

# Monthly School Liaison Newsletter

February 2026



Ahoy, from the heart of the Monterey Peninsula in Steinbeck Country—where ocean breezes meet educational opportunities, and community is our compass. As your Navy School Liaison Officer, I'm here to help you navigate the ever-changing waters of local school systems, connect with resources, and support your family's unique journey. Whether you're new to the area or a returning armed forces member, this newsletter is your monthly port of call for updates, insights, and answers.

Let's set sail toward success—together!

And here is the news for this month. . .

## School Transfer Window for MPUSD

### **Kindergarten through 8th Grade Transfer Window Now Open!**

Kindergarten through 8th Grade Transfer Window Closes February 13!  
Planning ahead for the next school year? There are just a few short days before the transfer window closes.

This is your only opportunity to request a transfer to the elementary or middle school of your choice within MPUSD for the upcoming school year. Transfers are approved based on space availability, so be sure to plan ahead. Click [here](#) to request a transfer: Student Transfers.

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## MFLC Parent Education Series

We're resuming the Parent Education Series this month. Please join our MFLC Counselors and fellow parents as we continue the powerful series focused on the many facets of modern parenting. Our next two sessions will be at the Porter Youth Center in Seaside (Fort Ord Village). The details are below:

**Porter Youth Center | 4286 Normandy Rd, Seaside, CA 5:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

- **February 11, 2026** – Collaborative Parenting  
*Strengthen co-parenting with the 5 Child Love Languages.*
- **March 11, 2026** – Navigating Parent-Child Conflict  
*Use the High-5 Approach to manage stress and resolve challenges.*

These workshops are open to all military-connected parents and guardians. No registration needed - just drop in! Hope to see you there!

**For any questions or additional information, please contact:**

- Blanca Felix-Guerrero, Army School Liaison Officer at [blanca.y.felixguerrero.naf@army.mil](mailto:blanca.y.felixguerrero.naf@army.mil)
- J. McKenzie, Navy School Liaison Officer at [john.mckenzie@nps.edu](mailto:john.mckenzie@nps.edu)

## Military Child Education Coalition Corner

The February webinar series has been published and is available. This is a perfect opportunity to explore the wealth of resources already available. Over the years, Military Child Education Coalition has hosted numerous Parent Webinars covering topics that support military-connected families - everything from education tips to navigating transitions. This month's topics include the following:

- *Extracurricular Activities: Tips for Military-Connected Students*
- *Empowering Military Families: Homeschooling Tips and Options*
- *Math Matters for Elementary Students*
- *Engaging Middle and High School Students in Reading*
- *Improving the Test Taking for Military-Connected Elementary Students*

Visit the **[MCEC Parent Webinar page](#)** today! To catch up on past webinars visit the MCEC YouTube Channel. Here you will be able access past Parent Webinars and gain valuable insights at your own pace. Don't miss out!



NSAM AND PRESIDIO SCHOOL LIAISONS & MILITARY  
FAMILY LIFE COUNSELORS PRESENT



# SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL HEALTH PARENT EDUCATION SERIES

Join our MFLC Counselors and fellow parents for a powerful series focused on the many facets of modern parenting. Each session offers practical tools, meaningful discussions, and community support to help you thrive as a parent in today's world.

## Upcoming Sessions:

- **February 11: Collaborative Parenting**  
Porter Youth Center - 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM
- **March 11: Navigating Parent-Child Conflicts**  
Porter Youth Center - 5:00 PM - 6:00 PM

[Monterey.NavyLifeSW.com](http://Monterey.NavyLifeSW.com)



## Military Kids: MFLC Counseling Services Update

Currently, due to unforeseen circumstances, MFLC counselors are not available at any of our school sites. We understand how valuable these services have been to many of our military-connected students and families, and we will share updates as soon as MFLC support becomes available again.

In the meantime, if your child is experiencing a crisis or immediate need, please contact the Fleet and Family Support Center (FFSC) for assistance at (831) 6563060. The FFSC team is ready to support families with guidance, resources, and crisis intervention.

Thank you for your understanding as we work to ensure our students and families continue to receive the support they need.

## Need School Supplies? We've Got You Covered!

Military-connected families, your School Liaison is here to help with school supplies! From pens to paper, binders to glue sticks, markers to highlighters, and so much more - all at NO COST to you.

Contact your School Liaison today and make sure your student has everything they need to succeed for the Spring Semester!!!!

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## February is National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

With Valentine's Day reminding us of healthy love and connection, February is the ideal time to come together as a community and shine a light on teen dating violence. Sadly, 1 in 3 teens will experience physical, emotional, or sexual abuse in a dating relationship.

As parents, caregivers, and community, we play a powerful role in helping teens build healthy, respectful relationships. A healthy relationship is rooted in trust, open communication, and mutual respect. It's also important to recognize red flags that may signal something is wrong - such as jealousy, clinginess, sudden mood swings, isolation from friends and family, sexual pressure, manipulation, or controlling behavior. These patterns can lead to the cycle of abuse and may contribute to anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem.

If you ever have concerns about your teen - or simply want to explore ways to help them build healthy, confident relationship skills - you're not alone. Support is available, and reaching out is a great first step. Please connect with the resource below for guidance and assistance.

### **Fleet & Family Support Center – Family Advocate Program**

**Victim Advocate:** Karlette Anderson

(831) 656-7774

[kdanders@nps.edu](mailto:kdanders@nps.edu)

For round-the-clock support, relationship education, and resources designed especially for teens and parents, visit

**Love is Respect:** [www.loveisrespect.org](http://www.loveisrespect.org)

Together, we can create a safer, more supportive environment for our teens - and ensure they know what real, healthy love looks like.





## CYP TEEN and YOUTH PROGRAM – A Free, Fun, Place Full of Opportunities for Youth!

Got a teen looking for a place to connect, create, and have fun after school? Our FREE Teen Program at the Tech Connections is open to military-connected youth who are 12 years or older and currently in grades 7–12.

This isn't just an afterschool and school break program - it's a safe, relaxed, drop-in space designed to help teens build friendships, explore their interests, grow their confidence, and develop leadership skills. Teens can come and go and enjoy activities focused on:

- *Building self-esteem*
- *Making healthy friendships*
- *Leadership & community service*
- *Academic support*
- *Arts & crafts*
- *STEM*
- *Sports & healthy choices*
- *Anchored4Life (youth sponsorship)*
- *Games and activities*
- *And plenty of social time!*

Ready to help your teen discover new friends, new skills, and new adventures? Call the Tech Connection at (831) 656-2127 to learn how to get started. You and your teen won't be disappointed!

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## Monterey Peninsula Unified School District: Getting Valuable Training to Support Military-Connected Students

On Thursday, February 19, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District (MPUSD) administrators and staff will receive much needed and valued professional development on the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission or MIC3. The training will assist MPUSD in supporting military connected children during the many PCS transitions into new schools and districts.

### **What Is MIC3?**

The MIC3 is an agreement adopted by all 50 states that helps military-connected students transition smoothly between schools during PCS moves. It creates consistent policies across states in areas such as eligibility, enrollment, placement, attendance, and graduation.

### **What Does MIC3 Offer Parents, Students, and Special Education Families?**

MIC3 reduces many of the educational barriers military children face by addressing how schools handle student records, placement, and access to opportunities.

### **Key supports include:**

- Immediate enrollment using unofficial/hand-carried records, ensuring students aren't delayed waiting for prior schools to send documentation. [militarychild.org]
  - Consistent grade and course placement, even when states have different age or academic requirements.
  - Access to extracurricular activities, even if a move happens mid-year.
  - Flexibility for immunization timelines and acceptance of prior coursework for graduation when equivalent.
  - Special Education Considerations: While MIC3 does not replace Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), it requires receiving schools to initially provide comparable services to students with an IEP or other special education needs during the transition while evaluations and placements are reviewed. This ensures that students receiving special education services do not experience unnecessary gaps during school transitions.
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## Monterey Peninsula Unified School District: Getting Valuable Training to Support Military-Connected Students (Cont.)

### **When Should Families Access MIC3?**

Families should explore MIC3 any time a PCS move leads to challenges such as:

- Enrollment or records delays
- Course or grade placement issues
- Access to programs, sports, or activities
- Special education service interruptions or confusion about comparable services
- Graduation requirement discrepancies

The MIC3 site provides a state-by-state contact map to help families find support quickly.

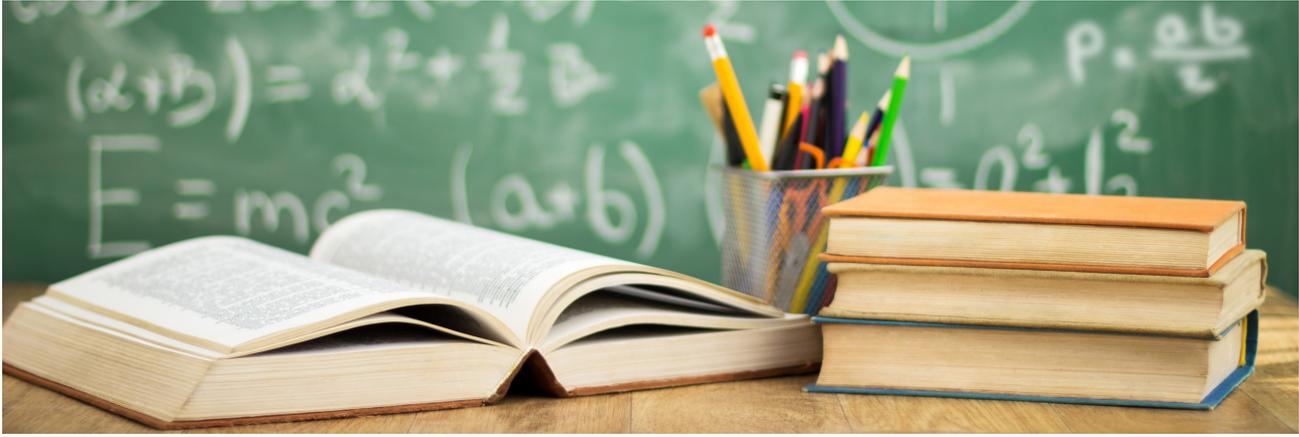
### **Who to Talk To if You Think MIC3 Applies?**

If you believe your situation might fall under MIC3 protections - especially if your child receives special education services - reach out to:

- Your School Liaison Officer (best first step for PCS, enrollment, and special education transition issues) or your Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) advocate (for special education related issues)
- Your State's MIC3 Commissioner or Representative, listed on the MIC3 website directory at [mic3.net](http://mic3.net)
- Your child's school counselor, special education case manager, or principal for school-based concerns.

MIC3 is here to help families navigate school moves with confidence, ensuring military children receive the consistency and support they deserve. Please reach out your local school or district office or your military school liaison for support.

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## Other Important School and Educational Activity Dates

### **Monterey Peninsula USD**

#### *MPUSD School Board Meetings*

- February 10, 6:30pm, 540 Canyon Del Rey, Del Rey Oaks
- February 11, 5:00pm, Town Hall Meeting at Seaside High School
- February 24, 6:30pm, 540 Canyon Del Rey, Del Rey Oaks
- MPUSD K-8 Student Transfer Window: Closes Feb 13, 2026

#### **Monterey Peninsula College/MPUSD Dual Enrollment Presentation**

- February 11, 2026, 5:30pm – 6:30pm. Seaside Middle School
- February 18, 2026, 5:30pm – 6:30pm, District-Wide Virtual Presentation

#### **MPUSD District Art Show**

- March 5, 2026, 5:00pm – 7:00pm, 540 Canyon Del Rey, Del Rey Oaks

Check your child's school website, ParentSquare, and notices for more information on upcoming events, such as Activities and Events, Coffee with the Principal, PTA, School Site Council Meetings, and much more.

*Thank you for reading!*

#### Contact Information

Phone: (831) 656-1008

Email: [John.Mckenzie@nps.edu](mailto:John.Mckenzie@nps.edu)

<u>Youth Sponsorship</u>	<u>School Liaison officer</u>
<u>Tech Connection Teen &amp; Youth Center</u>	<u>Child Development Center</u>