

# Approval of National Defense Cadet Corps (NDCC) Program

## Braswell High School

February 23, 2016

### SUMMARY:

- **Request and fund a National Defense Cadet Corps (NDCC) program (from any Service).** Essentially, a school district applies to the offering Service for an NDCC; this means the school district assumes responsibility for the following:
- District fully funds/pays for two Service-specified instructors (AF for AF NDCC, Army for Army NDCC, same for Navy and Marines).
- District purchases all cadet uniforms (hats, shoes, pants, shirts, coats, etc.) and accoutrements for required weekly uniform wear.
- District purchases essential equipment for start-up: replica rifles (for drill, Color Guard), flags, flag poles, etc.
- Meet student viability requirements as soon as possible (for BHS, *this equates to a minimum of 100 cadets*); normally, a Service expects schools to meet viability within the first three years.
- **Note 1:** under an NDCC agreement, schools/Districts must follow “normal” program rules across-the-board (i.e., minimum of two instructors, meet minimum cadet viability, maintain logistical storage minimums, etc.)...Services usually give schools at least three years to meet minimum standards. Once standards are met, the associated Service has the option to convert a program to a “normal” program where costs are shared between the District and the Service (50/50 for instructor salaries).
- **Note 2:** AF JROTC will NOT commit to a firm timeline in converting from NDCC to “normal” (i.e., similar to DHS, GHS, RHS AFJROTC) status. DISD could be responsible for full costs indefinitely, based on other AFJROTC priorities.

### PREVIOUS BOARD ACTION:

- The Board approved the formation of AFROTC Programs at Denton High, Ryan High, and Guyer High schools.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Denton ISD has been and continues to be very supportive of Air Force Junior ROTC, providing programs at all three existing DISD high schools. DISD submitted an application to HQ AFJROTC for an additional Air Force JROTC program for the new Dr. Ray Braswell High School (BHS), with the intent of opening this program at the start of the 2016/17 school year (and BHS’ inaugural year).

### SIGNIFICANT ISSUES:

- The BHS AFJROTC program application is currently ranked #82 on the worldwide list (as November 18, 2015). HQ AFJROTC will NOT commit to if/when BHS will be awarded an AFJROTC program...however, recent history for other schools indicates it will be several years before BHS will likely gain a program.
- Note: AFJROTC is focused on awarding programs in states with less AFJROTC representation...Texas currently has 101 AFJROTC programs; AFJROTC statistics indicate Texas should only have 71 programs, the inference being new program start-ups in Texas are a VERY hard sell.
- **Potential to Pursue an Other-Than-Air Force JROTC Program:** BHS could pursue a JROTC program with another Service. However, preliminary discussions with Army, Navy and Marine JROTC reps indicate these Services have the same issues as the Air Force...as a state, Texas is over-represented with JROTC programs across the board.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS:**

- Actual costs are dependent on a) rank and number of years served for each instructor; b) actual number of cadets expected in the first year (delaying first year costs will drive up 2nd and 3rd year costs, c) how active your program is in the first year. Estimated cost: \$188,000.

**BENEFIT OF ACTION:**

- Braswell High School would provide the same AF ROTC programs currently being offered at Denton, Ryan, and Guyer High Schools.

**PROCEDURAL AND REPORTING IMPLICATIONS:**

- Approval of the AF NCDD program at Braswell High School will allow campus administration to begin the process of hiring military staff, ordering uniforms, and marketing program to parents.

**PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED:**

- N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- **Continue pursuit of an Air Force JROTC program (no action required, the application is already in place);** unfortunately, it could well be 3-5 years before we see any movement on program award.
- **Note 1:** The District will have to determine if BHS students will: **(a)** have access to JROTC at one of the other high schools; or **(b)** not have this as an elective option.
- **Note 2:** Per AF/DISD contract, JROTC instructors CANNOT travel to other schools to teach JROTC—they are ONLY allowed to teach JROTC at their assigned school. On the other hand, students MAY be bused into a school/program without penalty
- **1a. Continue pursuit of an AFJROTC program; but simultaneously submit applications for JROTC programs with the Army, Navy, and Marines.** The idea is to gain a JROTC program at the earliest opportunity, regardless of the Service provider. If the goal is to get a program to support student interest, specifying a Service provider is ancillary. Service applications are easy to submit, but this has to be a conscious decision by the District to go forward with this. But remember, other Services are also going slow in awarding new programs, it could still be years before getting a program approved.

**OTHER COMMENTS:**

- June 15, 2016 - Schools scored, ranked, & the “School Candidate List” is forwarded to Secretary of the Air Force for approval. DISD is #82 on the current list.
- Fall - Advance notification of likely unit selection (we’ve already moved past this date, reference SY 16/17...meaning AFJROTC has no intent to award a program to BHS for the start of next school year).
- Spring - Formal notification of unit selection.
- Spring/Summer - Instructors hired and trained.
- July: Unit activated.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S RECOMMENDATION:**

- The superintendent recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the MOA to start a National Defense Cadet Corps program a Braswell High School.

**STAFF PERSONS RESPONSIBLE:**

- Dr. Jamie Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
- Dr. Richard Valenta, Deputy Superintendent
- Dr. Robert Stewart, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources

**ATTACHMENT:**

- Agreement for the establishment of an Air Force National Defense Cadet Corps Unit (NDCC).

**APPROVAL:**

Signature of Staff Member Proposing Recommendation:

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Divisional Assistant Superintendent:

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Signature of Superintendent:

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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