Anthony Wayne Purple Star Program

April Board Meeting April 14, 2025



Supporting Military Families

About the Purple Star Designation

- The Purple Star Designation is awarded by the State of Ohio to schools who demonstrate specific support for the unique challenges of military-connected youth.
- All six Anthony Wayne school building have earned the Purple Star Designation, with Waterville the first to bring the program to AW.
- District-wide events are also held for all military families throughout the school year, such as the Fall Military Appreciation Night at a home football game.

<u>AW District Military Families Website</u>







- Waterville Primary first received a Purple Star Designation in May of 2018!
- Since our initial designation, we have continued to commit to our students and families connected to our nation's military.
- Our Purple Star Generals proudly represents members in kindergarten through fourth grade, averaging around 30 students per school year.



- Professional Development for Purple Star Liaisons, our educators, and spreading awareness/advocacy for our entire student population and community.
- Annually hosting and performing at multiple Veterans Day events throughout the community in partnership with the University of Toledo and the Red Cross. Our Purple Star Generals also hosted and led a flag raising ceremony at our local Folds of Honor house and also march in the local Roche de Boeuf parade with their entire families.
- Our Purple Star Generals meet monthly to share lunch, offer support to each other, and plan/implement service learning projects that help educate our community and provide aid to various military organizations. We have had active military members come to share information about their careers with our students during the monthly meetings.
- We celebrate and participate in the Month of the Military Child. Throughout the month, our Purple Star Generals lead daily announcements to share important information about our nation's military, we "Paint the School Purple", and participate in a service learning project.
- We continue to respond to the needs and interests of our Purple Star Generals to design and facilitate programming that helps our military connected students thrive!

Looking for more specific information?

We'll let our students explain more!







- Whitehouse Primary was first awarded the Purple Star Designation in 2018.
- Whitehouse Primary has approximately 15 families with military connections through parents or siblings.
- This year we created a Military Connected Family group that is connecting in the evenings a few times throughout the school year.



- We have completed professional development with our Purple Star Liaisons and worked to create collaboration with the other buildings.
- During Veterans Week we work with the community leaders to provide a program at Veterans Memorial Park in Whitehouse. Our students walk to the park for this presentation.
- During Veterans week we have many different opportunities to share about our communities ties to Veterans and those who are currently serving.
- We participate in Month of the Military Child in April and have a family event planned this year.





- Monclova Primary was first awarded the Purple Star Designation in 2018. It was renewed in 2022, and we anticipate our next renewal this month.
- Monclova represents students in grades K-4, with approximately 15-20 military-connected students each year.
- Each year we offer a lunch group for the military-connected students for counselor and peer support.
- Our Veterans Day & Month of the Military Child schoolwide and classroom
 activities provide all students with a basic knowledge of the military and the vital
 role that the military provides for our great nation.

- We have completed various professional development opportunities with our Purple Star Liaison and worked to collaborate with the other buildings.
- We participate in the Month of the Military Child Family Spirit Week
- We work to educate the entire student body through various Veterans Day and Month of the Military Child activities to provide our students with a basic understanding and an overall level of respect for the role that children and adults from military-connected families play, while serving our country. We want them to understand the sacrifices that military-connected families make for the overall good.
- The counselor works together with the teacher and family of military-connected students to provide support to students of deployed parents before, during, and after the deployment.





















- Fallen Timbers Middle School was awarded the Purple Star designation in 2020. The Award was renewed in 2024.
- At Fallen Timbers Middle School, we have between 15-30 students every year that belong to Purple Star Families.
- At Fallen Timbers Middle School, we recognize and are honored to have a large population of military families residing in our district. We see this population as a resource for all of our students and an opportunity to form strong bonds with our community. For this reason, we are honored to be a Purple Star School.



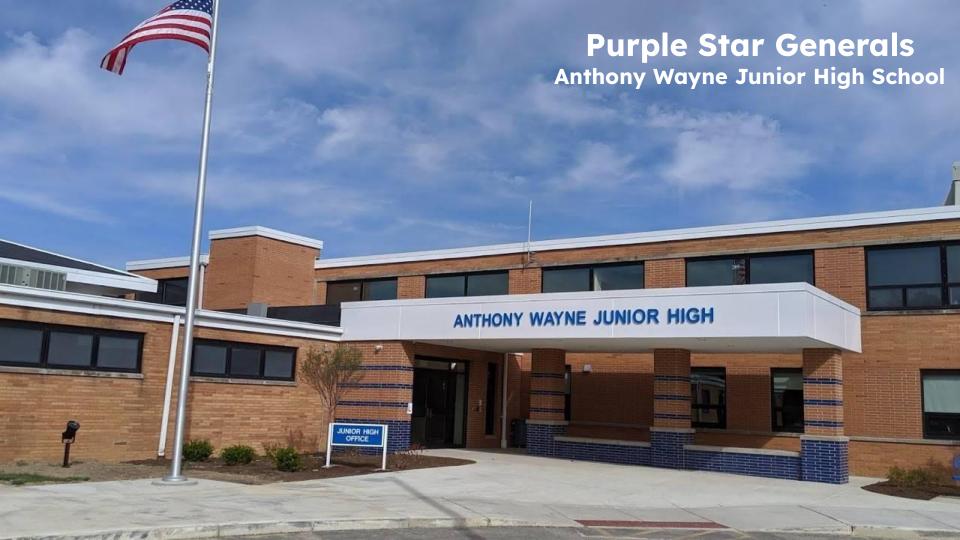
- At Fallen Timbers Middle School, we focus on providing all students with a basic knowledge of opportunities and careers that being a part of the military can provide in the future.
- Additionally, we educate students about empathy that our Purple Star students may be in need of.
- We provide our staff with professional development in order to better understand the needs of our Purple Star families.
- We provide opportunities for our Purple Star Students to be leaders by being tour guides for our military volunteers at our annual Veteran's Day Lunch and Learn.
- Our counselors build relationships with our Purple Star Families so that there is an open line of communication between them.

- Our counselors and staff have relationships with our Purple Star Families. We feel that open communication about the needs our students may have brings the most positive impact for our students.
- One example of having open communication is knowing when a parent is deployed.
 Recently, we had a student whose mom was stationed overseas. They were not able to
 talk frequently because of the time differences. As a result of frequent communication
 with the student and family we were able to set up a time during the school day when
 the student and mom could talk. This communication helped our student ease his fears
 and be able to talk with his mom through a relaxing phone call.









- AWJH first was awarded the Purple Star Designation in 2019.
- On average, we service about 25+ military-connected youth. However, our building program also included students with siblings serving or veteran households.
- Our Purple Star Generals club meets once a quarter during HomeBase to touch base and hear from various speakers. Mrs. Young, the building liaison, also check-ins before school or during her planning period with students more regularly who have currently deployed parents, guardians, or siblings.



- The JH Purple Star Generals plan various events throughout the year.
 - 180th Trunk or Treat
 - Veterans Appreciation Breakfast
 - M&M Deployment Jars
 - Hosted the Ohio MIC3 Spring meeting
 - Field Trip to the 180th Base
 - 180th Holiday Party volunteers
- During our quarterly meetings, we discusses family connections to the military and upcoming deployments. Also, we have fun activities like our Winter Party to bond and play games as well as celebrate MOTMC.
- We also have speakers attend meetings to discuss opportunities for military-connected youth, such as education benefits and community programs.





- Anthony Wayne High School was first awarded the Purple Star Designation in 2018.
- We started inviting military families and veterans to speak with our students during Homebase advisory time during the month of November.
- We recognize our Military connected youth during April, the month of the military child, specifically by participating in the Purple Star Spirit Week and Purple Up Whitehouse.

- We held a school wide Veterans Day program in 2023. The event was student led, and highlighted guest speaker, 1998 AW Graduate, Jason Graven.
- In 2024 we partnered with the Junior High.
- During both 2023 and 2024 we added names to the AW Honor Wall, recognizing former AW students who have served in the Armed Forces.
- We held an informal breakfast to gather ideas from the HS military connected youth.
- HS liaisons continue to participate in National Purple Star trainings, as well as participate in MIC 3 trainings.

