



Arkansas Department of Education

Johnny Key, Commissioner

Transforming Arkansas to lead the nation in student-focused education

Commissioner's Memo
3/26/2020

Month of the Military Child

Memo Information

Memo Number **COM-20-108**

Memo Date 3/26/2020

Memo Type Informational

Unit Central Administration

Regulatory Authority N/A

Response Required NO

Attention Superintendents; Assistant Superintendent; Principals; School Counselors; Parent Involvement Coordinators/Facilitators

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Memo Reference

No references available.

Memo Text

April is recognized nationwide as Month of the Military Child, as established by the U.S. Department of Defense in 1986. In Arkansas, school districts engage in a variety of activities of their own choosing to celebrate Month of the Military Child. Because of the closure of schools in Arkansas to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, school districts are encouraged to engage in activities primarily via social media. The Arkansas State Council of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission has created the following schedule and themes for each week of April:

April 6-10 (Week 1): Tell Your Story Week. Families can post pictures and vignettes about their experiences as a military family to Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram using the hashtag #ArMilKids. Families are encouraged to tag the Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) at @ArkansasEd ([Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#)) and arkansas_ed ([Instagram](#)) and the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) at @MIC3.Compact ([Facebook](#)) and @MIC3Compact ([Twitter](#)).

April 13-17 (Week 2): Purple Up Selfie Week! School staff, students, and family members are encouraged to wear purple, take selfies, and post them on social media. Persons posting materials are encouraged to tag DESE and MIC3 and to use the hashtag.

April 20-24 (Week 3): Pamper Your Palate with Purple Week. There are numerous recipes for purple foods available on the Internet. They range from as simple as adding purple food coloring to a dish to using naturally purple ingredients such as grapes or berries. Families are encouraged to prepare purple foods together and post pictures on social media. Persons posting materials are encouraged to tag DESE and MIC3 and to use the hashtag.

April 27-30 (Week 4): Read a Good Book Week. Parents or older siblings are encouraged to read a military-related children's book to younger children. Pictures may be taken and posted on social media. Videos of the actual reading of the book should not be posted in order to avoid copyright infringement. However, a video describing the book would be acceptable. Persons posting materials are encouraged to tag DESE and MIC3 and to use the hashtag. A partial list of military-related children's books can be found at <http://dese.ade.arkansas.gov/divisions/legal/military-families-and-veterans/resources>.

Attachments

No attachments available