

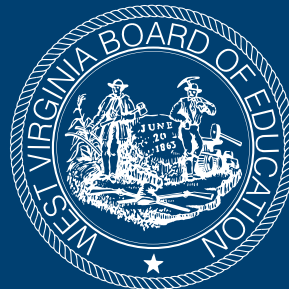
West Virginia Department of Education

2021 STRATEGIC PLAN

August 2022 Update to the West Virginia Board of Education

State Board Goal 3 | Objectives 2 & 3

- > Expand college readiness, career readiness,
workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship*
- > Support military career options*





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2022-2023

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I Executive Summary

The August Board of Education meeting will include an update on the 2021 Strategic Plan for West Virginia Public Schools regarding *Goal 3: Develop Economic Preparedness of Students, Objective 2. Expand college readiness, career readiness, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship and Objective 3. Support military career options.*

This document includes the *Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools* and the *Office of Technical and Adult Education* updates on the work being designed, developed and implemented in their offices in collaboration with other offices across the Department and other state/national agencies and businesses.

The document is not intended to be a comprehensive and complete narrative of all of the entrepreneurship and military career programs/services that are being implemented and led within the two offices. However, it does provide a broad, in-depth and varied chronicle of this work with clear evidence that the goals are being met in a variety of ways per the qualitative and quantitative data provided within the document.

The report is organized around the targeted objectives listed in the Goal 3 Strategic Plan:

- » Expand Entrepreneurship: Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools (TLES)
 - Background
 - Partners
 - Activities in Grades 6-12
- » Expand Entrepreneurship: Office of Career Technical Education
 - Activities
 - Statewide CTE Initiatives
- » Support Military Options: Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools (TLES)
 - Common Ground Activities
 - Background
 - Resources and Opportunities
 - Partners
 - Best Practices
 - Future Plans
- » Support Military Career Options
 - JROTC Activities
 - Competitions
 - Statewide Initiatives
 - Benefits

If you have further questions, please contact Senior Officer Clinton Burch in the Office of Technical and Adult Education at ccburch@k12.wv.us or 304-558-2389 or Dr. Sonya White in the Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools at snjwhite@k12.wv.us or 304-558-8098.

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Expand Entrepreneurship

Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools

Background

Entrepreneurship is embedded in West Virginia 6-12 education through policy and statewide initiatives. West Virginia students are encouraged and supported in developing an entrepreneurial spirit through integration in multiple settings. As the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) staff work with county school districts, entrepreneurship is emphasized in the futures for which students are prepared – education, enlistment, and employment.

Policy 2510, Assuring the Quality of Education: Regulations for Education Programs, specifies best practices at the middle school level to include entrepreneurial experiences in the context of the required comprehensive career development experience. At the high school level, *Policy 2510* best practices include entrepreneurial experiences as part of each student’s personalized education plan (PEP).

Policy 2520.19, the West Virginia College- and Career-Readiness Dispositions and Standards for Student Success for Grades K-12, includes language specific to entrepreneurial endeavors for middle school students, and entrepreneurship is foundational to the dispositions these standards support. *Policy 3236, Innovation in Education*, is another policy in which entrepreneurship is a particular category that may be pursued by West Virginia school applicants.

Partners

West Virginia Public Education Collaborative

The West Virginia Public Education Collaborative (WV PEC) partners with the WVDE to support public education statewide. Strategic initiatives of the WV PEC, such as “The Forum on The Education and The Economy” and “Focus Forward: Preparing Today for the WV Future of Tomorrow,” provide critical support to allow WVDE staff to provide targeted support in future entrepreneurial initiatives.

The WV PEC Speaker’s Bureau brings West Virginia leaders in business, research, science, and medicine and allows West Virginia county school districts and schools access to current expertise.

WVU/WVDE STEAM Technical Assistance Center

The West Virginia Department of Education, West Virginia University, and the West Virginia Public Education Collaborative have combined forces to create the Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) Technical Assistance Center (TAC). The TAC strives to enhance STEAM entrepreneurial opportunities and career pathways among West Virginia middle and high school students, focusing on serving students in grades 6-12.



at West Virginia University

STEAM skills, concepts, and practices empower today's youth to gain the necessary knowledge to succeed in today's ever-evolving entrepreneurial ventures. For example, STEAM TAC coordinators have developed high-quality STEAM instructional resources based upon the STEAM mindsets and skillsets. These resources support the development of the next generation of entrepreneurial developers and are available to our educators to use in their classrooms.

The STEAM TAC partnership allows West Virginia students to learn from highly skilled STEAM specialists as they seek to solve real-world problems through a design-thinking lens. These immersion activities bring access to high-quality instruction to all areas of West Virginia.



Activities in Grades 6-12

The WVDE provides specific resources and assistance to West Virginia county school systems in support of the development of entrepreneurial experiences. At the middle school level, the WVDE offers a **Career Exploration** website and program which are regularly updated with resources related to each of the 16 career clusters, including entrepreneurship lessons and specific supports for educators. The Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools and Technical and the Office of Technical and Adult Education developed courses for West Virginia educators in standards-based instruction, which have intentional and targeted supports for the incorporation of the student success standards, including entrepreneurship, into all content area instruction.

An entrepreneurial spirit sits at the core of the STEAM-minded WV mindsets and skillsets (curiosity and imagination, growth mindset, courage and risk-taking, persistence and grit, opportunity-seeking, problem-solving, optimism, resourcefulness and adaptability, empathy and altruism, creativity, teamwork, design thinking, prototyping, and public speaking) which form the foundation of the work of the **STEAM TAC at WVU** and the STEAM initiatives at Marshall University's June Harless Center. The STEAM TAC alone directly affected more than 11,000 students in Spring 2022 with a message of college- and -career readiness, embedded with entrepreneurship, for the STEAM-rich future for West Virginia students.

The **West Virginia Governor's School for Entrepreneurship (WVGSE)** supports students in developing a community impact innovation that encourages creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. Instruction at the WVGSE includes subjects such as mastering the pitch presentation, understanding the value of execution over ideas, marketing research, self-leadership and leadership, business entity formation considerations, and intellectual property. Students who attend the WVGSE return to their home schools with experience in the entrepreneurial spirit.

The **West Virginia Virtual School (WVVS)** provides coursework in entrepreneurship that may not be available at all West Virginia schools to allow access to all West Virginia students. In the last year, West Virginia students accessed courses in entrepreneurship, along with specific courses in hospitality entrepreneurship, agricultural entrepreneurship, and business management.

Expand Entrepreneurship

Office of Career Technical Education

Activities

West Virginia Entrepreneurship Ecosystem

The goal of the West Virginia Entrepreneurship Ecosystem (WVEE) is an intentional system of support for entrepreneurs including planning, regulation, commercialization, development, finance, and beyond.

The work of the WVEE is, at its core, a strong support network for entrepreneurs that includes state and federal agencies, K-12 and higher education, regulatory entities, financial institutions, and public and private support entities. The dynamic network of entities includes more than 150 organizations and regularly draws 60 to 70 participants to its monthly meetings.

Entrepreneurship Pathway

The West Virginia Department of Education has made entrepreneurship a priority — creating a pathway for entrepreneurial-spirited students to gain the knowledge and skills needed to successfully launch future business ventures.

The following partners worked together to create an entrepreneurship pathway for high school students: West Virginia Department of Education, West Virginia University, Marshall University, The EdVenture Group, West Virginia Department of Commerce, West Virginia Department of Economic Development, and WV Entrepreneurship Ecosystem.

Through the partnership, an entrepreneurship curriculum was developed to focus on the following areas:

- » Entrepreneurial Mindset
- » Entrepreneurial Discovery
- » Intuit Design4Delight Design Thinking
- » Business Model Canvas
- » Entrepreneurship Finance
- » Business Launch
- » Ecosystem Support

All entrepreneurship instructors are required to complete certification as an Innovation Catalyst through Marshall University's Intuit Design4Delight training program.



Statewide CTE Initiatives

Makerspace (Community Entrepreneurship Hub) Update

James Rumsey Technical Institute's The Company Lab is a student and community Entrepreneur Center located at James Rumsey Technical Institute (JRTI). Clients can expect assistance with start-up business planning, business entity development, budgeting and income projection, product development, marketing, and license and/or permitting requirements. The purpose of this lab is to offer business advice to aspiring entrepreneurs. Networking opportunities, group workshops, and a co-working space are available.



- » As of June 2022, JRTI Company Lab has served 15 community clients and logged more than 153 direct contact consulting hours.
- » Beginning in August 2022, the JRTI Company Lab will launch its Small Biz Series: Ask An Expert program, a monthly seminar featuring a subject matter expert on various entrepreneurship and small business topics such as licensure, insurance, banking, etc.
- » Beginning in September 2022, the Makerspace project will be expanded and replicated at Nicholas County Career and Technical Center.

Supervised Agricultural Experience

Experiential and work-based learning in school-based agricultural education allows local programs to extend beyond the classroom and into the community to develop an individual student's industry and career-based competencies. The methodology for delivering such high-quality experiential learning is the Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). The SAE is a required component of a total Agricultural Education program and intended for every student.

2021 West Virginia Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) Highlights:

- » **5,023** SAE Projects
- » **55%** of Students have an SAE
- » Statewide Economic Impact **\$3,647,703**
- » **141,055** Hours invested into SAE Work
- » **13,288** Hours of Community Service



Agricultural Innovation Showcase & Student Competition

The West Virginia Ag Innovation Competition showcases students' ingenuity in the field of agriculture and entrepreneurship. Students present problems and justify solutions by presenting their design ideas along with concept sketches and models to a panel of expert judges.

WV High School Business Plan Competition

The West Virginia High School Business Plan Competition allows students to compete for a unique opportunity to make a business idea come to life with the support of WVU's John Chambers College of Business & Economics, the Encova Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship, West Virginia Secondary Education, and seasoned business professionals. The future of our state is at hand, and we are working to involve young minds to share their creative and innovative ideas with investors and higher education. The competition is open to all high school students in grades 9-12 across any discipline.

2022 STATE BUSINESS PLAN COMPETITION RESULTS		
SCHOOL	BUSINESS	AMOUNT RECEIVED
The Linsly School	Repeat After Me <i>(speech therapy software)</i>	\$5,000
Moorefield High School	Infinite Gaming <i>(gaming hardware set-up and customization)</i>	\$3,000
Herbert Hoover High School	M&M Custom Baits <i>(handmade baits and fishing lures)</i>	\$2,500
Doddridge County High School	Salem Mission Homeless Center <i>(non-profit providing assistance to homeless in Salem)</i>	\$1,000
Moorefield High School	Advanced Propulsion Concepts <i>(innovation in propulsion jet engines)</i>	\$3,000

Youth Entrepreneurship in Action Day

In April 2022, as part of Bridging Innovation week, 235 Career Technical Education students from across the state participated in Youth Entrepreneurship in Action Day at the Charleston Coliseum. Students worked in teams to create and share ideas for improving their communities through entrepreneurship. This interactive session included hands-on activities from the WVU My Hometown is Cool! Program and guest speakers with information on multiple upcoming opportunities for youth interested in entrepreneurship. The project aims to expand entrepreneurship opportunities for rural and low-income youth in the state of West Virginia.

Economic Projects Impacting Communities (EPIC)

The WVDE challenged Simulated Workplace companies to participate in an innovative community impact project competition that would positively affect local economies. The Economic Projects Impacting Communities (EPIC) Competition magnifies the Simulated Workplace company’s collaborative and creative abilities into a showcase of technical skills through developing, designing, and constructing an innovative community impact project for public, private, commercial, or residential use.



EPIC funding also was awarded to CTE programs that allowed students to launch a startup entrepreneurial venture at their school. Below are a few examples of EPIC projects across the state:

EPIC Project Highlights

- **Hundred High School:** Hundred High School received an EntreEMERGE grant from the WVDE to expand the school’s florist operation known as the Funky Florist Flower Company. With the grant money, they were able to obtain a storefront to help grow this expanding business. The Funky Florist allows students to learn the art of floral design and the techniques required to be a skilled florist. Students are also hired to run the Funky Florist after school hours as well as throughout the summer for special occasions. As the only florist in a 20-mile plus radius, the Funky Florist has become a huge business in the community.

- **Nicholas County Career & Technical Center:** The Good Gauley Coffee Company is a student-operated roastery and coffee shop based out of the Nicholas County Career & Technical Center in Craigsville, West Virginia. ProStart students personally roast the beans to perfection, and the talented baristas serve up the finest specialty coffee drinks. The carpentry and CTE programs were instrumental in the physical construction of the coffee shop, and the Project Lead the Way and graphic design programs created the signage, logos, and custom merchandise for sale in the coffee shop and online.
- **Calhoun Gilmer Career Center:** Calhoun County is one of the top destinations in the country for astronomers to star gaze. Students constructed an innovative cabin for Calhoun County Parks to accommodate astronomers who visit the park for the “Dark Skies” experience. The cabin also provides additional lodging options, serving as a rental for out-of-town visitors attending local festivals and other community functions in the county.



TOP LEFT: Hundred High School's Funky Florist shop

ABOVE: Nicholas County Career & Technical Center's the Good Gauley Coffee Company

AT LEFT: Calhoun Gilmer Career Center's Stargazing Cabin, located at Calhoun County Park

Support Military Career Options

Office of Teaching and Leadership for Effective Schools



Common Ground Activities

The Common Ground Mission

Common Ground is a collaborative group of military, government, and community-based organizations that has made a special commitment to serving the needs of West Virginia schools. Their combined mission is to assist schools that support the success of all students. By sharing each entity's programs, opportunities, resources, and information with schools, students become aware of opportunities to serve as leaders within their communities and experience positive outcomes throughout their lives. This partnership promotes the importance of encouraging students to stay in school and pursue the West Virginia Board of Education's three E's for college and career readiness upon graduation (employment, education, and enlistment).

Background

The Common Ground Partnership's Compact document outlines each organization's roles and responsibilities in meeting the group's shared mission. It was originally signed in 2011 with a total of ten partners. Since then, partners have met several times to recommit and refine details of the Compact, expanding the number of stakeholder organizations in the group to a total of 18 and adding new activities conducive to meeting their mission. The partnership's cooperative efforts contribute to developing strong communities that embody a productive, civically active, and well-educated workforce.

Resources and Opportunities

The Common Ground Speaker Series and the Purple Star Award aim to provide students and educators with targeted information about a variety of resources and opportunities for exploring careers, developing leadership skills, and enhancing their academic knowledge.

The **Speaker Series** provides an online request system that allows educators to have a message sent to all military organizations in the partnership requesting that a guest speaker visit to address topics in their school. Available topics for this activity include promoting literacy, substance abuse prevention, bullying prevention, dropout prevention, the American flag ceremonial instruction, and support during patriotic holidays or events. Whenever a school requests a speaker, it has the potential to advance teamwork occurring between schools and community partners and sparking conversations about cooperation in meeting additional needs of the school.

The Purple Star Award was recently modified and adopted as a best practice found within a growing number of states across the country. On April 15, 2021, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) and West Virginia Board of Education were joined by additional partners to launch the Purple Star Award, which recognizes schools as being military friendly. On December 7, 2021, 130 schools received the award, and on May 12, 2022, another 71 schools were identified, elevating the total number of schools receiving this designation to 201.

School districts also may apply to receive a Purple Star Award if they have an official action or resolution in support of military-connected children and their families, a county-level trained military family point of contact, a link to the Common Ground Partnership’s homepage on their website, and 100% of their schools have received a Purple Star Award.

- » **December 7, 2021:** three school districts received this designation
- » **May 12, 2022:** another six were identified, increasing the total number of Purple Star Districts to nine.

Purple Star Informer, an electronic newsletter published by the WVDE, keeps educators engaged with information about resources, professional development, and activities offered through the Common Ground Partnership. Partners are encouraged to contribute information to the Informer specific to their organization, and Military Family Points of Contact at Purple Star Schools receive the publication on a quarterly basis. These strategies are designed to create a direct line of communication shared among community partners and across all levels of the school system (state, county, and local), making a positive impact in the lives of students in West Virginia.

Military Signing Week expands and promotes career exploration. Common Ground Partners teamed up to create and publicize West Virginia’s inaugural Military Signing Week. During the week of April 25, 2022, through April 29, 2022, high schools and career and technical education centers were provided templates for planning and encouraged to celebrate students who made the decision to enlist into military service. In all, 23 or more schools participated, inviting community leaders, veterans, school staff, family members, and students to participate. Special guest speaker appearances at these events included Gov. Jim Justice at James Monroe High School in Monroe County, and former Adjutant General James Hoyer at University High School in Monongalia County. While complete data reflective of the impact this event had on statewide enlistment data will not become available until later this year, feedback received from stakeholders directly after the event is encouraging.

Connections with military and veteran-based organizations of the **Common Ground Partnership** are useful to the WVDE’s efforts to distribute information to veterans about opportunities to become teachers. Current and former military service members can become exceptional role models for students, as they may possess leadership qualities and content knowledge related to a wide variety of the career fields our students aspire to join as they become adults. As the needs for teachers have grown across the state during recent years, this audience is one source of professionals which seems ideal for a focused on teacher recruitment.

Partners

- » The West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE)
- » West Virginia Board of Education (WVBE)
- » Office of the Governor
- » West Virginia National Guard
- » United States Army Recruiting Battalion (Richmond, VA)
- » United States Army Recruiting Battalion (Columbus, OH)
- » Navy Talent Acquisition Group (Pittsburgh, PA)
- » Navy Talent Acquisition Group Ohio River Valley
- » United States Marine Corps Recruiting Stations in West Virginia (Columbus, OH and Frederick, MD)
- » Military Entrance Processing Command Beckley, West Virginia Wing – Civil Air Patrol
- » West Virginia Congress of Parents and Teachers, Inc.
- » Prevent Suicide WV
- » Military Officers Association of America for West Virginia
- » West Virginia American Legion
- » West Virginia Veterans of Foreign Wars
- » West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance

Best Practices - Chart 1.1

This chart provides a snapshot of the best practice activities utilized by the Common Ground Partnership. The following information is outlined by activity, purpose, stakeholders, and impact.

ACTIVITY	PURPOSE	STAKEHOLDERS	IMPACT
PURPLE STAR AWARD	Supporting the needs of military-connected children and their families by recognizing schools that display evidence of being military friendly. This effort builds mutual appreciation and cooperation between veterans and staff of school systems statewide as they work together to support military kids. Entities receiving the award have a trained military family point of contact. When schools receive the award community members, veterans, and school staff have an opportunity to celebrate together and discuss collaborative actions that may occur during the award period.	Common Ground Partners, School Staff, Community Members, Veterans, County School Districts, Military Families, and Students	On April 15, 2021, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) and West Virginia Board of Education were joined by additional partners to launch the Purple Star Award, which recognizes schools as being military friendly. On December 7, 2021, 130 schools received the award and on May 12, 2022, another 71 schools were identified, elevating the total number of schools receiving this designation to 201. On December 7, 2021, three school districts received this designation and on May 12, 2022, another six were identified, increasing the total number of Purple Star Districts to nine.
COMMON GROUND PARTNERSHIP HOMEPAGE	The Common Ground Partnership's homepage provides one centralized location for educators, students, and military families to find information about resources Common Ground Partnership organizations have identified as useful in supporting the success of all students. This includes information about student leadership programs, academic test preparation tools for educators and supports for military families. A section of this website is also home to our state's primary source of information about the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) as described in W.Va. Code §18-10F-1 and §18-10F-2, which ensures reasonable accommodations are made for qualifying circumstances where a military family is experiencing transitions between public schools located in different states.	Common Ground Partners, School Staff, Community Members, Veterans, County School Districts, Military Families, Parents, and Students	On April 15, 2021, the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE) and West Virginia Board of Education were joined by additional partners to launch the Purple Star Award, which recognizes schools as being military friendly. On December 7, 2021, 130 schools received the award and on May 12, 2022, another 71 schools were identified, elevating the total number of schools receiving this designation to 201. On December 7, 2021, three school districts received this designation and on May 12, 2022, another six were identified, increasing the total number of Purple Star Districts to nine. Since West Virginia joined the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, our state has met the needs of qualifying military service members and reporting requirements of the national MIC3 office.

ACTIVITY	PURPOSE	STAKEHOLDERS	IMPACT
MILITARY SIGNING WEEK	Expand and promote career exploration by celebrating high school students' decisions to enlist into military service.	Common Ground Partners, School Staff, Community Members, Veterans, Parents, and Students	Military Signing Week events took place in 23 or more schools across West Virginia. Guest speakers participated in events speaking to the importance of enlistment as a career opportunity. Data reflective of the impact this event had on statewide enlistment will become available later this year.
SPEAKER SERIES	To provide schools with visits from military guest speakers who may address a variety of topics including substance abuse prevention, promoting literacy, bullying prevention, dropout prevention, the American flag ceremonial instruction, and support during patriotic holidays or events. These visits are designed to encourage regular collaboration between local military organizations and schools.	Military-based Organizations within the Common Ground Partnership, School Staff, and Students	Speaker Series visits from military guest speakers provide opportunities for soldiers to showcase their talents, share their knowledge, and inspire students to pursue military-related career paths. During the 2021-2022 school year, the educator request system for the speaker series ensured that 26 requests made their way to all military organizations of the Common Ground Partnership for visits.
TEACHHW RECRUITMENT	Reaching an audience of veterans who may possess leadership qualities and content knowledge related to a wide variety of the career fields our students aspire to join as they become adults.	Common Ground Partners, Veterans, County School Districts, and Personnel Directors.	The recruitment of veterans as educators positively affects veterans seeking employment, school districts seeking qualified teachers and students receiving instruction from qualified teachers.

Future Plans

The Common Ground Partnership includes improving communications and teamwork to meet shared goals. Plans for the upcoming school year include implementing a new set of cooperative activities. These activities include distributing information about programs designed to make Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) kits available to educators and community leaders; developing a system for educators to request care packages from the West Virginia National Guard's Office of Family Programs which supports meeting the needs of military-connected children during times of deployment; and offering opportunities to educators to participate in a series of webinars related to the partnership's mission (e.g., Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB); March2Success.com; Phases of Emotional and Psychological Deployment; General Stress and Coping Strategies for Military Kids and Families; Fostering Resiliency Among Military Kids; Resources and Strategies for Combatting Trauma, Grief and/or Loss).

Support Military Career Options

Office of Career Technical Education

JROTC Activities

CTE Junior Reserve Officers' Training (JROTC)

The JROTC mission is to teach students citizenship, leadership, character, and community service. The core values are at the heart of JROTC, whose creed emphasizes working to better the cadet's family, school, and country. West Virginia has currently enrolled 2,992 students and has 317 completers.

NUMBER ENROLLED

(2021-2022)

2,992

NUMBER OF COMPLETERS

(2022)

317



ARMY
20



AIRFORCE
11



NAVY
2



MARINES
2

Note: JROTC Cadets have the opportunity to earn scholarships to all military academies.

Competitions

STUDENT COMPETITIONS	DESCRIPTION	STATE CHAMPIONS
Raider	Annual event that allows the cadets to compete as a team of 9 cadets in various events to include running, strength events, and rope bridge.	
Drill	Annual event that allows the cadets to demonstrate their ability to march as a squad, platoon, and as a color guard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Riverside High - 1st » George Washington High - 2nd » Huntington High - 3rd
Marksmanship	Annual event allows teams of up to 5 to compete in shooting targets at 10 meters in standing, kneeling, and prone positions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Greenbrier East High Team A - 1st » Parkersburg South High Team A - 2nd » Robert C. Byrd High Team A - 3rd
Archery	The First JROTC State Archery Championship was hosted by Spring Valley High School on April 2, 2022. The competition featured Lincoln County, PikeView, Riverside, and Spring Valley.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Spring Valley High - 1st » Riverside High - 2nd » PikeView High - 3rd

Statewide Initiatives

- » The **JROTC Summer Camp** takes place at Camp Dawson in Kingwood West Virginia. Events included Drown Proofing, Orienteering, Boating, Marksmanship, STEM, Obstacle Course, Rope Bridge, Leaders Reaction Course, Rock Wall, and Rappelling.
- » **JROTC Academic and Leadership Challenge Competition**, an online test of academic abilities and leadership application. Huntington High School was a national finalist.
- » **The VEX Robotics Competition**, presented by the Robotics Education & Competition Foundation, is the largest and fastest growing middle school and high school robotics program globally. Each year, an exciting engineering challenge is presented in the form of a game. Students, with guidance from their teachers and mentors, build innovative robots and compete year-round. In 2022, three JROTC teams competed at states and advanced to the VEX Robotics World competition.
- » **The Chiefs Cup** is a state championship in raider, drill, air rifle, and archery. The CTE Chief's Cup is awarded to the top JROTC team in each discipline during a state CTE-designated competition.
- » The **Army JROTC Cyber Program** is an innovative, four-year, cyber program that is part of the Army's effort to infuse critical STEM curriculum in high schools across the country. The program provides students with challenging, relevant experiences and prepares them to enter the cyber workforce, pursue postsecondary studies, and/or enter military service.
- » The **Airforce JROTC Cybersecurity program** is designed to increase cadet participation in college preparatory computer science and cybersecurity programs, improve the diversity and size of the national technical talent pool and increase access to computer science and cyber security in U.S. high schools.
- » **CyberPatriot** is the National Youth Cyber Education Program created by the Air Force Association to inspire K-12 students toward careers in cybersecurity or other science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines critical to our nation's future. At the core of the program is the National Youth Cyber Defense Competition, that puts high school and middle school students in charge of securing virtual networks.
- » **JROTC Drones:** JROTC is beginning to introduce drones within various aspects of their programs and competitions. Cadets learn about drones, flight principles, programming, documentation, and communication skills while expanding their understanding and building interest for drone-related workforce and career opportunities.

Benefits

Enlistment Bonus

- » Cadets successfully completing three years of JROTC can advance to paygrade E3 upon enlistment in the military, dependent on the branch of service rules at time of enlistment.

Embedded High School Credits

- » Cadets receive physical education credit for Completing JROTC 1 and 2 and receive credit for Contemporary Studies after completing JROTC 3 and 4.



W. Clayton Burch
West Virginia Superintendent of Schools

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