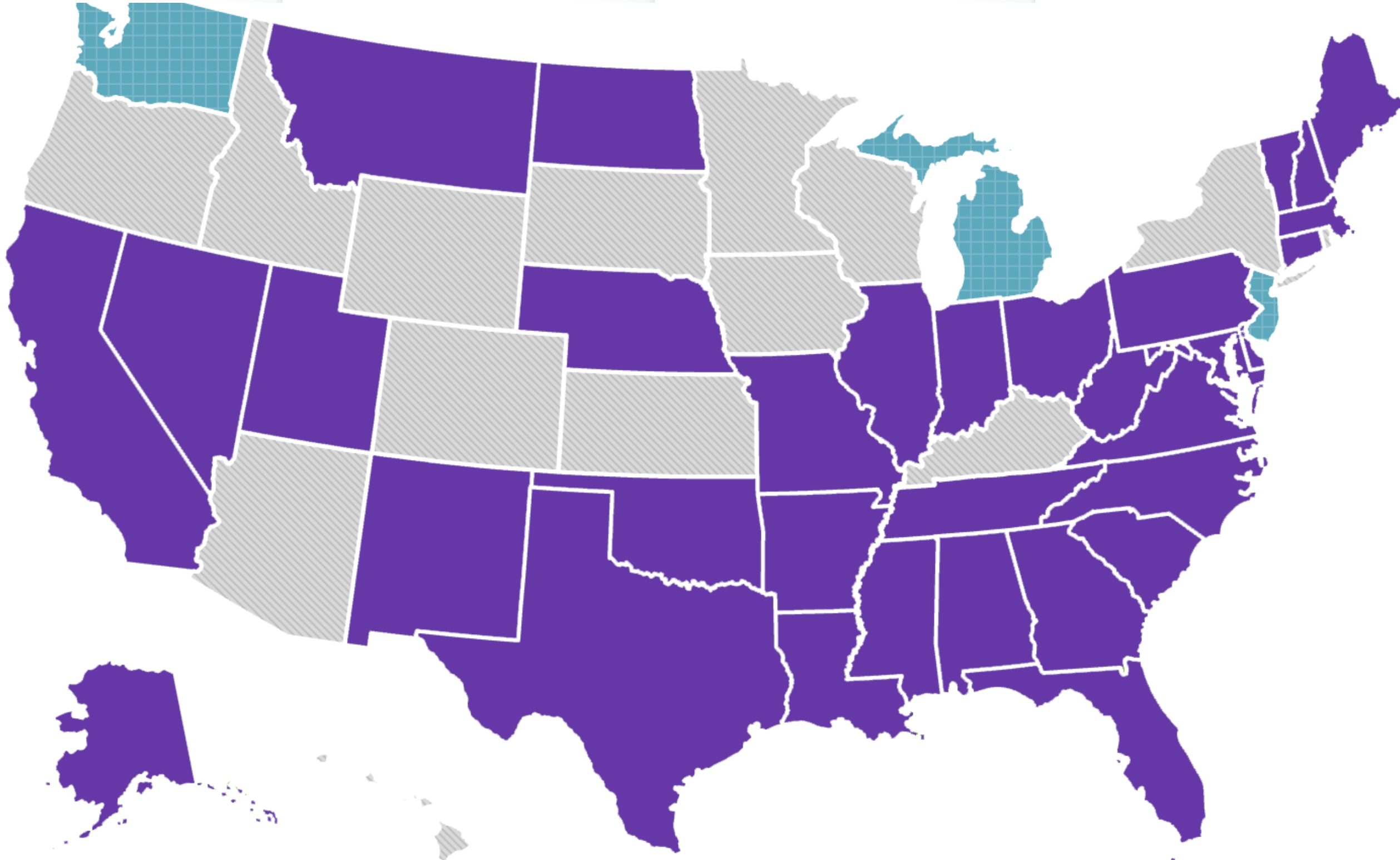


Heather Bohaty

Derby Public Schools USD 260
Enrollment May 2022: 6,761
Military Student Count: 783

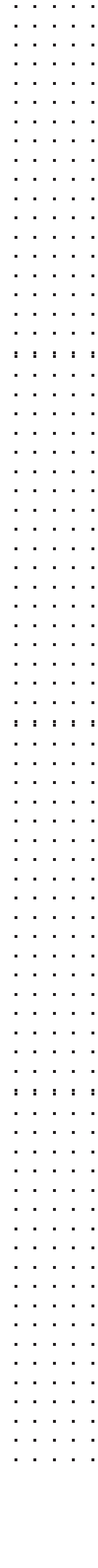
Purple Star Schools Programs

 **No action**  **Bill introduced**  **Issue advanced**  **Policy passed**

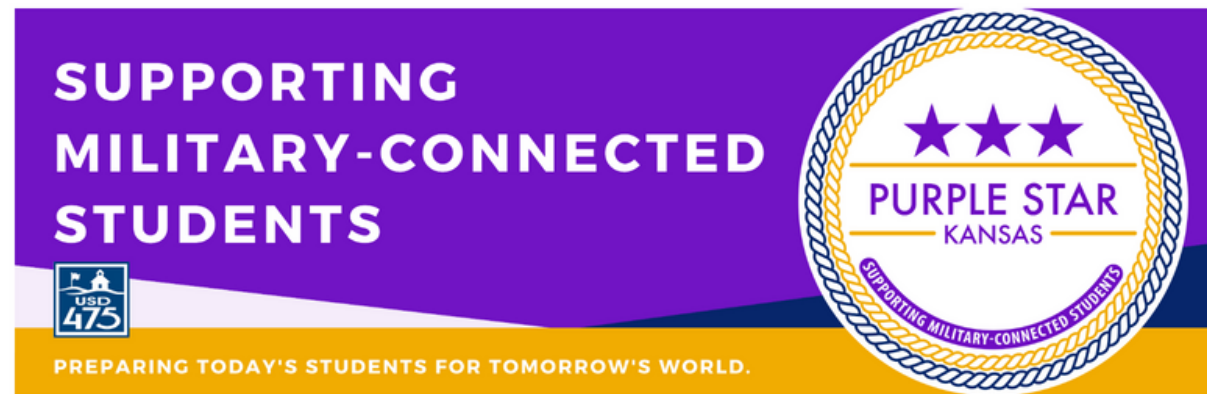




The Purple Star designation recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. This program ensures that military children transition successfully into new schools and stay on track for graduation.



Purple Star School



Geary County Schools USD 475 is proud to be the first district in the state of Kansas to implement a pilot of the Military Child Education Coalition's (MCEC) Purple Star School Program within its schools.

This program helps schools "respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school," according to the MCEC's website, preparing students for their next step in life, whether that be college, the workforce, or the next grade level.

Geary County Schools initiated the program within the district in the fall of 2020 and has since grown the program to each of its schools.

Each school has a designated Point of Contact for military students and families. The POC serves as the primary link between the family and the school. The individual can be a counselor, administrator, teacher, or another staff member. To learn more about your student's school's Point of Contact, please visit the school's website.

Search USD 475

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Board Action and Commitment

Individual School Action

Military Support Activities

Military Resources Website

Military Resources



Fort Riley Resources

A variety of resources for school-aged families and children are available through Fort Riley, including information on moving to Fort Riley, school support services, and school age center activities for before and after school.

School Support Services

(785) 240-3261
6620 Normandy Drive
Fort Riley, Kansas 66442

School Liaison Officer

Sandy Johnson
sandra.e.johnson1.naf@mail.mil

Stages of Deployment

Click [HERE](#) for a flyer with information about the stages of family members going through a deployment.

Financial Clearing

Military families that will be transferring their child out of Geary County Schools USD 475 will need to clear financially with the district. To financially clear with USD 475, you need to do the following:

- Visit the Geary County Schools USD 475 Central Office Finance Department between 8:00am–4:30pm Monday thru Friday at:
Mary E. Devin Center
123 N. Eisenhower Dr.
Junction City, KS 66441
- Payments can be made by check, cash or credit card (Checks are to be written to USD 475).
- You are clearing all fee as of the date of payment. If your child accumulates additional fee's after you have made a payment, those fees will need to be paid at your child's building on their last day of school.
- If, upon leaving, you feel your child has additional funds left on their account, please visit your child's respective school to receive a refund.

Other helpful financial resources:

- [Military Family Guide to Finance](#)
- [Finding the Best Car Insurance for Military Families](#)
- [How to Maximize Your Military Benefits](#)

Fort Riley Relocation

If you need transcripts, shot records, or any other academic information, you will need to make that request with your child's respective school. Please allow one week for the school to obtain the requested records.

The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

This Quick Reference Guide illustrates the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to include: enrollment educational records, enrollment immunizations, Kindergarten and first grade entrance age, Course and education program placement, special education services, placement flexibility, absences related to deployment activities, eligibility for enrollment, eligibility for extracurricular participation, and graduation.

Enrollment

All students are enrolled online, via Skyward. For information on how to enroll your students, click [HERE](#).

There are four elementary schools on post, as well as [Fort Riley Middle School](#). Geary County Schools completed the construction of the new [Junction City High School](#) last year, and will be where incoming high school students will attend.

If you do not have an address for Fort Riley yet, you may enroll your students at Morris Hill Elementary or Fort Riley Middle School using any address in the continental United States. High school students will enroll at Junction City High School, for addresses on and off post. Once you have your address for Fort Riley, please call the Devin Center at **785-717-4000** and update your enrollment information so that your student can be assigned to the appropriate school.

Boundaries and Busing

By typing in your address, you can use [Infofinder](#) to find out where your child will attend school if you have an address and if busing is available.



**The above video depicts the location of the Infofinder link on the previous version of the USD 475 website. An updated video will be produced, however, in the meantime Infofinder can be found by visiting the link above.*

High School Graduation

Class of 2016: 24 credits

Class of 2017 and beyond: 26 credits

KANSAS PURPLE STAR

THE DESIGNATION IS...

awarded to military-friendly school districts and those schools that have demonstrated a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military including active duty, National Guard or reserve. Schools that meet all criteria as required will receive official Purple Star recognition to display onsite and may place the recognition on their website.

A school district or individual school will be honored with the Purple Star award if it completes all the required activities and one optional activity. The Kansas Military Child Education Council (KMCEC) will review all school district applications and recommend those that meet the criteria to the Kansas State Board of Education.



KANSAS STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PURPLE STAR DESIGNATION APPLICATION

The Kansas Purple Star designation is awarded to military-friendly school districts and those schools that have demonstrated a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military including active duty, National Guard or reserve. Schools that meet all criteria as required will receive official Purple Star recognition to display onsite and may place the recognition on their website.

A school district or individual school will be honored with the Purple Star award if it completes **all the required** activities and **one optional** activity. The Kansas Military Child Education Council (KMCEC) will review all school district applications and recommend those that meet the criteria to the Kansas State Board of Education.

REQUIRED DISTRICT WIDE ACTIVITIES

Purple Star schools must provide evidence that the district completed at least one of the following:

- Professional development regarding special considerations for military students and families. Evidence of this training should include the following documentation: agenda, presentation materials and names of participants.
- The school board passes a resolution publicizing the school's support for military students and families. Applicants must include a copy of the resolution and date of approval.
- The school district has an assigned central office staff member to be the contact for the school based liaison and military families.

WEBSITE REQUIREMENTS

The district maintains a page dedicated to military student and family support. This webpage must include the following information:

- Military Families: Planning your arrival to (Insert School Division) Information on enrollment and the registration process
- Military Families: Preparing your move from (Insert School Division) Information on educational records requests and transfers
- Academic Planning for Military Families: Information on advanced academic programs and application deadlines (Specialty Centers), graduation requirements, diploma options and home instruction
- Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children: Information on the compact rules and their application
- Special Needs Navigation and Parental Rights: Information on Special Education services and parental rights to include parental consent
- Extracurricular Activities: Information or links to clubs, organizations and athletic opportunities including physical information/expectations.
- School Liaison Officer: (Include local School Liaison Contact information/link to website and Military OneSource Database <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/education-employment/for-children-and-youth/changing-schools/school-liaisons/>)
- Other optional items to include: Virtual tours, Impact Aid, SITE Council, Parent Teacher Association (PTA) and Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA), and local community support etc.

The Kansas State Department of Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: KSDE General Counsel, Office of General Counsel, KSDE, Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson, Suite 102, Topeka, KS 66612, (785) 296-3201

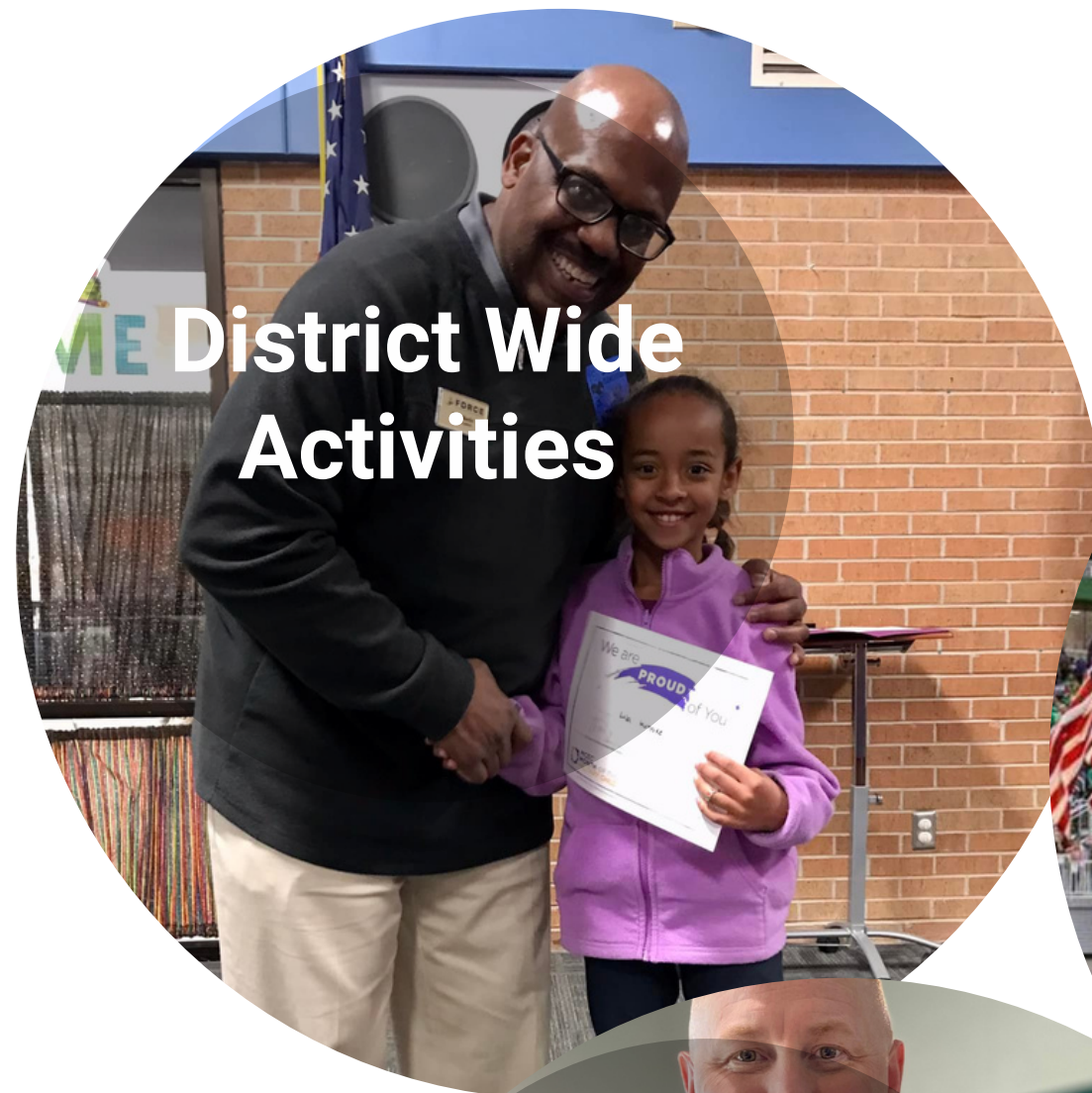
Purple Star Application Process

District-wide activities

Dedicated military student
and family support webpage

School-wide activities

Military support activities



District Wide
Activities



Webpage



School Wide
Activities



Military
Support
Activities

Purple Star Designation Timeline

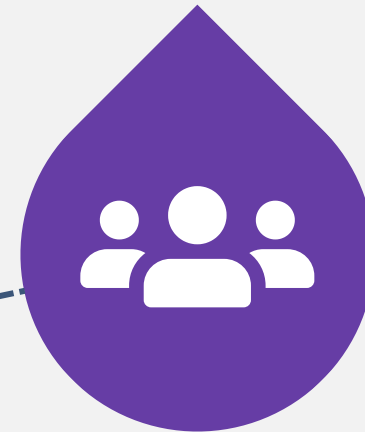


**Application Deadline
is February 1**



**February the Kansas Military
Children Educational
Council Committee Reviews
Applications**

**Recommendations for Purple
Star Designation taken to
March State BOE Meeting**



**School Districts
Renewal every 3 years**



Communication & Recognition

- Certificate
- Letter of Approval
- Posting on KSDE Military Families Webpage





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Questions?