



Wallace Stegner Public Schools



Wallace Stegner Academy | A Purple Star School *Pending

We are proud to support and welcome all military families.

We recognize and understand the challenges that our military families face such as frequent relocations, parental deployments, extended TDYs, and the unique needs of highly-mobile military children. Wallace Stegner Academy is honored to be designated as a Purple Star School and is committed to making every child's journey a positive and memorable one.

What is a Purple Star School?

The Purple Star School designation (created by the Utah State Board of Education and part of a growing national program) recognizes schools that go the extra mile to support military-connected students. Purple Star schools work tirelessly to help highly-mobile military children and their families through every transition, deployment, or challenge presented by the military way of life.

By earning this designation, schools demonstrate a clear commitment to easing academic and social emotional adjustments so military students can thrive.

How Wallace Stegner Academy Meets Purple Star Criteria

Wallace Stegner Academy proudly meets (and exceeds) all requirements set by the Utah State Board of Education. Here's how we support our military families:

- **Designated Purple Star Liaison** – Natalie Bolen, Sunset Campus Principal, is your dedicated point of contact for enrollment assistance, transition support, academic records, or any military-specific needs. **Contact:** 985-789-7186 nbolen@wsacharter.org
- **Dedicated Resources Page** – You are here! This page provides information, resources, and direct support for military-connected families.
- **Student-Led Transition Program** – Our students actively help new military-connected peers integrate into our school community through buddy programs and welcoming activities.
- **Staff Professional Development** – All staff receive annual training on the rights, needs, and unique challenges of military children (including the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children).
- **Additional Supports** – We host military appreciation events throughout the year (including Month of the Military Child / Purple Up Day activities and Veterans Day recognitions), and our school board has formally passed resolutions affirming our commitment to military students and families.

Resources for Military Families

We've compiled the same helpful links used by other Purple Star schools across Utah:

- Military OneSource – <https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>
- Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) – <https://militarychild.org/>
- Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (MIC3 – Utah) – <https://mic3.net/state/utah/>
- Utah PTA Military Families – <https://www.utahpta.org/military-families>
- U.S. Department of Education – Military Families & Veterans – <https://www.ed.gov/veterans-andmilitary-families>
- Sesame Street for Military Families – <https://sesamestreetformilitaryfamilies.org/>
- National Military Family Association – <https://www.militaryfamily.org/>

For official Utah Purple Star information:

- Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs – <https://veterans.utah.gov/ut-purple-star-schools/>
- Utah State Board of Education Purple Star Page – <https://schools.utah.gov/policy/purplestarschools>

Get in Touch

Whether you're a new military family moving to the area, currently stationed nearby, or facing a deployment, we're here to help. Please reach out anytime to:

Natalie Bolen Principal & Purple Star Liaison Wallace Stegner Academy

(985)-789-7186 nbolen@wsacharter.org

Thank you for your service! We are proud to serve you and your children at Wallace Stegner Academy.