

Purple Star



Veterans Summit

November 21, 2024

Pete LuPiba

Ashley Pederson

Amanda Sears

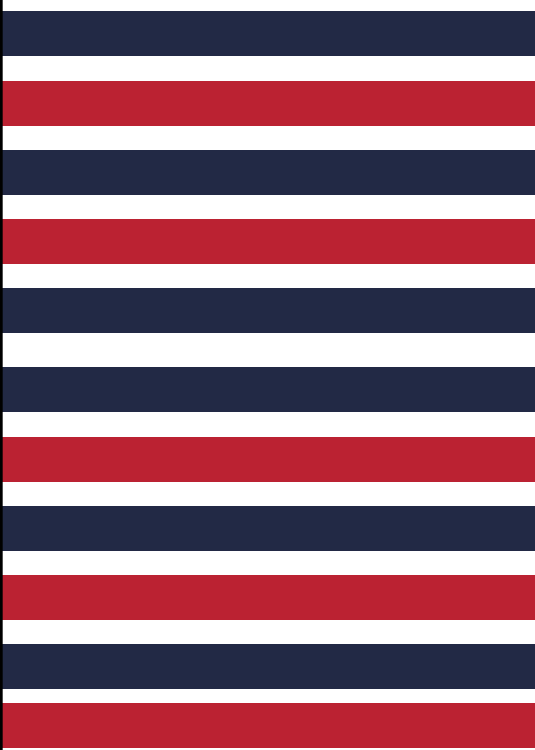
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2024 PURPLE STAR

Purple Star by the Numbers
The Purple Star Award recognizes schools that show a major commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military.

| | |
|---|--|
| 600+ Purple Star Schools Across Ohio PUBLIC PRIVATE CHARTER RELIGIOUS ONLINE | 46 PURPLE STAR STATES |
| 750,000 Veterans that call Ohio Home | 2017 The State of Ohio MIC3 Council convenes with expressed purpose to create research and development mission of supporting "the whole Military child" in 2015. This Council establishes multiple Focus Groups of all branches of service and stakeholders, professions across Ohio as hosted by Schools in 2016. In partnership with several State Agencies, this Council launches The Purple Star School Award for Military-connected and family-friendly communities as led by the Ohio Department of Education at the National Museum of the United States Air Force during Month of the Military Child 2017. |
| 5 Ohio is the 5th Largest State in the Union of the Veteran-Populated | 36,000 Military Connected Youth • Active Duty • Reserve Duty • Ohio Army & Air National Guard |

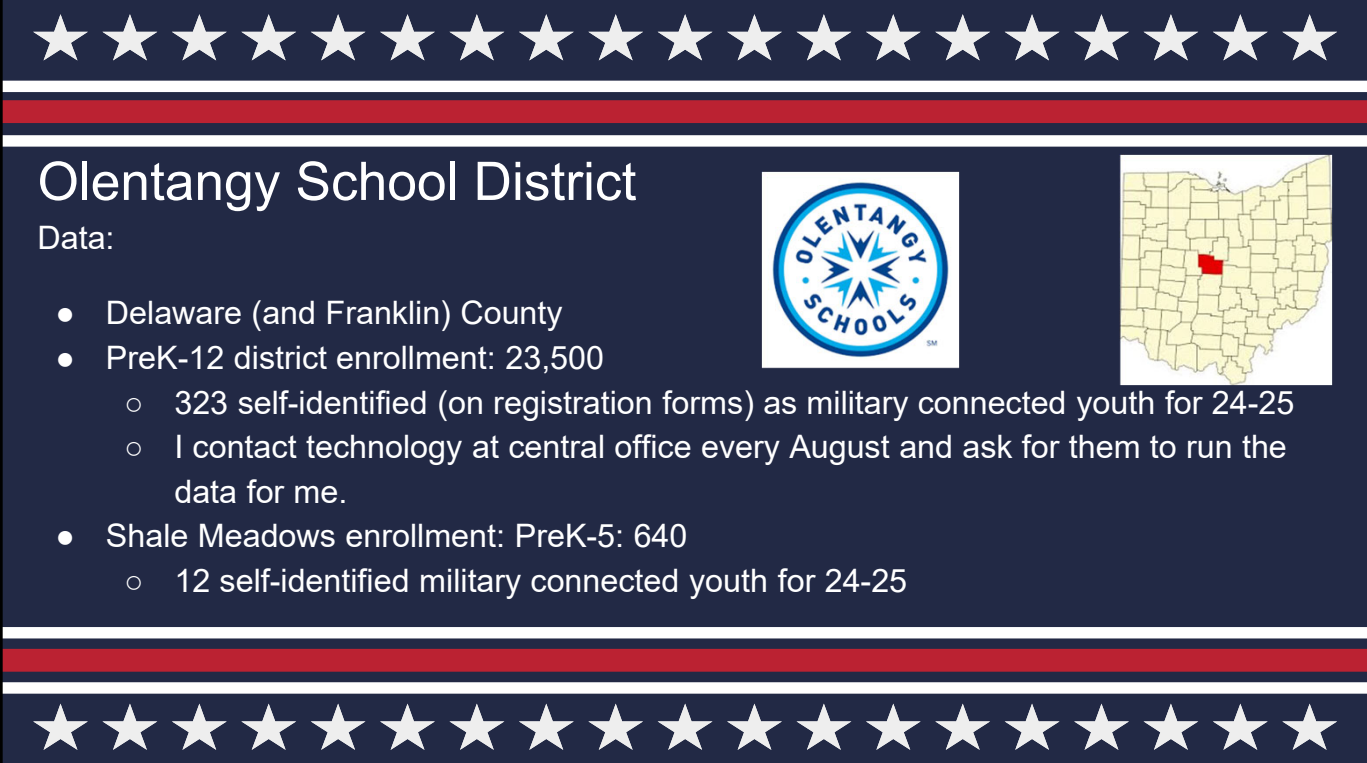
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Ashley's Bio: Wife of Master Sergeant (MSG) Ryan Pederson. Ryan is the Senior Human Resources Specialist for the Special Troops Command in the Ohio Army National Guard. He has been deployed twice to the Middle East. One prior to meeting Ashley; most recently from September of 2022 to July 2023. Together they have two children, Luke is 8 and Everly is 2.5 years old. Ryan left for the Middle East when Everly was 6 months old. Ashley is a second-grade teacher in the Olentangy School District. She is a co-leader on the Olentangy Military Families Committee, the recipient of the Purple Star School Award and Military Family Liaison for her building.

Amanda Bio: Teacher, Instructional Coach and Military Liaison for the Amherst School District. Wife of an Elyria Firefighter and daughter of a Vietnam Veteran. Mother of 5 amazing children. Owen is attending Bowling Green University, Madeline is a junior at Avon Lake High School, Marion is in 8th grade and twin girls Lillian and Laurel that are in fourth grade.



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Olentangy School District

Data:

- Delaware (and Franklin) County
- PreK-12 district enrollment: 23,500
 - 323 self-identified (on registration forms) as military connected youth for 24-25
 - I contact technology at central office every August and ask for them to run the data for me.
- Shale Meadows enrollment: PreK-5: 640
 - 12 self-identified military connected youth for 24-25

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Olentangy School District

Purple Star Schools

- 17 elementaries (11 currently hold the Purple Star distinction)
- 6 middle schools (5 Purple Star)
- 4 high schools and all 4 are Purple Star
 - Military Appreciation Nights for football and basketball
 - Military signing days much like athletes participate in



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Shale Meadows Supports Our Veterans



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Shale Meadows Supports Our Veterans



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Staying in touch during deployment



Daddy dolls from Hug a Hero. He recorded voice messages to each child.



Recorded videos reading books on my iPad, including The Night Before Christmas tradition. He also went to the USO lounges on base to record videos.



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Amherst Exempted Village Schools

Data:

- Lorain County
- 60 active military students
- Representatives in all grades PK-12
- Our military families make up almost 2% of the total school population of 3,564



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How do we advocate for and support our 2% of Active Military Students?

All 4 Schools are purple star schools.



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Activities & Events to Support Students

- Custom T-Shirts.
- Military Liaison
 - Continued contact with Military Families with a point person if any needs, questions or comments should arise.
- Dedicated Web Page with resources.
- Military Science Class at the High School



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Activities & Events to Support Students

- Attend the State Commitment Ceremony in Columbus.
- Navy National Defense Cadet Corps program new in 2024!
- Purple Star Breakfast- Month of the Military Child.
- Military Family Bowling Night.
- Letters to families.



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INVITATION

Invitations were sent home in January. The invitations had a link to a Google Form to RSVP. I was able to keep track of numbers of people attending. I created the invitation in Canva.

You and your family are invited to:

THE MONTH OF THE
MILITARY CHILD
BREAKFAST

*Honoring our Military Families in the
Amherst Exempted Village School District*

Friday April 21, 2023 9am-11am
Marion L. Steele High School CLC
RSVP directly to amanda_sears@amherstk12.org or
use the attached QR Code by: April 7

April is the Month of the Military Child. We would like to spend time with military families in our school district. We will provide a light breakfast and offer various speakers that will discuss opportunities and resources that are provided specifically to families of the military. We will also provide time to meet other military families in our community.
We Salute You!

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★★★★★

Funding- letters to patriotic partners
Total Donations were spent!

- American Legion
- Local Grocery Store- Giant Eagle
- Amherst Eagles
- Amherst VFW

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Military Family Contact List

We created
contact lists for
those that
wanted to
participate.



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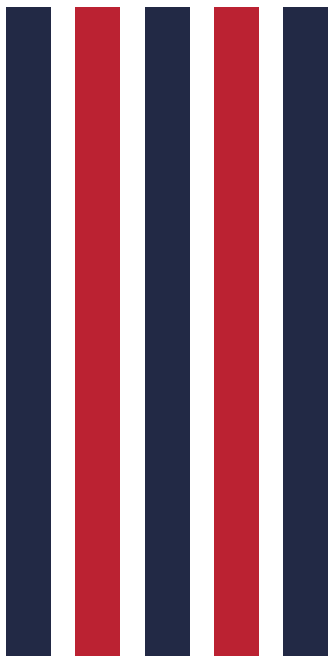
Purple Star Summit

A graphic for the Purple Star Summit. It features a stylized map of Ohio in purple with a white star in the center. Below the map is a yellow banner with the words "PURPLE STAR" in blue. To the right is a silver dog tag with the text "THE OHIO PURPLE STAR SUMMIT" and "JUNE 20 2024". The background is a distressed American flag. The entire graphic is set against a red background with white and blue geometric shapes.

THE OHIO
PURPLE STAR
SUMMIT
JUNE 20
2024

The first **in-person** Purple Star Summit is calling upon all Ohio educators and Purple Star supporters!

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Looking into the Future

Where we envision Purple Star heading.

How can stakeholders in the audience help with implementing Purple Star in their districts.

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Questions?



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