

Friday, November 8, 2024

**INDIANAPOLIS** -- A growing number of schools are being recognized for their significant display of commitment to students and families connected to our nation's military. In 2024, 131 schools were newly-designated or renewed their designation as an <u>Indiana Purple Star School</u>.

"As we approach Veterans Day on Monday, it is so important that we reflect on the freedoms we enjoy today, the role our veterans have played in preserving those freedoms for all Americans, and also, how we might give back to those who have given so much for each of us," said Dr. Katie Jenner, Indiana Secretary of Education. "There's no doubt our schools play a key role in bringing communities together to honor our veterans and provide support for military-connected families throughout the year. These schools go the extra mile to provide a supportive learning environment, while acknowledging the unique challenges that military-connected students may face. From hosting annual military programs to having a dedicated place where families can find resources and support, as well as a dedicated point of contact, these schools are making a significant impact on the lives of students whose families continue to give so much to our nation."

A complete list of 2024 Indiana Purple Star Schools can be found <u>here</u>. This year's designation includes 129 newly-designated Purple Star Schools, in addition to two schools that renewed their designation. The designation is valid for three years.

Schools receiving the Purple Star designation meet the following criteria:

- Have an assigned point of contact for military families,
- Meet all grade-level training requirements for point of contact,
- Have a dedicated webpage providing recognition and resources for service members, veterans and students and families,
- Host an annual military program (e.g., Veterans Day, 9/11, etc.),
- Have a public military display recognizing service members,
- Submit a school board resolution publicizing support for military students and families, and



• Ensure military service members and their immediate family members meeting minimum job qualifications for open positions at the school will be guaranteed an interview.

More information on the Indiana Purple Star School designation is available <u>here</u>.

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