

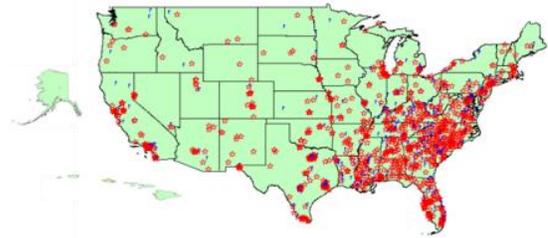
A Character and Leadership Development Program

JROTC White Paper
April 2010

Army JROTC

Background

Army JROTC has a long and proud tradition of service to the nation through the betterment of its youth. Founded as part of the National Defense Act of 1916, subsequent legislation opened the program to other services, made it an integral part of the school’s curriculum, and recognized JROTC instructors as qualified Instructors in “leadership, wellness and fitness, civics, and other courses related to the content of the program.” Public and private educational institutions apply for JROTC units and commit to share costs and meet standards. A minimum of 100 cadets in grades 9 – 12 organized into a chain of command make up a JROTC unit. Two instructors, normally consisting of one retired officer (the Senior Army Instructor, or SAI) and one noncommissioned officer (the Army Instructor or AI) teach a rigorous curriculum and supervise cadets in all their activities. Additional staffing may be authorized for enrollments above 150 cadets. Services reimburse schools for a percentage of



Measures of Effectiveness SY 08-09
Cadets performance compared to other students in the school

- Attendance 3% ↑
- Graduation 9% ↑
- Disciplinary Issues 10% ↓
- Drop Outs 2% ↓
- GPA and Test Scores 2% ↑

instructor pay and provide uniforms, equipment, and an accredited and rigorous curriculum. Schools in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, American Samoa, Japan, Korea and Germany currently host 1645 JROTC units, employ approximately 4,000 instructors and enroll 286,000 cadets. JROTC is not a recruitment program for the military, incurs no military obligation, and instructors do not apply any pressure toward military service. Cadets who choose to enlist or enter Senior ROTC may, however, receive benefits through higher rank or advancement.

Mission, Vision, and Goals...and Results

The focus of Army JROTC is reflected in its mission, *“To motivate young people to be better citizens”*. JROTC accomplishes the mission by providing exceptional educational opportunities and lifelong skills to America’s youth. The Character Education Partnership identifies programs that build character as those with less violence; higher self esteem; less absenteeism; higher achievement

scores and academic performance; more connected to school, engaged in lessons, and committed to success. *JROTC is such a program.* The curriculum helps cadets develop life-long leadership and decision making. These skills are exhibited on a daily basis; and, set a model for the student body to emulate. The curriculum supports the school’s mission and mandates by integrating technology, linking content to state standards, integrating reading and writing, and providing character and financial education. The benefits of this curriculum are not limited to JROTC cadets. In a recent evaluation that led to accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), the quality assurance review team noted, “... [JROTC] serves to reinforce the competencies taught in the other academic subjects in which students are enrolled”.

JROTC Goals

- Promote citizenship
- Develop leadership & critical/creative thinking
- Teach to Communicate effectively
- Improve physical fitness
- Provide incentive to live drug-free
- Strengthen positive self-motivation
- Provide global awareness to include a historical perspective of military service
- Train to work as a team member
- Inspire to graduate from High School, attend institutions of higher learning, and pursue meaningful careers particularly in the areas of science, technology, engineering, & mathematics

ARMY JROTC Core Abilities

- Build your capacity for life-long learning.
- Communicate using verbal, non-verbal, visual, and written techniques.
- Take responsibility for your actions and choices.
- Do your share as a good citizen in your school, community, country, and the world.
- Treat self and others with respect.
- Apply critical thinking techniques.



Instructors – Mentors, Leaders, Coaches

JROTC instructors have completed at least 20 years of military service and set an outstanding example of personal behavior, professional etiquette, and appearance for cadets, colleagues, and the community. They perform full time as teachers and after school they are the equivalent of coaches whose teams are always in season. Their major responsibilities are to continuously improve instruction, provide a safe and supportive environment, mentor, coach, and practice strategies to motivate cadets to learn and succeed in high school and in life. Instructors stay abreast of new and alternative instructional and motivational techniques, use the latest technology and interactive multi-media available, and provide an awareness of world cultures and history, as well as possible careers. They reinforce the curriculum through service learning and co-curricular activities after school and on weekends. JROTC instructors bring the very best the country can offer to the nation's schools and communities. Administrators, counselors, and teachers rely on them to set standards and provide support. JROTC instructors provide an overall blanket of visible leadership. They can be counted on to be team players in solving problems, assisting with school programs and initiatives, and helping other teachers in many arenas.



Cadets – The Future

JROTC cadets set the example by being active in the community as well as the school. They exemplify a tremendous work ethic and standard that increases the expectations of all. They serve as role models to the other students in the school. They are not just talking about achievement, service to the community, and filling leadership roles – they are doing it. Cadets know how to set goals as well as how to develop and follow a plan to reach them.

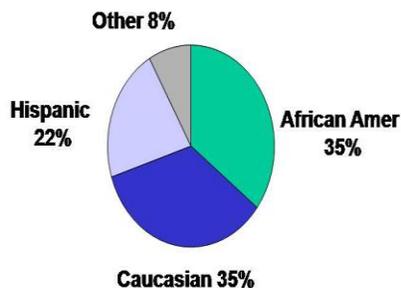


They are willing to help others do the same. They tutor, build houses, and work in middle and elementary schools to assist younger students to learn about character and team building and to provide an example for them to emulate. They participate in academic, marksmanship, drill, orienteering, physical fitness, and leadership competitions as well as summer camps. And, when they qualify, they travel to participate at higher levels. Instructors and cadets

visibly exemplify pride, patriotism, high standards, and increased expectations. Both instructors and cadets are seen as resources because of their knowledge of conflict resolution, emergency action responses, leadership, teamwork, emotional intelligence, and their very presence.

Conclusion

A proven track record, with positive outcomes in public education, is generating great interest in the Army JROTC program from all sectors of society. Army JROTC is far more than “marching around the football field” and posting the colors at a ceremony. It is a tremendous, all inclusive program for students of all abilities and backgrounds. It is recognized not only for its extremely positive effect on cadets, but also for its powerful impact on the school and community within its sphere of influence.



JROTC is a large, popular, 21st Century Learning Program that:

- Hails a world class curriculum that employs student-centered learning and enhances program popularity
- Teaches citizenship and leadership roles and subjects that align to national and state standards
- Integrates current instructional and technology strategies and maximizes award winning multi-media curriculum
- Offers college credit to cadets and instructors
- Hosts quality competitions to motivate cadets
- Demonstrates the ultimate model of diversity

AND Needs continued support at the highest levels to maintain its place in the arena of public education

For additional Information please visit the JROTC website, www.usarmyjrotc.com

