



PATRIOT NJROTC | Issue 1 | October 15, 2020

Welcome to the 2020-21 School Year!

Welcome to the new school year Patriots! We are very excited and grateful to be holding class this year despite these unprecedented times. We would like to thank the cadets, parents, instructors, GTJHS administrators, and all supporters of the program for their perseverance this year. We are excited that our program has been granted Tier 1 status, which means we are able offer optional in-person classes along with our virtual schooling.

To maintain a safe learning environment, cadets and instructors are practicing social distancing and wearing masks while indoors. Classrooms are cleaned before and after cadets come in, and are equipped with hand sanitizer and wipes for student use. The safety of our cadets is our top priority. We look forward to what this school year holds for the Patriot program.



A Message from the Senior Naval Science Instructor

"Improvise, Adapt, Overcome" is an unofficial slogan among Marines made popular by Clint Eastwood's movie, Heartbreak Ridge. Since the onset of COVID last spring, the Patriot Battalion's ability to do just that has been put to the test. Despite the obvious challenges, I believe we are in for one of our best years yet.



My confidence rests on our outstanding cadet leadership team, who have been working since the summer to ensure that we don't miss a beat. We have received wonderful support from TJ's new principal, Ms. Tracey Kibler, and Mr. Shawn Carey, the Assistant Principal newly assigned to oversee NJROTC. Other exciting news includes JROTC's approval as a completer program by the Maryland State Department of Education and our inclusion within CTE in FCPS--more info on this in a future issue. For now, welcome all to another great year for the Patriot Battalion!



Overcoming COVID-19: Adapting to New Styles of Learning

Although methods of learning have changed this year, the motivation brought forth by our cadets certainly hasn't. At the beginning of the school year, all of our Naval Science cadets were learning through virtual school. Our instructors taught class, held staff meetings, and led the program through their computer screens.

In the mid September, FCPS approved our Naval Science 1 cadets to come into the school for optional in-person classes. They have been taught by our Naval Science Instructor CE1 Herman Young, along with their Naval Science 4 mentors. Cadets are split into one of two pods; Alpha Pod and

Bravo Pod. Each pod meets twice a week, and cadets maintain social distance and wear masks to ensure the safety of their peers. These cadets have been working hard in and out of the classroom to achieve their first rank advancement to Cadet Seamen Apprentice.



Naval Science 1 Cadets Perform
Uniform Inspection

Naval Science 2 and 3 cadets arrived at GTJHS for their first in-person classes on October 12th. As pictured above, they are taught together by Commander Gillespie and Chief Rodrigues.

Although COVID-19 has moved us away from a traditional school year, our cadets are putting in maximum effort to get everything they can from our program.

Graduate Spotlight: Jade Pack



A former Patriot NJROTC cadet, Jade joined NJROTC because she was interested in the military--an interest which only grew during her four years in the program. As a Naval Science 4 cadet, Jade served as the battalion's Public Affairs Officer and as an NS-1 Mentor. She was also a member of the Orienteering Team and served on the Military Ball planning committee.

Through her time in the Patriot NJROTC, Jade says she developed a passion for the Navy, ultimately leading to her enlisting upon graduation from Linganore High School. "I had guidance choosing my rate through the different course material I studied in NJROTC. The program taught me Navy knowledge and discipline that helped me during boot camp, as well as in my daily life."

Jade is serving as an Intelligence Specialist and is currently underway in the western Pacific in USS Green Bay (LPD-20), homeported in Sasebo, Japan.

Leading Cadets to Success:

How our Cyber Patriot Team is Developing Future Leaders



Cyber Patriot, a national cyber education competition, is one of the co-curricular teams the Patriot NJROTC offers to cadets. The goal of the program is to teach cadets useful cyber security skills through a fun, team-based environment. Our team competes against other schools across the country in both state and national competitions. Last year, we won the Maryland State Championship in the All-Service Division and finished 8th in the nation among all NJROTC teams. Competitions consist of securing simulations of operating systems like Windows 10 or Ubuntu 16, as well as setting up and securing simulated networks. Throughout the event, teams are competing to earn the most points by finding and patching security risks. Pictured above is what a typical Cyber Patriot practice looks like (the photo was taken before COVID-19).

Cadet Ben Marshall, who served as one of the team captains last year, describes the competitions: "They last six hours, which sounds like a long time, but feels like 15 minutes. It's a phenomenal feeling to solve a problem that the team had been stuck on for awhile, because you get that sense of accomplishment and satisfaction." What makes Cyber Patriot so unique are the immense opportunities the program offers to cadets. Everything that they learn can be transferred to a professional career environment. The program gives cadets an accurate depiction of what a cyber security career looks and feels like. Through being a member of the team, cadets earn professional certifications that may help them earn internships and careers in the cyber security field. Ben added, "Personally, this team has definitely enhanced my researching capabilities, and understanding of cyber security. Someone could join Cyber Patriot due to interest in computers or cyber security, they could join to gain professional certifications, or they could join for personal enjoyment."

The Cyber Patriot team for this year is forming now and will begin practicing during the last two weeks in October in preparation for the first round of competition in November. E-mail Commander Gillespie at jeremy.gillespie@fcps.org if you would like to join the team or post to the Cyber Patriot Team discussion board on the Patriot NJROTC Schoology Group.

What's New in Training?

The training department is pleased to announce that the advancement knowledge quizlets have been updated for the school year. These can be found on the Patriot NJROTC website underneath cadet info. The advancement matrix has been updated as well and is shown below. The matrix depicts the combination of knowledge, skills, fitness, service and participation cadets need to achieve for advancement to each rank. Post any questions to the Training Department discussion board on the Patriot NJROTC Schoology Group or see Cadet Kolbie Romeril, Training Officer.



PATRIOT NJROTC ADVANCEMENT MATRIX

RANK	C/SA	C/SN	C/PO3	C/PO2	C/PO1	C/CPO
TIME IN RANK	4 WEEKS	4 WEEKS	6 WEEKS	8 WEEKS	10 WEEKS	12 WEEKS
EXAM QUESTIONS	20 20 NEW / 10 OLD	30 25 NEW / 15 OLD	40 30 NEW / 20 OLD	50 25 NEW / 35 OLD	60 25 NEW / 35 OLD	75
EXAM GRADE REQUIRED	80%	80%	85%	85%	85%	90%
EXAM CONTENT	CADET CHAIN OF COMMAND	ALL PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE	ALL PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE	ALL PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE	ALL PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE	ALL PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE
EXAM CONTENT	UNIFORM REGULATIONS	NATIONAL CHAIN OF COMMAND	EXTENDED CHAIN OF COMMAND	NAVY TERMINOLOGY	AIRCRAFT DESIGNATORS	INTERVIEW
	MILITARY TIME	NJROTC RANKS	NAVY & MARINE CORPS KNOWLEDGE	SHIP TYPES	USMC OFFICER RANKS	MESSAGE TO GARCIA
	ORDERS TO THE SENTRY	U.S. NAVY ENLISTED RATES	NAVY OFFICER RANKS	USMC ENLISTED RANK	USMC WARRANT OFFICER RANKS	
		RIFLE PARTS	PHONETIC ALPHABET	NAVY WARRANT OFFICER RANKS		
PRACTICAL CONTENT	DRILL POSITIONS	DRILL MARCHING REGULATIONS	RIFLE MANUAL REGULATIONS	COLOR GUARD	P.T. LEADER HANDOUT	MANUAL OF THE SWORD
	INSPECTION SHEET		UNIFORM REGULATIONS		GUIDON	COMMANDING DRILL
PRACTICAL EXAM A	POSITIONS	MANUAL OF ARMS	PLATOON DRILL	COLOR GUARD RIFLE	GUIDON	SWORD
PRACTICAL EXAM B	UPI	SQUAD DRILL	UPI INSPECTOR	COLOR GUARD FLAGS	PT LEADER	DRILL COMMAND
PARTICIPATION RIBBON			X		X (2 ND AWARD)	
UNIT SERVICE RIBBON				X		X (2 ND AWARD)
TEAM RIBBON			X		X (2 ND AWARD)	
COMMUNITY SVC RIBBON				X		X (2 ND AWARD)
FITNESS RIBBON				SATISFACTORY	SATISFACTORY	GOOD
NAVAL SCIENCE COURSE	NS1	NS1	NS1	NS2	NS2	NS3
HIGH SCHOOL GRADE	9-12	9-12	9-12	10-12	10-12	11-12



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