

Feedback on Cadet Academy at Myers Middle School

Positive Feedback	Negative Feedback
<p>Terry Greenwell emailed to say that the Cadet Academy at Myers will help his two children that attend there with obesity, low self esteem, and confidence.</p> <p>Greg Rash—"I am also a big believer in programs like JROTC...my daughter attended the Air Force Academy and my son is attending college on an Air Force ROTC scholarship."</p>	<p>Harriet Seiler—her organization opposes the military oriented program</p> <p>Greg Rash—questions the data we presented on academic performance of JROTC members</p> <p>Mr. Harmer Fellowship of Reconciliation, Louisville Chapter. Highlighted statements in the document:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are better solutions... • The Cadet Academy is expensive and unfocused, even based on JCPS' estimate of JROTC performance • The cadet academy is not proven to improve academic performance • Establishing a magnet program now will make it impossible to see if the program actually improves student performance • The program actually cuts into regular class time • The instructors are not required to be certified teachers • The program is intended to channel students into Junior Reserve Officer's Training Corps (JROTC) in High School, aiming underperformers toward the military from the sixth grade on • English Language Learners (ELL) need language and academic help, not military drill. Any undocumented immigrants cannot legally participate in JROTC programs or the military.

Feedback on Cadet Academy at Myers Middle School

Points to be noted by Dr. Ledford and Jack Baldwin:

- Focus of Cadet Academy is not solely on discipline; However, middle school students do benefit from a well disciplined and orderly environment.
- The Cadet Academy is a magnet program designed to prepare middle school students for responsible leadership roles within the school and community while making them aware of their rights, responsibilities, and privileges as American citizens. (Direct quote from paragraph 4 of the 1-page program proposal summary)
- The cost of the program primarily covers the expense of providing related arts teachers (such as art, technology, PE, etc). This academy is simply providing students another option for their related arts course work. It does provide additional classes from which students may choose. Having various related arts options (Exploratory) is developmentally appropriate for early adolescents.
- Myers currently offers invention programs and opportunities for students who need them. These opportunities will continue and are actually be enhanced this year through Extended Days three times weekly.
- Myers does not see Cadet Academy as a “silver bullet.” They are developing as a PLC, driven by student formative and benchmark assessment data to enhance teaching and learning inside each classroom.
- If student choose to pursue ROTC in high school, that will be their decision to make. Hopefully, participation in Cadet Academy will help prepare him or her academically and to think critically in order to make wise choices.
- Highly cost effective “special area”