



NEWS RELEASE

Nevada Department of Veterans Services
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Two Clark County Schools Receive First Purple Star School Award Honoring Schools Committed to Addressing Needs of Military-Connected Students

CARSON CITY, Nev. – [Robert O. Gibson Leadership Academy](#) and [Ernest A. Becker, Sr. Middle School](#) are now recognized as military-friendly schools after both received Nevada's first designation as Purple Star Schools. This recognition is awarded to schools that demonstrate their commitment to understanding and addressing the needs of military families with children. Military-connected refers to children of servicemembers on active duty, and in the National Guard and Reserves. Children in these families can move every two to three years when a change in duty station occurs.

"It is so important for military families to know they are cared about and supported because their child may face educational or social-emotional challenges simply because their parent or caregiver is serving our country," said Kat Miller, Director for the Nevada Department of Veterans Services (NDVS). "We can't thank the [Nevada Department of Education](#) (NDE) and Superintendent Ebert enough for bringing this recognition program to Nevada. We look forward to seeing more schools added to the list of Purple Star Schools."

The Purple Star Schools designation is a state-sponsored recognition that supports PreK-12 military-connected children by emphasizing the importance of assisting these students with school transition. The program rewards schools for meeting criteria that addresses issues such as academic gaps, overlaps in course work, or differing graduation requirements. The program also offers transition assistance to support a child's social or emotional needs in integrating into a new school environment.

Schools receiving Nevada's Purple Star Schools designation will be displayed on the [NDE Purple Star Schools website](#). The Purple Star Schools application is open for schools to apply for a November 1, 2021 announcement date. Information and the application may also be found on the [same page](#). Please submit the application electronically and direct questions to: KellyLynn Charles at kcharles@doe.nv.gov, (702) 688-4330, or Martha Warachowski at mwarachowski@doe.nv.gov, (702) 668-4318.

NDVS is proud to support Nevada's Purple Star Schools Award and serve on the NDE panel that reviews nominees for selection of this designation.

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