

SCHOOL LIAISON PENDLETON POST

K-12 Military Child Education News

\$\$\$ for College

The Financial Aid Process

*The following information was written using information from the above **FAFSA** website:*

When looking for student aid to help pay your student's school costs, make sure you look at state and school resources. Talk to the financial aid administrator at the school(s) your student plans to attend. Be sure to ask about "institutional aid" — money the school awards. Some private schools are especially generous with this aspect of funding and may make a difference in your family's choice of school.

Schools are required to inform your student of their financial aid procedures and deadlines, and how and when awards are disbursed. Financial aid directors can also tell

families about student aid available from your declared state of residence.

TIP: Research non-federal aid **early** (ideally, start in the spring of your junior year of high school). Be sure to meet all application deadlines!

Scholarships are another source of aid that can be used to pay for school. It is money for school that you will not be expected to repay. The amount of the scholarship award can range from paying for your books to paying for tuition and housing.

These sources offer scholarships for a variety of reasons. Some are offered to students that have financial need. Some scholarships have academic requirements like a certain GPA or enrollment in a particular major. There are athletic, music, and art scholarships. There are scholarships for minorities

and first generation students; and some for students with certain community affiliations or religious affiliations. **There are also a wide variety of scholarships designed for military dependents.**

Because scholarships are offered for different reasons and by many sources, it is important that you understand that each scholarship has its own requirements and deadlines, so you should begin searching for scholarships as soon as possible. You should also know that in most instances you **should not** have to pay to apply for a scholarship

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Our web address is:

www.cpp.usmc.mil/schooliaison.asp

Family Scholarship Workshop

The School Liaison Office sponsored a very successful Family Scholarship Workshop, in the evening of February 19. The Wire Mountain II Community Center was filled to capacity.

Speakers for the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, USC/UCLA NROTC Program and San Marcos VA office made information readily available and provided the attentive

crowd a wealth of resources to the military student in terms of scholarships and financial aid services available to allow educational goals to come to fruition. See p.4 for extensive web resources.

An On-Base Middle School: A Work in Progress

For about 12 years, military families living on Camp Pendleton MCB, have expressed a strong interest for their children to attend middle school on the Base. In 1997, when it was announced by Oceanside Unified School District that sixth grade students would become middle schoolers and would attend in town, military parents were vocal about the need to build a new middle school within the boundaries of Camp Pendleton; the school district listened. During that year, Oceanside USD requested support from the National Military Families Association for their application

seeking funds from the Military Construction Budget for this purpose. Unfortunately, these funds were not granted.

In 2006, with families impacted by the effects of multiple deployments, the drive reignited. The District, then, researched the possibility of converting an on-Base elementary school into a middle school. This idea was eventually rejected but a new plan emerged. With renovation of two OUSD base elementary schools in the planning phases, school officials have been able to consider the possibility of including 6-8th grade

students at each of the OUSD base elementary schools. School and district administrators, teachers, parents and Base school liaison staff meet regularly to share information, address concerns and evaluate student needs related to electives, schedules and teacher training. Information provided by Mr. Bill Billingsley at San Onofre School of Fallbrook Union Elementary School District, the **existing K-8 school on Base**, has been a tremendous asset to the OUSD K-8 Task Force.

Getting to Know the Military Child

Students from military families will benefit from the work of some dedicated teachers at Santa Margarita Elementary School, Chris Woodard, Christina Swelland, and Rashell Parkhurst. These innovative educators have gathered the resources to develop a three-part training about issues specific to military students. Aligned with research provided by the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC), topics of this teacher development training include: 1- **Marine Corps Culture**

and Cycles of Deployment, 2- **LINKS** (Lifestyles, Insight, Networking, Knowledge and Skills) **for Teachers** and 3- **Military Child Deployment and Transition Curriculum**. School Liaison, Rose Ingersoll, and LINKS trainer, Audrey Hooper, produced and presented Parts 1 and 2 to the Santa Margarita faculty and were well received. Part 3 of the series will be presented on April 1 to the SMES staff. This portion includes

actual lessons and instructional strategies created by the teachers for their colleagues to implement with students who face the challenges of military life. Their goal is for all teachers who work with military students to receive the training.

"The LINKS for Teachers in-service provided me a wonderful overview of the resources available to military families on Camp Pendleton."

20 year veteran OUSD teacher

The PCS Checklist for Parents

The following is a list of items that you will probably want to have ready when enrolling your child in a new school:

- ☐ Social security card
- ☐ Birth certificate
- ☐ Photo ID of parent/guardian
- ☐ Evidence of child's physical exam within the last 12-18 months (especially important for 1st grade)
- ☐ Health records for your child

☐ Evidence of vaccinations presented on a specific state form (some states require this—ask)

☐ Records related to any special need your child may have –would include test results or accommodations

☐ Recommendations from past teachers

☐ Report cards

Call your local Base School Liaison office if you need assistance locating your new school district.

"Our best advice is to contact your new school district to make sure you have the most accurate information about their current requirements." MCEC 2003

DoD helps students SOAR into success

When a service member is given orders to another duty station, it does not only affect them but also affects their family.

Children of service members have to move into a new house, make new friends and start classes in a new school.

There are numerous reasons why moving can be stressful for a family but education does not have to be one of them, according to the Student Online Achievement Resources pamphlet.

The Department of Defense has paid for an online program for students from third grade to their senior year of high school. Both military families and non-military families can use SOAR, free of charge, according to the SOAR pamphlet.

"SOAR is customized to tutor your child in subjects they are not so familiar with," said Rose Ingersoll, school liaison, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

The program also helps military kids who are moving from one military installation to the next. SOAR can help your child learn the curriculum of that state or even country, she said.

The transition of changing the curriculum for the child is easy. The parent only has to go online and change the state on which the student is currently living in to the state the child will soon be residing in. This will allow the child to learn the curriculum of that particular state, she added.

The best part of this program is that the assessments available online are aligned with each individual state and school district. This allows students who are moving, to get up to speed with their future classmates before they even move, said Jamie Jamison, consultant, Princeton Review.

SOAR provides skill tutoring for math, reading and language arts.

The program helps the students with educational videos, exercises and questionnaires, she said.

Not only is the program beneficial to the students, but allows the parents to see where their child's

weak points are. The parent can log on to the Web site and review the work their child has completed, she said.

Parents who are deployed can also monitor their child's progress because it is available online, stated SOAR pamphlet.

For more information, or to register your child, visit

www.soarathome.org.

Excerpts from article by

LANCE CPL. SHANNON E. MCMILLAN Scout Staff



Ready Set, Register

Kindergarten registration for the 2009-2010 school year is around the corner. To be eligible, your child must be five years of age on or before December 2, 2009.

Parents - you will need to bring the following items: 1. Child's birth certificate

2. Child's immunization record
3. Proof of residency (base housing contract, rental contract or escrow papers/deed, driver's license, utility bill).

Kindergarten Open House Dates:

North Terrace TBA
(760) 757-4344

Santa Margarita May 26 & 28
(760) 430-7110

Stuart Mesa May TBA
(760) 430-3331

San Onofre (760) 23-4382
Kindergarten Open House
April 24 12:30 pm

Mary Faye Pendleton
(760) 731-4050 **Kindergarten**
Open House April 24th 12:30pm

Scholarship web resources – Continued from p.1

FAFSA Free Application for Federal Student Aid
www.fafsa.ed.gov

Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation
www.mcsf.org

American Patriot Freedom Scholarship for Military
 Dependent Children
www.homefrontamerica.org

Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Posts Scholarships on a
 Regular Basis
www.pendleton.usmc.mil

Dr Martin L. King Jr. Scholarship Foundation Program
www.ci.oceanside.ca.us

California Student Aid Commission
www.csac.ca.gov

Scholarship at the San Diego Foundation
www.sdfoundation.org

United States Department of Veterans Affairs
www.gibill.va.gov

Marines Memorial Association Scholarships
www.MarineClub.com/scholarships

Contact us at

:

760 763-7385,
 7386 or 7387



Free summer Camp For Military Kids

The National Military Family Association's Operation Purple camps offer a free week of fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently or will be deployed.

Where: Camp Whittier- Santa Barbara, CA

When: July 12-18, 2009

www.operationpurple.org

Upcoming Events:

April 22, 2009 0800 – 1830
 3rd Annual Special Needs MCI
 West/NHCP Conference
<https://cpen.med.navy.mil/nhcp.cfm?xid=wap&f=x833A678B>



April 25, 2009 1000 – 1400, Main
 Exchange Complex

May 28, 2009 Education Summit MCAS
 Miramar Agenda TBA

Open House Dates:

Base Elementary Schools

Santa Margarita
 April 1, 09 6:00pm

Stuart Mesa
 April 8, 09 6:00pm

Mary Faye Pendleton
 April 23, 09 6:30pm

North Terrace
 May 21, 09 5:30pm

San Onofre
 May 28, 09 6:00pm