



MCEC[®]

Student Achievement, Parent Support, & Professional Services Options for 2023





SERVING THE CHILDREN OF THOSE WHO SERVE US ALL

Who Are We?

MCEC is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization that solely exists to help the military-connected child thrive in the face of transition and separation.

Our Mission

MCEC supports all military-connected children by educating, advocating, and collaborating to resolve education challenges associated with the military lifestyle.

Our Vision

Every military-connected child is college-, work-, and life-ready.

Our Community

MCEC is a professional coalition with a diverse community consisting of public school districts, private schools, colleges, universities, small businesses and corporations, nonprofit organizations, military commands and installations, military families, and caring individuals from local communities across our Nation.



Our Work

The Military Child Education Coalition[®] (MCEC[®]) delivers programs, services, and professional development to meet the needs of military-connected students, parents, and professionals.

Our Programs

Student Achievement

MCEC believes that enabling students to thrive and succeed in our education system by providing them the tools necessary to become college-, work-, and life-ready is of the highest importance. *Student 2 Student*[®] programs at the elementary, middle, and high school levels bring military and civilian children together to welcome new students, support academic excellence, and ease transitions as students pass in or out of schools.

Parent Support

MCEC empowers parents to become informed, proactive supporters allowing them to make a positive impact in the needs of their children. Parent Educators provide informative and interactive parent workshops to groups and organizations in the local community that address academic, social, and emotional issues associated with a military family lifestyle.

Professional Services

MCEC values the importance of professionals possessing the knowledge necessary to identify and respond to complex needs of military-connected children. Across disciplines, such as education, healthcare, childcare, and business, MCEC trains professionals to address the unique challenges facing our military-connected children. All training is grounded in research and presented by highly-skilled instructors.



STUDENT 2 STUDENT[®]

“S2S is by far the most powerful tool I have had in education to support kids.”

- S2S SPONSOR
WIDEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

Core Values

Leadership

Academics

Service

Finding The Way

Relationships

The overarching core value is 100% Acceptance



Student to Student[®] (S2S) is a student-led and faculty-advised program with the mission to take care of new students. An S2S program shows students their new campus, and introduces them to their new community. It provides fun ways for new students to get to know other students, to build new peer groups, and encourage new students to perform better in school. S2S impacts the entire student body by uniting the campus to build a culture of inclusion. The results are improved academic performance and positive peer-to-peer interactions.

Programs are for all three school levels: high school, middle/junior high school, and elementary school.

An S2S team should:

- Provide every new student a tour
- Eat lunch with the new student
- Provide academic resources and encouragement
- Provide activities to the new student to help them meet others
- 100% Acceptance: Respect for EVERY student no matter their differences
- Actively engage in serving the school and community

“This training was fun and made me very confident about helping new people.”

- STUDENT
FORT HOOD, TEXAS



A Military Child Education Coalition[®] Initiative



We offer initial start-up training and sustainment trainings.

- Training can be offered in-person or virtually.
- High school students, middle school students, and adults attend training.
- Only adults attend elementary school training.
- MCEC provides: trainers, resources, supplies, and training
- School provides: transportation to training, substitute teachers, and committed students and sponsors willing to making a difference in their school and community

AFTER TRAINING ATTENDEES WILL BE ABLE TO:

- Describe the challenges faced by students as they transition in or out of school
- Identify and apply the six building blocks (core values) of S2S: Leadership, Academics, Service, Finding the Way, Relationships, and 100% Acceptance
- Identify personal skills needed to implement and sustain a successful S2S program using leadership, team building, and communication skills

"We offer a place that students can fit in without any judgment."

- S2S SPONSOR
DISCOVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL



"Seeing the relief on a new student's face and that of their parents, when they find out they will be provided with their own personal tour guide, is one of the greatest successes we can have."

- S2S SPONSOR
LEAVENWORTH HIGH SCHOOL

"S2S has enhanced the way Cedar Valley welcomes and receives new students to the campus. Students are empowered to serve as ambassadors, and new students instantly find a friend on their very first day."

- FORMER PRINCIPAL
CEDAR VALLEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

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Open the camera app on your mobile phone to hover over the QR code. Click the link and learn more about MCEC's Student 2 Student.



FRANCES HESSELBEIN STUDENT LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

FALL SEMESTER

United States Military Academy |
West Point, New York

During the fall semester, the students learn leadership skills from West Point faculty, distinguished guest lecturers, and hands-on activities. These experiences are the same as those our future military leaders learn prior to starting their careers as officers. The evening activities include building lifelong connections with their teammates, sharing their own S2S programs, and goal setting with their new teammates.

SPRING SEMESTER

United States Air Force Academy |
Colorado Springs, Colorado

A team of senior cadets, majoring in Behavioral Science and Leadership, build the annual Frances Hesselbein program starting the fall of their senior year. The week's learning is structured around the core leadership principles taught to the cadets. The students are taught by the cadets and are provided experiences that build on the leadership principles. The week ends with a goal setting session for students to take back to their campus and implement.



The mission of the *Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program*[™] is to grow and sustain the *Student 2 Student*[®] (S2S) program on the local campus. Established by MCEC in 2006, the *Frances Hesselbein Student Leadership Program* offers an intensive experience for selected students to enrich their leadership and team building skills.

The week-long experience builds skills through personal and small group settings. Students gain confidence, competence, and commitment to their leadership to strengthen their local S2S program.

Students also have an opportunity to share their program challenges and successes with other peers to gain a new insight on improvement. Distinguished guests provide insights to overcoming challenges and to building personal character.

This is a scholarship-based program. The only expenses to the student are luggage fees, meals while traveling, and souvenirs.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Active in S2S
- Demonstrate competency in the core values of S2S
- Sophomore or junior student
- Complete the application requirements
- Good academic standing
- Sponsor recommendation

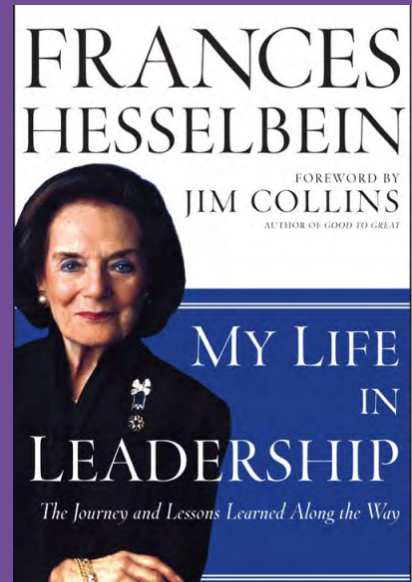


Who is Frances Hesselbein?

Frances Hesselbein (November 1, 1915 – December 11, 2022) was a trailblazer, author, editor, and gifted leader. She was the president and CEO of the Frances Hesselbein Leadership Institute. Prior to founding the Frances Hesselbein Leadership Institute, she served as the CEO for the Girl Scouts of the USA. Between 1965 and 1976, she rose from volunteer troop leader to CEO and held the position of CEO for fourteen years (1976-1990). She is credited with leading a turnaround for the Girl Scouts, increasing their minority membership and establishing the Daisy Scout program for the youngest girls accepted into the Girl Scouts. In 1998, Hesselbein was awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her work with the Girl Scouts of the USA, and was the recipient of 22 honorary degrees.

"This training will help me improve my leadership skills, by allowing me to become more resilient and responsible for my actions and giving me the ability to better communicate and strengthen my connections."

- NATE B.
SEVERNA PARK, MARYLAND



"The lesson that meant the most to me this week was the S.M.A.R.T. goals lesson. I learned so much about how to accomplish goals and how to accomplish them diligently."

-AUBREY T.
COLORADO SPRINGS,
COLORADO

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MCEC[®]



TELL ME A Story



Making Connections and Finding Support through Literature

Tell Me A Story[®] (TMAS[®]) is a family literacy event geared toward children ages 4-12. The mission of the program is to empower military-connected children by using literature and their own stories in a way that fosters resilience, strong peer and parent connections, and a sense of pride and accomplishment.

Through TMAS, children and parents are able to recognize that they are an active part of caring communities — not just recipients of this care, but also participants in caring for others. TMAS can help give children the tools needed to be resilient and have a positive optimistic outlook. The program encourages parents to help their children become strong readers. Children who read well do better in school — it is “the critical skill.”

Each TMAS event focuses on one book, carefully selected by MCEC for its content, literary value, and illustrations. TMAS books also exhibit 23 character traits of positive, optimistic people. Research shows that these traits can be developed and contribute to people becoming more resilient as well as living healthier, happier, and longer lives. All TMAS books touch on two main themes of positive psychology: resilience and optimism. Some of the books directly address certain military-related issues, such as deployment. The chosen books are developmentally appropriate for 4-12 year-olds and are respectful of the diversity of families and experiences.

Since its inception in 2005, TMAS has impacted nearly

60,000

military-connected kids and parents through more than **500** events.



MAKING CONNECTIONS AND FINDING SUPPORT THROUGH LITERATURE

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Open the camera app on your mobile phone to hover over the QR code. Click the link and learn more about MCEC's *Tell Me A Story*.

Revised 10.26.22

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MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION[®]

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@militarychild



"It really did save me hours of digging and endless frustrations like I have had in past moves."

Military Parent

SCHOOLQUEST

SchoolQuest[™] is a free, interactive tool that is designed to support highly mobile military-connected parents and students with making the best choices before, during, and after a transition to improve academic success and social well-being.



"I really like how comprehensive it is. It is filled with the kind of information I wish I had when we first started military life with children."

Military Parent



ACADEMIC TRACKER: Monitor and plan your student's academic career progress from 6th to 12th grade.



STUDENT PROFILES: Customize to each student. Track deadlines, courses and topics of interest.



RESOURCES: Browse a variety of academic topics, including scholarships, and save your favorites.



CHECKLISTS: Choose from a library of useful checklists or create your own.



SCHOOL SEARCH & RELOCATION: Guidance on school comparisons and note-taking space for easy reference. Access to transition information for each state, DoDEA and D.C.



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Open the camera app on your mobile phone to hover over the QR code. Click the link and learn more about MCEC's *SchoolQuest*.



MCEC[®]

The weekly conversations brought to life on the MCEC podcast series vividly illuminate a wide range of challenges that our military children face from compounded struggles with relocation to self-identity to suicide. As we look ahead, we'll continue to tackle challenging issues for our military families, including overcoming disabilities, legislation to assist military families in transition and teen anxiety.

When we collect stories, perspectives, and experiences we strengthen our community.

Join us each week on our MCEC Podcast channel and hear some amazing stories.

#LiveaGreatStory

OUR LISTENERS:

- Military-connected parents and professionals who serve military families from all service branches.
- Our listenership reaches all 50 states and multiple countries.

MCEC PODCAST

Through the Military Child Education Coalition[®] Podcast, we provide informal and conversational weekly episodes with military service members, professionals, parents, and military kids. Our goal for these conversations is to not only provide information and resources but also build connection through shared experiences, real life scenarios and stories.



Subscribe · Listen · Reflect · Learn · Grow

Podcasts are published every Tuesday, and special releases are available to our followers and subscribers. Listen in with iTunes, or Podbean.



MCEC[®]

PODCAST



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MILITARY CHILD EDUCATION COALITION[®]

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MILITARY STUDENT CONSULTANT



As a premier resource that addresses challenges associated with the military lifestyle, an MCEC **Military Student Consultant** is a trusted professional resource during times of transition and throughout the deployment cycle, providing individualized support services for parents, educators, and administrators.

An MSC personally responds to every phone call or submission on our MCEC website at MilitaryChild.org/contact.

"I would not have been able to navigate the tangled mess of information without your assistance."

Response from MSC survey

MSCs advocate for and provide support to students and parents who experience academic or social-emotional challenges and need direct problem-solving support resources. Critical areas MSCs routinely respond to include:

- **TRANSITION SUPPORT:** Academic, developmental, and/or social-emotional
- **RELOCATIONS:** PCS, deployments, retirements, and/or families who are leaving the service.
- **ACADEMICS:** Credit transfers or transcript evaluations
- **READINESS:** Academic (school, colleges, and universities), career, work, and/or overall life readiness
- **EXCEPTIONAL FAMILIES:** Support with EFMP, IEP, and/or 504



MSCs are highly specialized education professionals who provide personalized concierge support directly to students, parents, or professionals who serve military-connected (Active-Duty, National Guard, Reserve, ROTC cadre, recruiter, and veteran) families, no matter where they are located in the world.

Through partnerships and collaboration with installation school liaison officers, EFMP coordinators, state-level Department of Education student services, Military Interstate Children's Compact Commissioners (MIC3), and other MCEC programs, MSCs provide wrap-around individualized transition and relocation support services to assist military-connected students, families, and professionals with real-world transitional barriers associated with the military lifestyle.

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