

## Carlisle High School receives DoD grant to expand AP program

By Public Affairs Staff 30 October 2017



*Marcus Lingnefelter, National Math + Science Initiative, cheers on the crowd after the presentation of a \$700,000 grant to Carlisle High School for their advanced placement courses and in recognition of their support to the children of military families*

*Members of the Carlisle Barracks/Army War College team pose with the check after the conclusion of the ceremony. Carlisle High School was selected as one of the national recipients because of its high number of military children in the student body.*

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Carlisle Area High School formally received a check for \$700,000 donated by the Defense Department for the school's advanced placement courses in recognition of their support to the children of military families during a ceremony at the school Oct. 31.

In 2015 the Military Families Mission, overseen by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Research & Engineering, runs the National Math + Science Initiative's College Readiness Program that this grant is a part of. At Carlisle High School, 219 students are taking at least one AP course in science, math or English. One of the primary goals of this grant is to help increase enrollment in the courses, allowing students to challenge themselves with more rigorous coursework.

The objective of the College Readiness Program as implemented under the Military Families Mission is:

- Provide consistent and rigorous K12 STEM education offerings at

the public schools educating the overwhelming majority of DoD children

- Document and validate the student learning outcomes of those offerings via reliable third-party measure such as the Advanced Placement (AP) framework and assessment
- Enhance the K12 STEM education pipeline necessary to supply the future DoD scientist & engineer (S&E) workforce – both uniformed and civilian.

"Each year, Carlisle Area School District goes above and beyond in support of the educational transitions of our military family members, US and international," said Kristy Cormier, School Liaison Officer for Carlisle Barracks and the Army War College.

Carlisle High School was selected as one of the national recipients because of its high number of military children in the student body. The presence of military kids is linked to the Army War College mission, which draws 385 senior military leaders and their families to Carlisle for a 10-month graduate school education.

Jay Rauscher, Carlisle High School principal, said he hopes to increase enrollment in AP courses. Money from the grant is designed for teacher training, mentoring, materials, study sessions and assistance with exam fees for students. Carlisle now has nine AP courses, and hopes to add courses in geo-environmental science and physics next year.

Dr. James Breckenridge, Provost of the Army War College, said that the increased focus on STEM could pay dividends like it did during the 1960's "space race."

"Then we were looking at who would be the first person to walk on the moon," he said. "Now, the first person to walk on mars could be in this very room."

Marcus Lingnefelter, who represented NMSI credited the hard work of Cormier and Christina Spielbauber, Carlisle Area School District Superintendent, in bringing the grant to the district.

## **About NMSI**

NMSI has been formally serving the schools educating the children of uniformed active-duty military personnel since 2010. As of the fall, 2017, the NMSI College Readiness Program will have been implemented in support of its Military Families Mission in 217 military-connected high schools across 31 states, serving 93 installations and all four military services. The mission has been funded by grants from the Department of Defense Education Activity (DODEA), Office of Naval Research (ONR),

Army Education Opportunity Program (AEOP), and, most recently, the United States Air Force Academy Foundation. Numerous private sector partners such as Northrop Grumman, The Boeing Company, and BAE Systems have also generously contributed millions in matching grants to leverage and extend the significant federal investments.

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