

CELEBRATING 75-YEARS OF EXCELLENCE SCHOOL YEARS 1946-1947 to 2021-2022

Key Themes and Supporting Messages (Talking Points)

A NOBLE AND IMPORTANT MISSION (1946-2021)

- DoDEA is a school system with a noble and important mission – “To educate, engage and empower military-connected students to succeed in a dynamic world.”
- As a DoDEA community, we take great pride in our history of fulfilling our mission.
- While schooling for military-connected students has an interesting and varied background, serious efforts to consolidate and regulate education and expand the number of schools did not begin until shortly after the end of World War II. In 1946, the United States military established schools for the children of its Servicemen/women stationed in Europe and the Pacific. School year 2021-2022 will mark the 75th year of that effort.
- Schools for children of military members stationed at various bases in the United States were already, in some cases, well established. These overseas and domestic schools were originally administered by the individual services, but as the number of schools grew, their administration was transferred to civilian managers.
- Since that time, DoDEA’s footprint has expanded across the country and around the world to meet the educational needs of military-connected youth. Over time, we have grown, merged, consolidated, reorganized and changed more times than we can count. Today, we are one worldwide system with a rich past and a very bright future.
- Today, the DoDEA instructional program provides a comprehensive pre-kindergarten through 12th grade curriculum that is competitive with that of any school system in the United States.
- As we move forward, it is essential that we honor the work of our past. As a school system, we will continuously improve and refine our organizational direction as we strive to meet our mission.
- As we commemorate 75 years as a school system, we look back with gratitude on the remarkable men and women who made it their life’s work to care for, educate and empower more than 15-million military-connected children who have passed through our doors.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AND LEARNING FOR MILITARY-CONNECTED STUDENTS

- While there has been much change over the history of DoDEA, and especially in recent times, one thing remains constant — students are at the core of everything we do.
- The DoDEA experience is characterized by an enduring commitment to excellence in every facet of teaching and learning – to provide military-connected children with the education they need and deserve.
- From our early beginnings, we have maintained an ongoing focus on continuous improvement and our promise and commitment to ensure “Excellence in education for every student, every day, everywhere.”
- Through its attendees and graduates over a long and proud history, DoDEA has written a success story: Military-connected children schooled by dedicated teachers, administrators and support staff have gone on to contribute to and thrive in every aspect of American life and culture. Countless men and women have become richer in many ways because of their unique DoDEA experiences.



WORLD-CLASS PROFESSIONALS SUPPORTING MILITARY FAMILIES

- This year we celebrate 75 years of educational support to military-connected families – empowered by the resourcefulness, dedication and focused optimism of the men and women who established and operated schools in the aftermath of World War II.
- The world has changed dramatically since our system began; however, the spirit of our teachers and administrators is the same now as it was then — infused to the core with determination and innovation.
- A laser-like focus on teaching and learning in our schools, past and present, has better enabled our warriors and DoD civilians to make lasting contributions to our nation's defense, and indeed the defense of freedom around the world.
- As a contributing partner and a key quality of life component within the communities we serve, DoDEA remains committed to providing the best education and care for Servicemembers and their families.
- In spite of all odds, the people of DoDEA can be relied upon to ensure continuity of educational services, which make a world of difference to the children who attend our schools, and their families who sacrifice so much to serve our country.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO MILITARY READINESS AROUND THE WORLD SINCE 1946

- We commemorate more than seven decades of significantly contributing to the readiness of our military forces and improving the quality of life for military families around the world.
 - DoDEA knows and understands what is important to military families and students – a high quality education and a rigorous curriculum in a caring, dependable, predictable and stable environment.
 - Acquired expertise and a proven record in dealing with the challenges and hardships facing military-connected children due to frequent transitions, family separations and deployments.
 - DoDEA's unique attributes include:
 - Providing stability and focus for students, families and communities during deployments.
 - Developing unique programs and strategies to keep parents and students connected during separations and deployments.
 - Understanding and perspective on the characteristics and dynamics of military life.
 - Organizational experience and expertise in student transitions.
 - Providing awareness and knowledge of the host nation and its culture to promote global understanding.
 - To sustain 75 years in existence, our organization has overcome conflict, wars, natural disasters, political upheaval, 9/11, COVID-19 and more.
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