

SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA



ITEM: 2.13
(ID # 14831)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, March 23, 2021


FROM : SUPERVISOR KAREN SPIEGEL AND SUPERVISOR JEFF HEWITT :


SUBJECT: SUPERVISOR KAREN SPIEGEL AND SUPERVISOR JEFF HEWITT: Approval of a Letter in Support of the March Air Reserve Base's application for selection as the newest site of the Department of Defense STARBASE STEM Youth Program.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the attached letter in support of the joint application from March Air Reserve Base and the March Field Air Museum to be selected as the site of the newest Department of Defense STARBASE Academy, and authorize its submission to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower for purpose of the abovementioned application.

ACTION: Consent



Supervisor Karen Spiegel, Chair 3/19/2021


Supervisor Jeff Hewitt, Vice Chair 3/19/2021

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Spiegel, seconded by Supervisor Washington and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Hewitt
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: March 23, 2021
xc: BOS-Dist. 2, Bos-Dist. 5

Kecia R. Harper
Clerk of the Board
By: 
Deputy

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

BACKGROUND:

Department of Defense (DoD) STARBASE is a premier educational program, sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. At DoD STARBASE students participate in challenging “hands-on, mind-on” activities in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). They interact with military personnel to explore careers and observe STEM applications in the “real world.” The program provides students with 25 hours of stimulating experiences at National Guard, Marine, Air Force Reserve, Army, and Air Force bases across the nation.

DoD STARBASE’s primary focus is the program for fifth graders. The goal is to motivate them to explore STEM opportunities as they continue their education. The academies serve students that are historically underrepresented in STEM. Students who live in inner cities or rural locations, those who are socio-economically disadvantaged, low in academic performance, or have a disability are in the target group. The program encourages students to set goals and achieve them.

The March Field Air Museum, in collaboration with Brigadier General Melissa Coburn, Commander of March Air Reserve Base, has been selected to apply as the site for the Pentagon’s newest STARBASE Academy.

Chair of the Board, Supervisor Karen Spiegel, and Vice-Chair, Supervisor Jeff Hewitt, recommend that the Board of Supervisors join them in submitting a letter in strong support of the site for the newest DoD STARBASE Academy to be awarded to March Air Reserve Base.

Impact on Residents and Businesses:

The Department of Defense STARBASE Academy will focus on enhancing STEM education and engagement amongst students in School Districts throughout Riverside County. The DoD STARBASE Program is 100% funded by the Pentagon through Congressional Appropriation. There is no County cost.

ATTACHMENTS:

Letter of Support for the DoD STARBASE Academy Application



Board of Supervisors

District 1	Kevin Jeffries 951-955-1010
District 2	Karen Spiegel 951-955-1020
District 3	Chuck Washington 951-955-1030
District 4	V. Manuel Perez 951-955-1040
District 5	Jeff Hewitt 951-955-1050

March 23, 2021

Mr. Michael J. O'Toole
Director, Civil-Military Programs
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower
Pentagon, Washington, DC

To Whom It May Concern:

The Riverside County Board of Supervisors, on behalf of the County of Riverside, write this letter in support of the joint application from March Air Reserve Base and the March Field Air Museum to serve as the site for the Pentagon's newest STARBASE Academy.

The Department of Defense (DoD) STARBASE Program, a premier National STEM youth outreach program, will help to address the critical need in Riverside County to advance students in STEM careers and to engage teachers with professional development. Since 1993, DoD STARBASE has successfully served to engage students from backgrounds historically underrepresented in STEM through the program's "hands-on, mind-on" inquiry-based experiential curriculum.

We live in an era of constant scientific discovery and technological change and, with an economy increasingly dependent upon these revolutionary new advances, many new jobs will be created in the STEM fields in the coming years. In Riverside County, the industries which employ STEM educated workers are anticipated to sustain an overall production growth of 7% by the year 2024, which is well above the National growth rate of 4.3%.

The DoD STARBASE Academy will serve as a crucial tool to the School Districts throughout Riverside County as they partner together to prepare our youth for a diverse and scientifically dynamic future, while working in tandem with March Air Reserve Base to afford enhanced opportunities to a diverse population of students by exposing them to technological environments and positive role models found on military bases and installations.

The Board of Supervisors and County of Riverside look forward to welcoming the DoD STARBASE Academy to March Air Reserve Base and working towards our common goal of eliminating barriers and increasing access to the highest-quality STEM education.

Sincerely,

Chair Karen Spiegel
Second District Supervisor

Vice Chair Jeff Hewitt
Fifth District Supervisor