

INTRODUCTION

Air Force families across the world include 175,000 children ages 5-18 and these children generally move more than six to nine times during their K-12 school years, often making multiple moves in high school years alone. Academic standards, promotion/graduation requirements, services for children with special needs, eligibility for sports and extracurricular activities, and transfer and acceptance for records vary greatly from state to state, even district



to district. While these are not new issues, national emphasis on quality education and higher standards for admission to many post high school education and training institutions increase to stakes like never before.

VISION

SLO services are designed to address military child education issues of the Total Force, helping families to cope with normal reactions to stressors related to multiple relocations, deployments and the everyday challenges of military life.

ROLE

Civilian SLOs-

- Provide information resources, referral, and advocacy for parents
- Identify and work to remove barriers to military student educational success
- Develop and maintain partnership with school leaders
- Provide continuity in connecting installation leadership to school leadership

EDUCATIONAL ISSUES

- Transfer of Records
- Course Sequencing
- Graduation Requirements
- Extra-Curricular Activities
- Entrance/Exit Testing
- Attendance
- Kindergarten Requirements
- School Options
- Enrollment/Placement

COMMON STRESSORS

- Frequent Moves
- Deployments
- Cultural Changes
- Military Lifestyle Challenges
- Lack of Continuity
- School Adjustment Issues

QUESTIONS

Contact the SLO at (701) 723-1447 if you have any questions or concerns related to any educational issues or common stressors that may be affecting your child's educational opportunities. The SLO has resources available and serves as the installation POC for all local military child education matters.



HELPFUL WEBSITES

Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)
www.militarychild.org/

Student Online Achievement Resources
www.soarathome.com/

National Military Family Association
www.militaryfamily.org/

Military Youth on the Move
www.defenselink.mil/mtom/

Operation: MILITARY KIDS
www.operationmilitarykids.org/

Military Home Front
www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil/

Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families
www.tutor.com/military

Partnering to Support Military Families
www.usa4militaryfamilies.dod.mil/

Department of Defense Education Activity
www.dodea.edu/

Military OneSource
www.militaryonesource.com/

Minot AFB SLO Website
www.minot.af.mil/schoolliaisonofficer/

School Liaison Officer: Matt Balas

Phone: (701) 723-1447

DSN: 453-1447

Fax: (701) 723-2922

Email: matthew.balas@minot.af.mil

SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER SERVICES

- Serves as installation point-of-contact for all local military child education matters
- Advocates for the educational needs of military children
- Assists Airmen and families with information, referral, resources and advocacy regarding local school districts and other education options
- Ensures a communication link with inbound or outbound family members for educational issues
- Develops working relationships with local schools and other agencies that support education services to military-connected students
- Facilitates communication between local school authorities and senior leadership on the base
- Educates teachers, counselors, and administrators on unique issues affecting military children
- Provides for the delivery of special needs family support services in coordination with Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

For more information
please call the
School Liaison Officer (SLO)
at
(701) 723-1447
or
DSN 453-1447



Airman & Family Readiness Center

22 Peacekeeper Place
Minot AFB, ND 58705-5003
Phone: (701) 723-1447
DSN: 453-1447
Fax: (701) 723-2922
Email: matthew.balas@minot.af.mil

School Liaison Officer



Supporting Military Connected Youth
at Minot Air Force Base