



Opportunity Through Education

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MEMORANDUM NO. 2022–127

TO: School District Superintendents
School Principals

FROM: Trent Carroll, Chief Operations Officer

DATE: November 7, 2022

SUBJECT: Wyoming Purple Star Schools Program

WYOMING PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Wyoming Purple Star School Program recognizes the efforts of Wyoming K-12 schools that are committed and supportive of military students and families as they transition to their new homes and schools. The program was designed to help with the challenges of high mobility by setting standards of commitment for the school's award of the military-friendly Purple Star designation. All Wyoming public and private schools are eligible to apply for the Purple Star School Award.

With more than 1.1 million military-connected students attending schools, issues of school transition are a high priority for families. The most current data indicates that Wyoming schools have 2,251 military-connected students enrolled. The frequent relocations required of military personnel mean that, on average, military-connected children move six to nine times between kindergarten and high school graduation. As they transition between schools, these students must adapt to varying cultures, school populations, curricula, standards, course offerings, schedules, and graduation requirements. As a result, military-connected students often face unique academic and social-emotional challenges. The mission deployment of a parent or parents can also contribute to impactful stress on a student.

To qualify for the Purple Star Designation award, schools complete a [Purple Star School application](#) and submit documentation and evidence.

Applications are reviewed by a select workgroup for requirements twice annually, with feedback provided. A school that successfully demonstrates compliance will be awarded the Wyoming Purple Star School designation.

Additional information about the Wyoming Purple Star Program, and school application, can be found [here](#).

For more information, contact Ken Reynolds, Information Management Division Director, at 307-777-8014 or ken.reynolds@wyo.gov.