



ARMY EDUCATION NEWS & UPDATES

**STRONG STUDENTS.
STRONG FUTURES.
STRONG NATION.**



ARMY STRONG.

Career and Technical Education Month

Dear Educators,

It is my pleasure to present to you the sixth issue of *Army Education News & Updates*. The U.S. Army is proud to offer more than 150 military occupational specialties (MOS) to its Soldiers. In light of the many options available for our Nation's youth in the civilian world, it is worthwhile to educate our students on the available opportunities open to them in the military as well. With this in mind, I invite you to learn more about career and technical education this month.

The month of February is Career and Technical Education Month (CTE) with this year's theme being, Learning Today, Earning Tomorrow! Career and technical education is vital to our Nation's success and national security as it educates and trains students to develop an expertise in a particular technology. I invite you to visit the [Association for Career and Technical Education \(ACTE\)](#) website to learn more about technical education and CTE activities.



I challenge educators to continue to emphasize each student's unique strengths as this will help guide each youth into a meaningful and successful career path. The U.S. Army is proud to partner with the education community to ensure the future success of our Nation's youth.

Army Strong!

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley
Commanding General
U.S. Army Accessions Command

PARTNER ORGANIZATION PROFILE

[DECA](#) is an association which prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges across the world.



[Read More >](#)

GO ARMY ADVOCATES

The Go Army Advocates website, www.goarmyadvocates.com, is a community site which serves as an area for business and community leaders, educators and other supporters to develop a core understanding of the U.S. Army, Army service and the Soldier experience, share best practices and meet and connect with other Army advocates across the nation.

[Read More >](#)

PROGRAM PROFILE

Junior Solar Sprint Program

The [Junior Solar Sprint Program](#) gives a standard motor and solar panel to middle school kids who design and craft model solar electric cars. In the process of creating their car students learn and apply skills in engineering, physical sciences, mathematics, teamwork and problem solving.

[Read More >](#)

EDUCATION NEWS

U.S. Army Hosts 18 Area High Schools at 2011 Army Strong Zone



The 11th annual U.S. Army All-American Bowl was held in San Antonio at the Alamodome on Saturday, 8 JAN. While the main highlight of the week was the classic

East vs. West match-up of the finest high school football players in the nation, just outside the Alamodome was another exciting exhibit--the Army Strong Zone. On Thursday, 6 JAN, 18 local schools participated in a tour of the 129,000 square foot Army Strong Zone, where the Army's newest technology was showcased.

[Read More >](#)

NEXT ISSUE:

Watch for the next issue of ARMY EDUCATION NEWS & UPDATES featuring Project PASS.

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Partner Organization Profile

What is DECA?

DECA is an association which prepares emerging leaders and entrepreneurs in marketing, finance, hospitality and management in high schools and colleges across the world.



Who does DECA represent?

DECA members can begin their participation in the high school division as early as the ninth grade and continue through college graduation by participating in the collegiate division. More than 185,000 high school members participate in DECA through 5,000 chapters throughout the country. There are more than 15,000 college members who participate in Collegiate DECA.

What is DECA's core purpose?

DECA enhances the preparation for college and careers by providing co-curricular programs that integrate into classroom instruction, applying learning in the context of business, connecting to business and the community and promoting competition.

What does DECA do?

DECA members organize into chapters around courses, programs of study, academies or other forms of career and technical education programs that are engaged in preparing high school and college students for careers in marketing, finance, hospitality and management at the high school or college levels.

A teacher, instructor or professor advises chapters in one or more of the content areas. By connecting the curriculum, DECA members and advisors are able to integrate DECA activities into the classroom, apply the classroom experience to project based activities, connect to business partners at all levels and utilize competition to improve their performance.

Chapters are organized into state or provincial associations providing additional extended learning opportunities. State and provincial associations provide a gateway to regional, national and international resources and competition and thereby preparing members to compete in a global economy.

DECA's partnership with the Army

In November 2010, the Army participated in the "Ultimate DECA Power Trip" Conference in Washington D.C. The Army supported an exhibit booth and conducted two workshops.

To learn more about DECA, visit <http://www.deca.org/>.



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The site hosts a media center, a forum which allows advocates to stay connected with each other and share ideas, photos, events and resources.

Through a concerted community outreach program, the Army hopes to strengthen its relationships with influential community leaders in order to foster a better understanding of the value of being an Army Soldier.

For more information on how you can help support the Army, contact us or your local battalion.



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Junior Solar Sprint Program

What is the Junior Solar Sprint Program?

The Northeast Sustainable Energy Association offers free workshops to teachers, non-formal educators and youth club leaders to learn about solar energy and the [Junior Solar Sprint Program](#) (JSS). Teachers gain skills to mentor their young engineers in applications of solar energy, math and physical science.

The JSS Program gives a standard motor and solar panel to middle school kids who design and craft model solar electric cars. In the process of creating their car students learn and apply skills in engineering, physical sciences, mathematics, teamwork and problem solving.

The program allows students to develop teamwork and problem solving abilities, investigate environmental issues, gain hands-on engineering skills and use principals of science and math to get the fastest, most interesting, and best crafted vehicle possible. Teams can enter their cars in local design and race competitions with top winners invited to an annual Northeast Championship.

How does the program work?

JSS workshops are designed to prepare teachers and non-formal educators in leading middle school kids through Junior Solar Sprint. At the workshop teachers receive:

- A basic parts model solar car kit and hands-on building practice
- JSS educator resources including lesson plans and area event information
- Professional development points/credits for hours attending workshop

For what types of students and age groups is the Junior Solar Sprint program designed?

The program is geared towards middle school aged children. For more information on the JSS Program and to register for a workshop in your area visit [here](#).



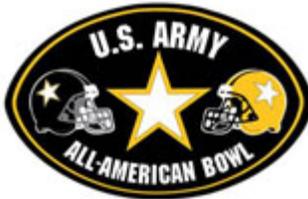
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As part of their tour, students not only got a first-hand look at some of the latest cutting edge technology the Army has pioneered in fields such as robotics, sustainability and engineering, but they also learned about physical and mental fitness from Army experts. The students were led through the Army Strong Zone to witness how degrees in engineering and other technical fields are being put into practice by the modern military, and they met Soldiers who could provide a glimpse into Army life.

Students also had an opportunity to participate in a panel session with three outstanding servicemen and women, including: Drill Sergeant Roslyn Robertson who has served in deployments to both Iraq and Kuwait, Drill Sergeant Travis Crutcher who has served 27 months deployed to Iraq, and Army Cadet of the Year Cadet Wesley Tudor.

"The students had a great time. I already have kids asking to go back next year," Chief Sergio Ramon, Senior Army Instructor at Winston Churchill High School, said. "Thanks for everything—it was a huge success."