



SLP Global Connect

Bridging the Gap Between Installations - Communities - Families
Dept. of the Air Force School Liaison Program

EDUCATE * CONNECT * ELEVATE

2026 DSLO TOP STATE INITIATIVES

WHAT'S NEW IN ED?

- Education Policy Implementation and Information Enhancements
- State Solutions for Military Homeschoolers
- Support for Students with Special Educational Needs (Approved 2024)
- Open Enrollment Flexibility (Approved 2022)

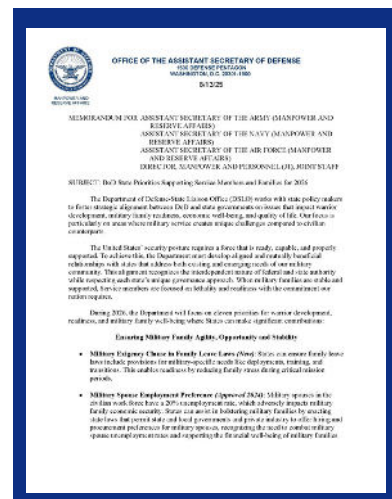
MILITARY STATE POLICY SOURCE

STRENGTHENING STATE EDUCATION POLICIES: How School Liaison Program Managers (SLPMs) Advance DoD Priorities

The Department of Defense - State Liaison Office (DSLO) has released its 2026 State Priorities. Military families face unique challenges that state policy can either ease or complicate. Gaps in education access directly affect readiness, retention, and recruiting in the Armed Forces. When state solutions align with family needs, students thrive, stress is reduced, and Service members can stay mission-focused.

Education-Focused State Priorities for 2026

- **Education Policies:** Clearer rules, better communication, easier access
- **Homeschool:** Streamlined requirements, full activity access
- **Special Education:** Timely services, fewer delays after moves
- **Enrollment:** Keep students in school despite PCS moves



Discussion Points, Best Practices, and the status of all of the DoD's priorities in each state can be found at <https://state.policy.militaryonesource.mil>

THE ROLE OF SLPMs IN CONTRIBUTING TO SUCCESS

- **Identify Needs:** Capture family and school concerns, exposing policy gaps
- **Advocate:** Share facts with state leaders to elevate military family voices
- **Collect Data:** Track enrollment, special education, and homeschool trends through the School Liaison Records Management System
- **Analyze Trends:** Spot patterns, guide solutions, and highlight successes

Together, stakeholders can ensure military-connected students have the stability and opportunity they deserve.



COMMANDER'S CORNER



POLICY PULSE

New Executive Order Impacting Education

EO 14327 "President's Council on Sports, Fitness, and Nutrition, and the Reestablishment of the Presidential Fitness Test"



PURPOSE: Reinstate Presidential Fitness Test, revitalize council, promote fitness excellence

IMPACT: Reintroduces awards, targets youth physical health, supports military readiness, energizes national initiative

"The quality of schools surrounding our installations isn't just a family concern—it's a readiness imperative."

— Gen Anthony Cotton, Commander, US Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska

JOINT SERVICE STATUS OF EDUCATION



SLPMs provide the frontline data that informs senior DoD leaders, shapes state and national education policy, and ensures compliance with DoDI 1342.29 and the Interstate Compact. Their reporting transforms local challenges into actionable insights—driving decisions that directly impact military-connected students and families.

Each year, the Status of Education report is reviewed by senior education stakeholders, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Military & Family Community Policy, and the Defense State Liaison Office. Command teams depend on this data to champion policies that enhance educational opportunities and ensure continuity for military-connected students. The insights provided by School Liaisons elevate local challenges to the national stage—directly influencing readiness, retention, and recruiting across the Department of Defense.



STATUS OF EDUCATION REPORT

- **September 9** CONUS Day 1 9–11:30 CST
 - Mid-Atlantic Region (DE, DC, MD, NJ, NY, PA, VA, WV)
 - Southeast Region (AL, FL, GA, KY, NC, SC, TN)
 - South Central Region (AR, LA, MO, MS, OK, TX)
 - Pacific Southwest Region (AZ, CA, HI, NM, NV, UT)
- **September 10** CONUS Day 2 9–11:30 CST
 - New England Region (CT, MA, ME, NH, RI, VT)
 - Midwest Region (CO, IA, KS, ND, NE, SD)
 - Great Lakes Region (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
 - Northwest Region (AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY)
- **October 16** OCONUS
 - Europe 0700–0900 CST
 - Pacific 1800–1930 CST

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP)

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) will release results from the 2025 NAEP assessments on 9 September. This release will include results from **2024 Grade 8 Science and Grade 12 Mathematics and Reading**. Results will be available to the public on September 9, at 12:01 AM EST at www.nationsreportcard.gov



The Role of School Liaisons:

- ✓ **Stay Informed:** Explore the data and resources provided
- ✓ **Share the News:** Promote awareness
- ✓ **Encourage Engagement:** Consider how it informs local instruction and support

MILITARY HOMESCHOOLERS ASSOCIATION

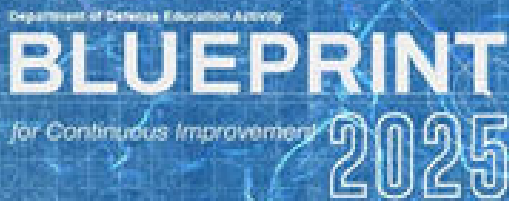


Base2Base Podcast

https://youtu.be/_WdZ7Oxugfs?si=o9UIXLLZUTnviWkh

This special episode featured an engaging conversation with **Matrice Brooks, the School Liaison Program Manager at Joint Base Andrews**. Listeners gained insights into the unique challenges and opportunities faced by military families in the homeschooling community.

Matrice shared valuable resources and strategies to support military-connected students in their educational journeys. Don't miss this opportunity to learn how the School Liaison Program can make a difference in your homeschooling experience.



DODEA UNVEILS FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT TO DRIVE EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT LEARNING, SCHOOLS, TALENT, AND INNOVATION

The Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) has launched a five-year strategic plan called "The Blueprint for Continuous Improvement," aimed at enhancing the educational experience for military-connected students globally through 2030. The plan focuses on four key goals: Student Excellence, School Excellence, Talent Excellence, and Organizational Excellence.

"This strategic Blueprint reflects DoDEA's deep commitment to students, families, and communities around the globe," said Dr. Beth Schiavino-Narvaez, Director of DoDEA. "It represents our promise to ensure that every student receives a world-class education—one that prepares them not just for tests or graduation, but for the challenges and opportunities of life."

#askushow

#partnershipsdrieveresults

#notwithoutus

Student Focused...Partnership Driven



THE EMPOWERED SCHOOL LIAISON

Where They Are...We Are

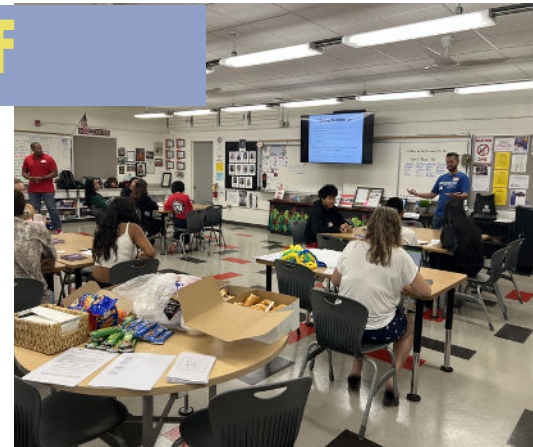
SPANGDAHLEM AB

The Saber Community Spouses Club, in collaboration with the USO and First Sergeants, hosted a kickoff breakfast for DoDEA teachers and staff. During the event, Colonel Lutmer, the 52nd FW Commander, and Chief Master Sergeant Trent expressed their gratitude and shared their aspirations for the upcoming 2025-2026 school year.



PACAF

Radford High School's Transition Center hosted a two-day Student Facilitator Training, supported by volunteers from Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and the Air Force Installation Resilience Office. High school students learned leadership skills to assist peers during school transitions, fostering a welcoming environment for new students. The training emphasized connection-building, confidence, and belonging, enhanced by the True Colors personality framework for better collaboration. JBPH-H Air Force volunteers contributed energy and mentorship, enriching the experience for all participants.



CANNON AFB

Sara Williams, the School Liaison Program Manager for Cannon AFB, collaborated with the Detachment 17 unit to provide local community students with an exclusive insight into the installation during a youth summer camp hosted by the City of Clovis. Students enjoyed a variety of activities, including a balloon race with the A4MP unit, 3D scanning and printing with Det 17, exploring with LiDAR cameras, using VR headsets to discover the flightline and aircraft, and a simulator experience. Additionally, CI2 organized a fun LEGO activity, and there was a static display featuring a C-130, MQ-9, and CV-22, along with an informative station discussing the bombs used in the aircraft.



HANSCOM AFB

As part of the Hanscom AFB School Liaison Program's initiatives, Laurel Wironen, the School Liaison at Hanscom AFB, alongside Bourne Superintendent Kerri Quinlan-Zhou and Bedford Superintendent Cliff Chuang, presented at the Massachusetts Paul J. Andrews Summer Executive Institute. They delivered a comprehensive overview of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (MIC3), Purple Star Schools, and various resources aimed at supporting military families. This platform served as an invaluable opportunity to raise awareness and advocate for the needs of military-connected students across the state's school districts, thereby reinforcing our commitment to providing informed educational support.



HOME EDUCATION

The School Liaison Program plays a vital role in supporting military-connected families navigating a diverse and often complex education landscape, including the growing population of homeschoolers.

Consider strategic lines of effort:

- **Bridge Connections:** Engage local homeschool groups, co-ops, and networks to coordinate resources and streamline support for students.
- **Enhance Access:** Advocate for homeschoolers' access to foundational resources and community programs.
- **Educate:** Provide briefings for command teams and educational partners regarding the needs and strengths of the homeschooling community to support readiness and retention goals.

SPECIAL EDUCATION CORNER

Empowering Families Through Knowledge and Support



This month, we are highlighting an invaluable tool designed to assist in navigating the complexities of special education:

Wrightslaw (www.wrightslaw.com) serves as a reputable resource for parents, educators, and advocates in search of trustworthy information regarding special education law, education advocacy, and student rights.

Public Schools on Military Installations (PSMI)

Mountain Home AFB Domineek Haag, SLPM

Col Roderick James, 366th Fighter Wing Commander, hosted distinguished visitor Congressman Mike Simpson for a comprehensive tour of MHAFB and an overview of the mission. Congressman Simpson played a pivotal role in securing a 20% funding allocation for the replacement of Stephensen Elementary School (SES).

In collaboration, SLPM Domineek Haag and Superintendent Gilbert facilitated a visit to SES, which included a luncheon attended by several military families. The visit fostered discussions on the PSMI, addressing processes, stakeholder roles, needs, challenges, and support mechanisms for military families.



Military and Family Life Counselors (MFLCs)



Hurlburt Field Dr. Mackinley Cross, SLPM



Hurlburt Field's SLPM recently hosted a "Day at Hurlburt" event, welcoming school-embedded CYB-MFLCs for an in-depth exploration of the installation's mission and its impact on military families.



This collaborative engagement brought together key stakeholders, including installation leadership and educational partners, to strengthen community relationships and enhance support for military-connected students and mission readiness.



Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much. - **Helen Keller**