

# **Joint Base Charleston South Carolina**



## **School Information Packet**

Revised: 5 June 2018

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NOTES:

## School Liaison Officer Welcome

Welcome to Joint Base Charleston (JB CHS) and the Palmetto State. This electronic package contains school information to help you during your transition. The links in the packet are "live" so you can easily access the information you need using the Ctrl key and your mouse. Contact the School Liaison Office with questions/concerns as you transition to the installation/area.

The Charleston area has a plethora of educational choices/options for your children. I am here to help you navigate those options upon receipt of orders, ensuring you are armed with the best school information possible. The Tri-County is undergoing tremendous economic growth, housing activity, and of course more schools/traffic. See: [http://www.mybaseguide.com/joint\\_bases/81/joint\\_base\\_charleston](http://www.mybaseguide.com/joint_bases/81/joint_base_charleston)

Feedback on any of the information contained in the packet is always appreciated. The goal is to get accurate information to families more efficiently. Please "like" the Facebook Page to stay abreast of educational information. It automatically feeds to the Twitter account as well.

Additional installation information can be found on the Installation Page for Joint Base Charleston, accessed at: <http://www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil>. Look under the "Education" tab.

I look forward to working with you. Welcome to Joint Base Charleston and the Palmetto State.

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## **Military Children's Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunities for Military Children [www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net)**

- The Compact addresses key educational transition issues encountered by children of military families, including Enrollment, Placement/Attendance, graduation, and extra-curricular activities..
- The Compact is adopted by all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA).
- The Compact eases educational challenges encountered by military children
- Supports uniform treatment as they transfer between school districts in member states.
- Note: The Compact only applies to public schools

### **The Compact Covers – Children of:**

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, including
- National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders (Title 10)
- Members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year
- Members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death
- Uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),
- and United States Public Health Services (USPHS)

### **The Compact "Does Not" Cover – Children of:**

- Inactive members of the National Guard and Reserves (Not Title 10)
- Members now retired not covered above
- Veterans not covered above
- Other Department of Defense personnel not on active duty
- Members other than the uniformed personnel of NOAA and USPHS

### **Military Child Education Coalition – Interstate Compact information**

- [http://www.militarychild.org/public/upload/files/MIC3\\_Paper\\_Two.pdf](http://www.militarychild.org/public/upload/files/MIC3_Paper_Two.pdf)

## General Information

### Introduction

Children of military members attend schools in the surrounding Charleston, Dorchester II, and Berkeley County School Districts. The districts provide a full range of educational programs, i.e., vocational and technical training, traditional academic programs, athletics, classes for gifted students and students with special needs. There is also a wide array of magnet, charter, virtual, and private schools options available in the area. School starts in mid-August and ends early June for most schools.

### South Carolina Public Schools

Public schools are operated at the county level under the South Carolina Department of Education. Statewide test results, and overall school quality, can vary significantly from school to school within each district. It is recommended you look at the individual [school report cards](#) Online, and visit each campus, as you make your housing decision.

- State Standards & Learning : <https://ed.sc.gov/instruction/standards-learning/>
- State Report Cards: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/>
- Test Scores: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/test-scores/>
- Comparison Tools: <https://ed.sc.gov/data/report-cards/state-report-cards/2017/>

\*\* District/School Ratings have not been tabulated since 2014 due to inconsistent testing. A new report card format is expected 2017-2018, but no official word on whether it will contain any progress ratings. \*\*

### New Student Registration: Tips for Changing to a New School

Get an "unofficial" copy of transcripts/records to hand carry. This will help ensure proper placement at the new school, in case your official records are delayed. You are authorized to carry this "unofficial" copy under terms of the Military Children's Interstate Compact referenced on Page 5. Call the SLO if you have any trouble with this.

High school students should work with guidance at the receiving school as early as possible. Find out all you can about the courses you are going to sign up for at the new school. Bring a copy of your previous high school course syllabi, or a copy of your textbook's Table of Contents. Algebra II may cover different material at your new school, don't wait for an unpleasant surprise.

## Documentation

Bring the following documents to the school at the time of registration:

- Student's Birth Certificate
- Completed S.C. Immunization Form (DHEC 1125: Can be provided by Medical)
- Proof of residence (normally two sources)
- Unofficial Copy of school records from previous school if available
- Current Special Education records (IEP/504) if applicable
- Proof of guardianship, if applicable
- Latest report card if possible

## Enrollment (Age Requirements/Pre-K)

Children who will be five years old on or before 1 Sep must register for Kindergarten. Children who will be four years old on or before 1 Sep may be eligible for pre-school, but strict guidelines apply. Contact the school in your attendance zone for available slots and requirements for eligibility to attend. According to South Carolina Law, school-aged children must be transferred/enrolled in school within 10 days of arrival.

- Dorchester School District 2:  
[http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester\\_County\\_SD/District\\_Information/Registration\\_Enrollment](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester_County_SD/District_Information/Registration_Enrollment)
- Berkeley County Schools: <http://www.bcsdschools.net/Page/24397>
- Charleston County Schools: <http://choice.ccsdschools.com/site.php>

## Immunizations

The Medical Clinics will assist you with proper immunizations for South Carolina. Call: 843-963-6714 for the AB, or 843-794-6850 at the WS. They will complete DHEC Form 1125, required for enrollment in SC school system.

**Attendance Policies: According to state law, students attend assigned public schools within their district of residence.** Joint Base has no provisions for military families to cross district boundaries, so make sure you know where your residence is assigned for schools. If in doubt, call the district or the School Liaison Officer. There are a few charter schools that draw from all areas of the state regardless of residence.

## South Carolina High School Diploma Requirements

Visit the South Carolina Department of Education for diploma requirements:  
<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/124/index.cfm>

## Special Education

Contact South Carolina's Office of Exceptional Children at 1-866-628-0910 or visit [Office of Special Education Services](#). The Joint Base Charleston Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) Coordinator can be reached at 843-963-4406, and can assist with the special educational needs of your children.

## **Impact Aid**

Since 1950, Congress has provided financial assistance to Local Education Agencies (LEA) through the Impact Aid Program. The purpose is to disburse payments to the LEAs that are financially burdened by Federal activities, including lost property tax revenue due to tax exempt federal property and the increased expenditures due to the enrollment of federally connected children in their district. (See Supplemental)

## **Charleston County School District** (<http://www.ccsdschools.com>)

Joint Base Charleston Air Base is located in Charleston County. They serve more than 49,837 students in 82 schools, and are one of the largest school districts in South Carolina.

### **Those Living in Air Base (AB) Housing**

AB Housing is serviced by Charleston County Schools. Families may elect to attend [Lambs Elementary](#) or [Hunley Park Elementary](#) (K-5). Middle school students (6-8) are assigned to [Zucker Middle School](#), a science magnet school. [Stall High School](#) (9-12) is a state of the art facility that is demonstrating strong improvement under new leadership.

### **CCSD Choice School Options**

Charleston County's Resolution to Accommodate Military Families significantly expands access to [K-12 School Options](#) for military families. It provides:

- Extended magnet school application periods for military families arriving outside the normal application deadlines.
- The Choice Application for Military Families provides inbound families a choice of up to three schools they would like to attend. Transportation to a choice school varies, depending on the individual school.
- Applications are submitted directly to the CCSD office as noted on the application. A copy of your orders will be required as well.

DO NOT APPLY DIRECTLY TO ANY OF THE CHOICE SCHOOLS. Please communicate with the district directly as noted on the application, or with the School Liaison Officer, if you have questions.

CCSD Charter Schools operate their own lottery and wait lists. You can contact them directly for additional information.

### **Early College/Dual Credit**

CCSD schools offer Advanced Placement and Dual Credit programs in the high schools, and the district offers an [Early College High School](#) campus. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits, and "potentially" an Associate's Degree, upon graduation from high school. Contact the high school or district offices for more specific information.



## **Berkeley County School District** (<https://www.bcsdschools.net>)

Berkeley County School district is located slightly north of the Air Base, and is home to the JB Charleston Weapons Station. It provides K-12 education for more than 32,962 students at 43 schools. The county is undergoing massive growth, and there is a wide range of housing and educational opportunities.

### **Those Living in Weapons Station (WS) Base Housing**

WS housing is serviced by Berkeley County Schools. [Marrington Elementary School](#) serves grades Kindergarten to 5<sup>th</sup> grade. There is a full day 4 year old program for families that meet the household income criteria. [Marrington Middle School of the Arts](#) is an arts-infused magnet school for grades 6-8. The school has been awarded the National Blue Ribbon Award and a Palmetto's Finest designation. [Goose Creek High School](#) and the [Berkeley Center for the Arts](#) provide comprehensive 9-12 curriculum.

Be aware that any "Active Duty" military family attached to Joint Base Charleston, and living in Berkeley County, may enroll their school age children in the Marrington Schools. Transportation is ONLY provided for on-base residents living 1.25 miles, or greater, from the school.

Contact the School Liaison Officer for more information.

### **Early College/Dual Credit**

BCSD schools offer Advanced Placement and Dual Credit programs in the high schools. The district operates an Early College High School campus, [Berkeley Middle College High School](#). Students have the opportunity to earn college credits, and "potentially" an Associate's Degree, upon graduation from high school. Contact the high school or district offices for more specific information.

## **Dorchester School District 2**

([http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester County SD](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester_County_SD))

Dorchester School District 2 is located just North of JB Charleston Air Base. It is the smallest of the three local school districts, serving more than 25,354 students in 25 schools. The district is recognized as a school system of excellence, consistently ranked among the best in South Carolina.

[Rollings Middle School of the Arts](#) provides an arts infused magnet program for grades 6-12. Application and enrollment information is available from the district. There are no special provisions for military families at this time.

### **Early College/Dual Credit**

DD2 offers Advanced Placement and Dual Credit opportunities in the high schools. Early College high school programming is available within individual high schools. Students have the opportunity to earn college credits, and “potentially” an Associate’s Degree, upon graduation from high school. Contact the high school or district offices for more specific information.

### **SC Public Charter School District** (<http://www.sccharter.org>)

The South Public Charter School district provides a wide array of **charter** and **virtual** school options in the local area, programs for gifted and talented students. Below are programs located near Joint Base Charleston:

#### **Palmetto Scholars Academy** (<http://www.palmettoscholarsacademy.org/>)

PSA is a state charter school for gifted and talented children grades 6-12. The school is located on the Hunley Park side of the Air Base, with a curriculum is geared to high performing and gifted/talented students. Military families are encouraged to contact PSA or the School Liaison Officer for enrollment/application information. Charter school law provides a preference for active duty military children assigned to Joint Base Charleston. If you believe PSA might be a good fit for your child apply as soon as possible.

#### **Meevers School of Excellence** (<http://www.meversschoolofexcellence.org/>)

Meevers opened in 2017, and is a member of the South Carolina Public Charter School District. It is open to all residents of South Carolina, and currently provides education for grades K-6. Future plans include expansion to grades 7-8. Their campus is located near Joint Base Charleston Weapons Station, Goose Creek, SC.

## **Home School**

South Carolina statutes provide parents or guardians with three different options for home schooling their children. The choice is left up to the parents or guardians to select the option that is best for their children. For detailed information on getting started with home schooling in South Carolina, refer to [Home Schooling](#) on the South Carolina State Department of Education Webpage.

See "Supplemental Materials" for the JB Charleston "Homeschool Fact Sheet."

The School Liaison Officer can provide additional information/resources upon request.

## **Private Schools**

Private schools in the greater Charleston area are too numerous to list and the choice is a personal matter. It is suggested that the private schools be contacted directly to determine tuition/enrollment requirements. There may be additional fees for some programs. Here are a few popular Web links to private school information:

[Charleston's Independent School Directory](#)

South Carolina independent School Association – List of accredited schools by county:  
<https://www.scisa.org/schools/member-listing-by-county.html>

South Carolina K12 Private Schools – by county:  
<https://www.sciway.net/edu/k12/k12private.html>

Diocese of Charleston - <https://sccatholic.org/school-listings>

Private School Review: <https://www.privateschoolreview.com/south-carolina/charleston>

## **Adult Education**

The Base Education Center can provide information on Adult Education programs. It offers a wide range of educational services and programs to help people fulfill their educational goals. The local school districts also have Adult Education Programs for those living within their attendance zones.

Berkeley County	843-899-8690
Dorchester County	843-873-2901
Charleston County	843-746-6500

## **SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

### **Program Handouts**

- JB Charleston Youth Programs
- Child Care-School Age Care Resources
- Tutor.Com
- Check Lists For School Moves (2)
- Home School Fact Sheet
- K-12 School Options
- Military Family Life Counselors
- Impact Aid – What it is/What it isn't
- Military Interstate Children's Compact Flyer
- South Carolina Family Guide to Assessments – Student Success Tools

### **District Policy Manuals (Online)**

- BCSD Policy Manual: [http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om\\_isapi.dll?clientID=736667160&depth=2&infobase=berkeley.nfo&record={1}&softpage=PL\\_frame#](http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=736667160&depth=2&infobase=berkeley.nfo&record={1}&softpage=PL_frame#)
- CCSD Policy Manual: [http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om\\_isapi.dll?clientID=6238305&infobase=charles.nfo&softpage=PL\\_Frame](http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=6238305&infobase=charles.nfo&softpage=PL_Frame)
- DD2 Policy Manual: [http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om\\_isapi.dll?clientID=2520015162&depth=2&infobase=dorchester.nfo&softpage=PL\\_frame](http://backup.microscribepub.com/cgi-bin/om_isapi.dll?clientID=2520015162&depth=2&infobase=dorchester.nfo&softpage=PL_frame)

### **Military Child Performance in South Carolina 2017 (PDF on EOC Webpage)**

- Education Oversight Committee Webpage: <http://www.eoc.sc.gov/Pages/index.aspx>

### **State Standards**

- South Carolina Family Friendly Standards: <http://www.scfriendlystandards.org/>

# JB Charleston Youth Programs



The **School Age Program** offers care for *before school*, *afterschool*, and seasonal



**camps** for youth ages 5-12 years old. The school age program provides age appropriate activities through the 4-H and Boys and Girls Club curriculum. Activities include field trips, a focus on building life skills, creative arts, physical activities, and various other activities.

### **Transportation:**

- Air Base services selected schools in the North Charleston area.
- Weapons Station services selected schools in the Goose Creek Area.

### **Cost:**

- \$5/Hour Drop-in Care
- Weekly Enrollment Fees are based on a Sliding Scale of Total Family Income.



### **4H Tech Wizards**

Weekly 4H enrichment programs are offered through a variety of clubs. Hands-on experiences include building rockets and smart cars, constructing bridges, experimenting with trajectory and torque, and so much more.

The **Sports Program** offers a wide array of organized, instructional and recreational sports programs and is available on the



Air Base and the Weapons Station. The program caters to children/youth 4-12 year of age and is designed to help children/youth develop the fundamental skills for each sport and instill sportsmanship qualities. This program also offers a great opportunity for parents to earn volunteer hours by contributing their knowledge/skills to the program.

- Soccer (Fall)
- Basketball/Cheerleading (Winter)
- Baseball (Spring)

### **Instructional Programs**



Classes offered promote and enhance the development of youth and are taught by certified instructors. If you have a special interest in a class not currently offered, please let us know.

#### Current Programs

- *Homeschool Fitness*
- *Martial Arts Lessons*
- *Dance Lessons*

The **Open Rec/Teen Program**

caters to 9-18 year olds. For only \$30/Year, this program offers a variety of activities for preteens and teens.



Activities offered include but are not limited to lock-ins, dances, field trips, health/fitness, and leadership opportunities.

**Big Benefits Becoming a Member of**

## **Youth Programs**

For only **\$35/Year**, your youth has access to...

- **FREE** participation in the weekly **4H Tech Wizards** Program
- **Discounts** on Sports Programs
- **Discounts** on Instructional Programs
- **FREE/Discounts** on varied Special Programs or Workshops
- **FREE/Discount** on varied Dances/Lock-ins
- **FREE** Weekend Camping Trips

Contact Us...

[Weapons Station Youth Program](#)

843-794-7809

[Air Base Youth Program](#)

843-963-5684

Like us on Facebook: JB Charleston Youth Programs

**Joint Base Charleston Child and Youth Programs  
Child Care and School-Age Care Resources**

**MILITARY CONNECTED**

**REGISTER ONLINE BEFORE GOING TO THE CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS**

MilitaryChildCare.com – website for military families seeking child care, Child & Youth/Open Recreation programs. <http://militarychildcare.com/>  
855-696-2934

Joint Base Charleston Child Development Center (Air Base)  
1654 East Jackson Street  
Joint Base Charleston, SC 29404  
843-963-4366  
[628fss.fsf.1@us.af.mil](mailto:628fss.fsf.1@us.af.mil)  
Facebook: JB Charleston CDC

Joint Base Charleston Child Development Center (Weapons Station)  
201 Von Steuben Street  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
843-794-7408  
[628fss.fsf.1@us.af.mil](mailto:628fss.fsf.1@us.af.mil)  
Facebook: JB Charleston CDC

Joint Base Charleston Family Child Care Program  
2373 White Circle  
Joint Base Charleston, SC 29404  
843-963-2546  
[628fss.fsf@us.af.mil](mailto:628fss.fsf@us.af.mil)

Joint Base Charleston School-Age Care (Air Base)  
2451 N. O'Neal Avenue  
Joint Base Charleston, SC 29404  
843-963-5684  
[628fss.fsf.2@us.af.mil](mailto:628fss.fsf.2@us.af.mil)  
Facebook: JB Charleston Youth Programs

Joint Base Charleston School-Age Care (Weapons Station)  
788 Chapel Drive  
Goose Creek, SC 29445  
843-794-7809  
[628fss.fsf.2@us.af.mil](mailto:628fss.fsf.2@us.af.mil)  
Facebook: JB Charleston Youth Programs

Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood – Administered by Child Care Aware

<http://childcareaware.org>

800-424-2246

## **SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

Berkeley County School District

228 East Main Street

Moncks Corner, SC 29461

842-899-8600

<http://www.bcsdschools.net>

Charleston County School District

3999 Bridge View Drive

North Charleston, SC 29405

843-529-2225

<http://www.ccsdschools.com>

Dorchester County School District 2

801 John McKissick Way

Summerville, SC 29483

[http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester\\_County\\_SD](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester_County_SD)

Dorchester County School District 4

500 Ridge Street

St. George, SC 29477

843-563-4535

<http://www.dorchester4.K12.sc.us/?PN=Schools2>

## **SEARCH FOR CARE – SOME INCLUDE RATINGS**

National Association for the Education of Young Children

<http://www.naeyc.org>

Council on Accreditation

<http://coanet.org/home/>

ABC Quality

<http://abcquality.org>

South Carolina Child Care Resource & Referral Network

1530 Wheat Street

Columbia, SC 29208

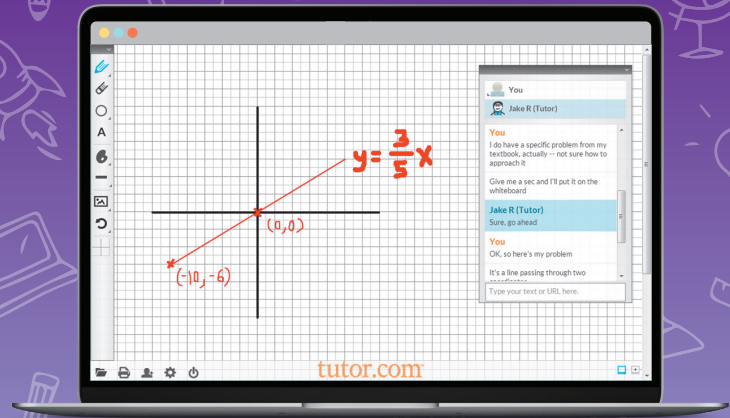
888-335-1002

[SC Child Care - Search](#)

Revised Aug 2017

No Federal endorsement intended.

# Set Your Sights on Academic Success



## EXPERT TUTORS AVAILABLE AROUND-THE-CLOCK

Work with a live subject matter expert 24/7 from any internet-connected computer or mobile device.



## 40+ SUBJECTS, ALL SKILL LEVELS

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## MORE THAN JUST THE BASICS

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### Military life comes with many challenges—education should not be one of them.

**Tutor.com/military** is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance to provide on-demand online tutoring at no cost to eligible students. Go to **tutor.com/military** to watch the “How it Works” video and create an account today.

### TUTORING THAT WORKS FOR YOU

- **Expert help at no cost.** Active duty service members, their grades K-12 children and other eligible students can use this program for free.
- **Real-time help on demand.** A student can connect to a tutor within minutes. Students can also designate favorite tutors, store documents in their virtual “locker” and review previous sessions.
- **Personalized support.** Each tutoring session is between one student and one tutor who helps the student learn, complete homework assignments, improve writing skills, prep for tests and more.
- **Engaging learning environment.** The interactive online classroom features a whiteboard, easy-to-use tools, instant text messaging and file sharing.
- **Peace of mind.** A student and a highly vetted tutor work together anonymously in the secure online classroom.

Tutor.com for U.S. Military Families is funded by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) MWR Library Program, the DoD Navy General Library Program and Coast Guard Mutual Assistance (CGMA). Access to Tutor.com/military for DoD Active Duty service members is a DoD Pilot Program of limited duration, funded by the DoD Voluntary Education Program. Those who fund the program determine eligibility for its use. Long-term availability of the program is not guaranteed. The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement. AP is a trademark registered and owned by the College Board, which is not affiliated with and does not endorse this product.





## If You Are Moving...

- Check the starting date for school.
- Research school options.
- Check to see if your present and new school have a *Student 2 Student*™ (S2S) or *Junior Student 2 Student*™ (JS2S) team that can help you prepare to leave and help you find ways to fit into your new school setting.
- Obtain records.
- Obtain recommendations from teachers, coaches, and others before you move.
- Make sure your portfolio is up-to-date.
- Document volunteer hours and extracurricular activities; obtain any needed verification.
- Learn about your new home's state tests. Ask about testing schedules and topics so you can prepare. Check SchoolQuest™ at <[www.schoolquest.org](http://www.schoolquest.org)> and visit the State Education Resources. There is a link to your state's education agency and information about state testing.
- Take a copy of your transcripts and an explanation of the grading scale.
- Take your course description guide/booklet.
- Bring documentation, contact information, and resources for any special programs or activities in which you participate.
- If you move before or during your senior year, have all of the above plus your class rank, including an explanation of how it was calculated, and all standardized test scores.

### CRITICAL:

*If you will be moving, be sure to check the start date for your new school. Classes in some school districts start as early as the first week of August. Since many also require that students attend class for a specific number of days, failure to start on time could result in a loss of credit or retention.*



# MCEC Quick Checklist for School Moves

## FROM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN:

- Student's Birth Certificate
- Student's Social Security Number
- Student's Health Record (Immunization, etc.)
- Legal Documents as Needed
- Proof of Residency/Military Orders

## SCHOOL INFORMATION:

- Address, Phone Numbers, Other Contact Information
- Course Description Book/Grading Scale (if available for 6th grade and above)
- Copy of the Cover of Each Textbook or the Title Page
- School Profile/Handbook
- School Web Page (URL)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## SCHOOL RECORDS:

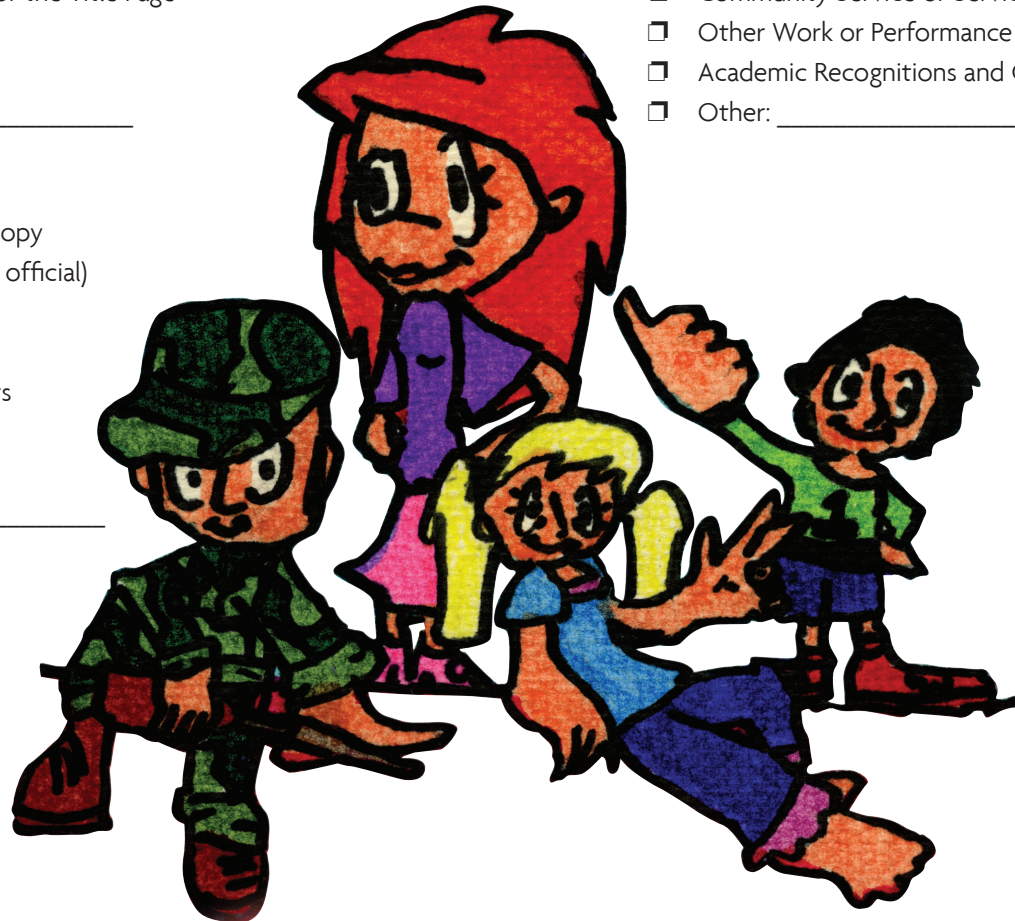
- Copy of Cumulative Folder (only the copy mailed between schools is considered official)
- Current Schedule
- Report Cards
- Withdrawal Grades or Progress Reports
- Test Scores (Standardized or Special Program Testing, etc.)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## SPECIAL PROGRAMS RECORDS AS APPROPRIATE:

- Individual Education Plan (IEP)/Individual Accommodation Plan (504)/Gifted Program Description
- English as a Second Language (ESL) or Bilingual Education
- At-Risk or Other Action Plans for Classroom Modifications
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## OTHER DOCUMENTS AND EXAMPLES:

- Writing Samples and Other Work Examples
- Activities Records (co/extracurricular)
  - Community Service or Service Learning
  - Other Work or Performance Examples
  - Academic Recognitions and Competition Participation
  - Other: \_\_\_\_\_



## Homeschool Fact Sheet JB Charleston - April 2017

In 2003, according to the DOE estimate, there were 1,096,000 homeschooled children in the 5-through-17 age group in the United States. That equaled 2.2 percent of the 50,707,000 students in that age bracket the United States that year. In 2007, there were 1,520,000 homeschooled children in the 5-through-17 age group, according to the DOE estimate. That equaled 3.0 percent of the 51,135,000 students in the 5-through-17 age group that year. By 2012, the latest year reported with the new data, there were 1,773,000 homeschooled in the 5-through-17 age bracket. That equaled 3.4 percent of the 51,657,000 students in the 5-through-17 age group that year.

It is important to note that home school rules and regulations vary from state to state. Below you will find the rules and regulations for home schooling in South Carolina. Additionally, there is a list of resources, books and internet sites, available to assist parents in making this important decision regarding their child's education. State Webpage: <http://ed.sc.gov/agency/programs-services/125/>

### Compulsory School Age in South Carolina

*"five years of age before September first until . . . seventeenth birthday or "graduation from high school; five-year-olds may be excused from kindergarten with submission of written notice to the school district"*

South Carolina Legal Home Schooling Options: <a href="#">1</a> <a href="#">2</a> <a href="#">3</a>			
	Option: 1	Option: 2	Option: 3
<b>Legal Option:</b>	Establish and operate a home school as approved by the local school board	Establish and operate a home school under the membership auspices of the South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools (SCAIHS)	Establish and operate a home school under the membership auspices of an association for home schools with no fewer than fifty members
<b>Attendance:</b>	180 days per year, 4½ hours per day	180 days per year	180 days per year
<b>Subjects:</b>	Reading, writing, math, science, and social studies; also composition and literature in grades 7-12	Reading, writing, math, science, and social studies; also composition and literature in grades 7-12	Reading, writing, math, science, and social studies; also composition and literature in grades 7-12
<b>Qualifications:</b>	High school diploma or GED or a baccalaureate degree	High school diploma or GED	High school diploma or GED
<b>Notice:</b>	None, if transferring from another state/country. If your child has been attending a SC school and you chose to home school you must notify the school district in writing.	None, if transferring from another state/country. If your child has been attending a SC school and you chose to home school you must notify the school district in writing.	None, if transferring from another state/country. If your child has been attending a SC school and you chose to home school you must notify the school district in writing.
<b>Recordkeeping:</b>	Maintain evidence of regular instruction including a record of subjects taught, activities in which the student and parent engage, a portfolio of the child's work, and a record of academic evaluations, with a semiannual progress report	None required by statute; SCAIHS requires some recordkeeping	Maintain evidence of regular instruction including a record of subjects taught, activities in which the student and parent engage, and a portfolio of the child's work, with a semiannual progress report
<b>Testing:</b>	Participate in the annual statewide testing program and the Basic Skills Assessment Program	None required by statute; SCAIHS has certain testing requirements	None

Many parents who home school in South Carolina choose Option 3 because it allows more flexibility, particularly in the area of curriculum selection. Option 3 requires affiliation with an accountability association. An accountability association is an organization operated by home schoolers that provides a means of legal compliance for its members under SC home school statutes 59-65-45 (SCAIHS) and 59-65-47 (all others). Each organization has its own policies and membership fees. Here are a few that our families use:

- Grace Home School Association: <http://gracehomeschools.org/>
- Carolina Homeschooler: <http://www.carolinahomeschooler.com/>
- Homeward Education Association: <http://www.homewarded.com/>
- South Carolina Association of Independent Home Schools: <http://www.scaihhs.org/>
- At Home In The Lowcountry Association: <http://www.athomeinthelowcountry.com/>
- PACESC: [www.pacesc.com](http://www.pacesc.com)
- Half Moon Homeschool Association: [www.halfmoonhomeschool.com](http://www.halfmoonhomeschool.com)
- Alliance Homeschool Accountability Association: <http://alliancehomeschool.org/>

**NOTE - You MUST be covered by a legal accountability association within 10 days of the beginning of school in your school district or your children will be considered truant.**

Although not required, affiliation with a support group is a good idea, particularly for those new to home schooling. With over 400 members, a popular support group in the Tri-County area is the Lowcountry Christian Home Educators Association: <http://www.homeschool-life.com/sc/lchea/>. Parents can get lots of valuable home school information, resources and support.

**Home School Association for Military Families** – SLO recommends the newsletter.  
<https://www.hsamf.org>

**Other informative websites are:**

<http://www.homeschoolcentral.com>

<http://www.home-school.com/>

[Home Education Learning Partnership](#) – Courses offered to supplement your home school

**Virtual Schools:** An option for parents who want their children to be schooled at home but follow a predetermined curriculum. <http://www.sccharter.org/>

### **Joint Base Charleston School Information**

School Information Packet: <https://plus.google.com/115149628665209148835/palette>

School Liaison Facebook: [JB Charleston School Liaison Office](#)

Homeschool Group Facebook: [JB Charleston Homeschool Families](#)

### **Child and Youth Programs – Homeschool Classes Offered**

Classes are offered through the CYP Centers during the regular school year. Call for more information.

Weapons Station: 843-794-7809      Air Base: 843-963-5684

*For more information on home schooling please contact the School Liaison Officer, JB Charleston at 843-963-4438*

### **Joint Base School Liaison Officer (SLO)**

The School Liaison Officer serves as a conduit of school information and is the primary point of contact for public and private school matters. Please contact the SLO to ensure you understand ALL of your school options, and have correct contact information.

### **General Information about School Options**

- Three county school districts, two state charter schools, virtual and private schools provide a wide range of options for military families in the Charleston area.
- Children attend school in the district in which they reside
- All three districts were rated Excellent in 2014
- Districts establish enrollment processes for their individual schools
- Some specialized magnet/charter schools have lotteries as a path to enrollment
- There are some special provisions for military families, but these are not uniform across the districts
- The state charter schools are open to all SC residents

### **Military Interstate Children's Compact**

- The Military Interstate Children's Compact provides some accommodations/protections for placement/enrollment for military children in all public schools.
- This includes "Comparable Placement" in the receiving district based on from previous school enrollments. Go to [MIC3.net](http://MIC3.net), or call the SLO, for more information.

### **DISCLAIMER**

The information contained in this flyer is general information, and may not include all elements of each program. Web links are provided on the next page, and it is recommended you speak directly to the SLO, school, or school district to ensure you have the most accurate information. School choice can be complicated, and not every situation can be addressed in this flyer.

### **PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

[Berkeley County School District](http://www.bcsdschools.net)  
[www.bcsdschools.net](http://www.bcsdschools.net)

[Charleston County School District](http://www.ccsdschools.com)  
[www.ccsdschools.com](http://www.ccsdschools.com)

[Dorchester School District Two](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester_County_SD)  
[www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester\\_County\\_SD](http://www.edlinesites.net/pages/Dorchester_County_SD)

[South Carolina Public Charter School District](http://www.sccharter.org/)  
[www.sccharter.org/](http://www.sccharter.org/)

### **HELPFUL SITES:**

[South Carolina Department of Education](https://ed.sc.gov/)  
<https://ed.sc.gov/>

[Tutor.Com: Free tutoring 24/7/365](http://www.tutor.com/military)  
[www.tutor.com/military](http://www.tutor.com/military)

### **SCHOOL LIAISON OFFICER**

104 E. Simpson St., Building 500  
Airman & Family Readiness Center  
Ph: 843-963-4410/4406  
FB: JB Charleston School Liaison Office  
Twitter: @jbcslo2011

### **SCHOOL INFORMATION PACKET**

<http://www.jbcharleston.jb.mil/>  
Newcomers Link



# K-12 SCHOOL OPTIONS



## Joint Base Charleston (JB CHS)

## 2018-2019

## South Carolina Public Charter School District

The South Carolina Public Charter School District offers brick & mortar and online educational opportunities.

### **Palmetto Scholars Academy (PSA):**

- Provides an accelerated curriculum grades 6-12
- Located on the Air Base side of Joint Base
- Open to all South Carolina residents
- Space may be limited by grade level
- Call the School Liaison: 843-963-4410
- PSA Phone: 843-300-4118 - Dr. Gott

### **Mevers School of Excellence:**

- Charter school for grades K-7 (8th grade in 2019-2020)
- Applications 1 Dec 2017 - 31 Jan 2018
- Lottery if applications exceed seats available
- Applications from previous year do not roll over
- Phone: 843-806-5909

## Dorchester School District 2 (DD2)

- DD2 is a top rated school district, with most schools rated excellent in 2014
- The district works with military families on a case by case basis if special considerations are needed for school assignment

### **Rollings Middle School of the Arts**

- Arts Infused Magnet program, and enrollment is through lottery in 6th grade
- Applications for vacancies are announced through DD2 media outlets
- Phone: 843-873-3610

### **Early College**

- Early College programming is part of the curriculum of DD2 high schools. They are available to students once they pass a college entrance exam. Students take college courses while completing high school graduation requirements in regular high school classrooms.
- Contact the high schools for more information

## Berkeley County School District (BCSD)

### **Marrington Elementary School**

- JB CHS Weapons Station (WS) housing residents attend Marrington ES
- Children of active duty military "residents" of Berkeley County may attend. Transportation is not provided
- There is a Military Family Life Counselor assigned to the school.
- Phone: 843- 572-3373

### **Marrington Middle School of the Arts**

- This is an arts infused, County Wide, magnet school located on JB CHS Weapons Station.
- WS residents assigned school. It is open to active duty military "residents" of Berkeley County. Transportation is not provided
- There is a Military Family Life Counselor assigned to the school.
- Phone: 843- 572-0313

### **Howe Hall Arts Infused Magnet School**

- Grades K-5, open to residents of Berkeley County and BCSD employees
- Howe Hall accepts applications Feb - Mar with the lottery in May (check Website for 2018 dates)
- Phone: 843-820-3899

### **Berkeley Center for the Arts (BCA)**

- Located at Goose Creek HS, BCA is a secondary Fine Arts program open to 9th and 10 grade students through selection/audition
- The program is geared towards those seeking a career in the Fine Arts, including: Creative Writing, Dance, Wind/Percussion, Voice, Visual Arts, Strings, and Theater
- Applications are available January thru March, with auditions scheduled shortly thereafter.
- Phone: 843-553-5300

### **Berkeley Middle College**

- Located at the Trident Technical College Berkeley Campus. Applications 15DEC-28FEB for grades 11-12
- Potential to graduate high school with a two year degree
- Phone: 843-899-8111

## Charleston County School District (CCSD)

### **Magnet/ Charter Schools**

- Families relocating to Charleston after the School Choice application deadline are eligible to apply for enrollment for choice programs. Each family should complete applications for each child wishing to attend a school other than the school to which the residence is assigned. Eligibility for programs will be determined if the child meets the entrance requirements for the program for which the family is applying.
- **Active duty military families "already residing" in CCSD** may complete applications online beginning 10 Jan 2018. Go to: <http://www.ccsdschools.com/families/students/choice>
- **Newly arriving active Duty military families "relocating to CCSD** may apply at: <http://www.ccsdschools.com/cms/One.aspx?portalId=2973364&pageId=27432528>
- Assistance is available through the School Choice Office at: 843-937-6582

### **Transfer Requests**

- CCSD has two transfer request windows this year, March and June 2018. Application can be completed on the CCSD Website under Families/Students/Student Transfers. Special requests can be submitted to Constituent Districts, on a case by case basis, at other times of the year.

### **CCSD Early College High School**

- Located downtown on the Trident Technical College Palmer Campus
- Applications for 9th grade are accepted at this time.
- Potential to graduate high school with a two year degree
- Phone: 843-720-5701

## MILITARY FAMILY LIFE COUNSELORS - ASSIGNED TO SELECT SCHOOLS

The Department of Defense (DOD) authorized the funding for four full-time Military Family Life Counselors (MFLC's) to serve 5 elementary schools and one middle school in the Charleston Tri-County area.

<b>SY 17-18</b>	<b>Berkeley County</b> Marrington ES Marrington MSOA	<b>Charleston County</b> Lambs ES Hunley Park ES	<b>Dorchester District 2</b> Oakbrook ES Fort Dorchester ES
<b>SY 18-19</b>	Add: Cane Bay ES	Add: Palmetto Scholars Academy	Add: Oakbrook MS

MFLC's offer short-term non-medical counseling services to children, parents, faculty, and staff. The MFLC's interface with military students in small group sessions as well as individual sessions. The MFLC counselors are at the schools to help and are available to talk to military students, facilitate group activities, outreach to parents and to process interactions and concerns, such as:

- Communication
- Self-esteem/self-confidence
- Resolving conflicts
- Behavioral management techniques
- Bullying
- Helping children deal with angry feelings
- Sibling/parental relationships
- Deployment and reintegration issues

The MFLC program utilizes professional, licensed and credentialed counselors. This DOD program is provided by Magellan Health Services. Contact the School Liaison Officer for more information

# Federal Impact Aid:

## What is it and how does it help my child?

- Federal Impact Aid is a law that provides a way for the federal government to reimburse local school districts for the loss of property and business tax support associated with military/federal students residing within the district, on- and off - base.
- The funding that your child's school receives in Impact Aid directly impacts his or her quality of education by providing needed curriculum materials, equipment, staff, special education programming, and building improvements.

## What can I do?

It's simple: Each year your child receives the Federal survey card that requests information regarding his/her federal connection (place of residence, parental occupation, Indian reservation affiliation). Simply by completing and returning this survey, you have contributed to your child's school funding!

**For more information contact the JB Charleston School Liaison Office.**



104 E. Simpson St., Building 500  
Joint Base Charleston AB, SC 29404  
843-963-4410  
christopher.gerry@us.af.mil





### WHAT IS THE COMPACT?

Developed in 2006, the Military Interstate Children's Compact was adopted by all 50 states, the District of Columbia and the Department of Defense Education Activity. The Compact eases the educational challenges that military children encounter, and supports uniform treatment as they transfer between school districts in member states. Note: The Compact only applies to public schools.

### STUDENTS COVERED

Children of the following:

- Active duty members of the uniformed services, including members of the National Guard and Reserve on active duty orders (Title 10)
- Members or veterans who are medically discharged or retired for one year
- Members who die on active duty, for a period of one year after death
- Uniformed members of the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and United States Public Health Services (USPHS)

### STUDENTS NOT COVERED

Children of the following:

- Inactive members of the National Guard and Reserves (Not Title 10)
- Members now retired not covered above
- Veterans not covered above
- Other Department of Defense personnel, federal agency civilians and contract employees not defined as active duty
- Members other than the uniformed personnel of NOAA and USPHS

### SOME OF THE ISSUES COVERED

#### Enrollment

- Educational Records
- Immunizations
- Kindergarten & First Grade

#### Entrance Age

#### Placement & Attendance

- Course & Educational Program Placement
- Special Education Services
- Placement Flexibility
- Absence Related to Deployment Activities

#### Graduation

- Waiving courses required for graduation if similar course work has been completed
- Flexibility in accepting state exit or end-of-course exams, national achievement tests, or alternative testing in lieu of testing requirements for graduation in the receiving state
- Allowing a student to receive a diploma from the sending school instead of the receiving school

## MISSION

Through the Interstate Compact, MIC3 addresses key educational transition issues encountered by children of military families.

### CONTACT US AT

1776 Avenue of the States | Lexington, KY 40511  
859.244.8133 | [www.mic3.net](http://www.mic3.net) | [mic3info@csg.org](mailto:mic3info@csg.org)



# 2016-17 FAMILY GUIDE TO ASSESSMENTS: STUDENT SUCCESS TOOLS



## Understanding the Purpose of Assessments

The goal of any assessment is to improve teaching and learning. Depending upon the type of assessment administered, an assessment should answer one or more of the following questions:

- Are students learning and understanding what is being taught?
- Are students being taught what they need to learn?
- Are students growing as learners?
- What did students learn?
- Are students prepared for the next level of learning or for college and careers?
- How do students compare to their peers, students in other states or students in other nations?
- Into which level or intervention should the student be placed to succeed academically?

## Understanding Types of Assessments

There are many types of assessments designed by classroom teachers, testing companies, state departments of education, and school districts. Some assessments are required by state or federal law while others are determined by district or school administrators. Below are descriptions and definitions of various types of assessments, along with examples of assessments used in South Carolina and in other states. Note that some assessments are given at the discretion of local schools, districts, or course requirements while others are required by state or federal law.

### Formative Assessments

**Definition:** Formative assessments provide **immediate** feedback to students and teachers so that they can modify future instruction and learning.

Some students may need more assistance and others may need accelerated learning opportunities. The assessment, often given multiple times during the school year, is used to inform teaching and learning decisions. Formative assessments are often used as interim measures, allowing teachers to determine if a child is on track to be successful at the end of the school year.

**Examples: School/Class** – homework, observations, questions, quizzes, reading logs, etc.

The S.C. Board of Education has identified the following formative assessments school districts may choose to use and receive state funding for administration: Measures of Academic Progress (MAP); Blended Assessment with Instruction Program (BAIP-Math); or STAR Reading and STAR Mathematics.

## TIPS FOR STUDENT TESTING SUCCESS FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES

1. Know what tests are given and when tests are scheduled. Inquire about results.
2. Avoid scheduling appointments, trips or other activities during testing.
3. Set a daily study time and limit interruptions.
4. Discuss homework with your child. Stress responsibility for doing the work and check to see that assignments are completed.
5. Keep track of your child's progress throughout the year. Praise success. Talk with your child's teacher about any areas of concern.
6. Encourage your child to ask questions at home or in class.
7. Read to your child, read with your child, and read yourself.
8. Encourage your child to review beforehand and to do his/her best on testing days.
9. Remind your child of the importance of reading directions carefully and not rushing through a test.
10. Review test results with your child. Praise success and talk about what can be done for areas in need of improvement.
11. Remind your child to do their best because some test scores can have an impact on his or her future.
12. Look for ways to make learning a part of everyday conversations and activities.

Formative assessments like MAP and STAR are often administered at different intervals throughout the year to determine student knowledge and skills relative to specific academic goals. Results are used to inform instruction and guide decision making at the classroom, school and district level, as well as be used to measure student growth over time.

### Summative Assessments

**Definition:** Summative assessments determine the level of student performance at the conclusion of a defined instructional period.

A summative assessment can be at the end of a quarter, unit, course, semester, program, or at the end of the school year. In statewide accountability, summative assessments refer to end-of-grade testing in grades 3 through 8 and in high school. These assessments are designed to measure students' knowledge and skills in relation to state standards. Schools and districts in South Carolina are held accountable for educating all children, and the results of summative assessments help ensure that happens. Some summative assessments may be used to compare achievement of students in one state to the achievement of students in other states.

**Examples: School/Class** – Final exams, EOCs, Advanced Placement (AP), and International Baccalaureate Exams (*at the discretion of the school or district*)

**State:** SC READY in English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics in grades 3-8, SC Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (SCPASS) in Science and Social Studies in grades 4-8, End-of-Course Assessments in high school courses: Algebra I, English 1, Biology, and U.S. History and the Constitution (*assessments required by state and federal law*)

### Alternate Assessments

**Definition:** Alternate assessments evaluate the performance of students who are unable to participate in regular state assessments even with accommodations. Students who qualify to take these assessments typically have significant cognitive disabilities, and therefore, are assessed using alternate achievement standards.

**Examples:** SC-ALT in Science and Social Studies and National Center and State Collaborative (NCSC) Alternate Assessment in English Language Arts and Mathematics (*assessments required by state and federal law*)

### Authentic & Performance Assessments

**Definition:** Authentic and Performance assessments use tasks typical of how the skills are used in “real world” settings. Such assessments follow “authentic learning” in which teachers facilitate learning through connecting the skills and content knowledge students are taught in school to real-world issues, problems, and applications. Teachers determine what students need to be able to do to show mastery of knowledge and skills and then develop learning activities to measure whether students have mastered essential knowledge, skills, and understanding. Rubrics of project's criteria are explained to students before beginning the work.

**Examples: English language arts** – Create a poem, ballad or story, write an obituary for a famous person.

**Math** – Determine how much paint or carpet would be needed to re-decorate a room, develop a budget for getting your first apartment.

**Science** - Develop a recycling campaign, prepare and participate in a global warming debate

**Social Studies** - Analyze a political cartoon, create a map using road directions (*all at the discretion of the school or district*)

### Standardized tests

**Definition:** “Standardized” refers to the “conditions of administration” of a test, so the test is administered in the same way each time it is administered and scored using the same procedures for all examinees. Some of the most common standardized tests are aptitude tests, college admission tests, International comparison tests, Psychological tests, and job skills assessments.

## WHAT IS HIGH-STAKES TESTING?

The public often hears about “high-stakes testing,” which means that decisions are made about a student, teacher, or school based on the results of certain tests. Most tests are **not** designed to be high-stakes but rather, are used to inform teachers about how students are progressing academically so that they can better address the learning needs of students.

**Examples:**

1. State - Gifted and Talented placement tests, Iowa Assessment (IA) and Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) (*assessments required by state and federal law*)
2. College Readiness Exam (*ACT will be administered to 11th grade students.*)
3. Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA) and Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS)
4. IQ tests
5. ACT WorkKeys (*assessment required by state law*)

**Kindergarten Readiness Assessments**

**Definition:** Early readiness assessments determine the developmental skills a child should have upon beginning kindergarten. It is meant to answer the question: Is my child ready for kindergarten? The readiness assessments often include social & emotional, mathematical thinking, health, and early literacy.

The early readiness assessment is not used as criteria for entry into Kindergarten but instead, the results are used to provide teachers with a better understanding of each student's strengths and educational needs. The assessment includes teacher observations, student responses to questions, and other activities to measure where a child is cognitively.

**Examples: State** – This year, school districts have a choice in 4K to administer one of the following three assessments: Individual Growth Development Indicators (IGDIs), Teaching Strategies GOLD; and PALS: Pre-K.

Students entering 5K will be administered the Diagnostic Reading Assessment (DRA).

**Placement Tests**

**Definition:** Placement tests are used to determine which level or class a student should be enrolled in and what level of intervention is needed.

**Examples:** ACCESS (Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State for English Language Learners) for English language learners and Alternate ACCESS for English language learners with significant cognitive disabilities. (*assessments required by federal law*)

**National Assessments**

**Definition:** These assessments represent progress toward what America's students know and are able to do in Reading, Mathematics and Science. The tests are given to randomly selected students in each state every two years.

**Example:** National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP)

**IDEAS FOR PARENTS & FAMILIES -- ASK THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:**

1. Which tests are given at your child's school? Who determines which types of tests are given? What do these tests measure? What you can do at home to help your child prepare for tests?
2. Discuss with your child the importance of developing all of their academic skills and personal attributes. Give examples of your child's strengths in different areas and let them know about situations in your own professional and personal life that require a variety of skills.
3. Consider organizing a "testing information" night for parents at your child's school about upcoming tests and/or how to interpret the results of tests. The SIC or PTO could sponsor an evening event featuring presentations, as well as, a question-and-answer session.