

Honor, Courage, and Commitment

From the Commander

As we start the school year with a busy schedule ahead of us, I want to pass along some key information that will be helpful to cadets and parents. Junior ROTC is a citizenship program that began in 1911 with the Army, and enhanced by laws passed by Congress in 1916. The Navy got involved in 1964, and today there are more than 600 Navy JROTC high schools across the nation. The Navy provides funding for the outfitting of uniforms, half of instructor pay, and part of the money used for unit travels; the school also provides us with necessary funding in our operating budget.

It is my goal to help each cadet improve themselves all the way to getting their diploma. Our program offers opportunity for cadets to participate in many areas: academically, personal discipline, physical fitness, and achieve personal pride while performing drill and color guards and community service. Cadets are also acknowledged for their performance at our award ceremonies. Some cadets are involved in many areas, and some have a specific focus in one area. I encourage parents to take an active role in following the progress of their cadet, and help facilitate opportunities for their cadet to participate in the after-school events. Another area that you can directly assist in ensuring a smooth year is to complete the cadet information package that includes a sport's physical completed by a doctor. **Without a completed cadet information sheet your cadet will not be able to participate in many of our activities.**

From a **grading aspect**, the most visible factor in grading cadets is consistent and correct **wearing of the uniform** along with correct grooming standards. Simply put, if a cadet does not consistently and properly wear the uniform on the required uniform day, they can't pass the course. On the other hand, cadets that wear the uniform usually have a positive attitude within the unit and perform well in all other grading areas. **Uniform days are normally on Wednesdays**, but often I will allow it to be held in conjunction with other events, such as a parade. Another aspect for grading is the actual performance of the individual cadet on **tests** given within the class. Lastly, but of great importance, is the **attitude the cadet** consistent with NJROTC rules: general respect to the cadet chain-of-command, the instructors, and the dignity the cadet shows while the unit is in the public view—such as a parade. We often perform publicly, so cadets need to regularly be on their best behavior.

I am looking forward to a great year. We have a super corps of cadets that are ready to excel, and a schedule that will challenge and encourage them to do their best.

Regards,
LCDR Will Dyuran, USN, ret.