

# Magruder AJROTC Eagle Battalion

## 2022-2023 Fall Newsletter



Welcome to our first Magruder HS Army JROTC newsletter for the 2022-2023 school year! This will be our opportunity to highlight the multitude of activities of our program every month. Sadly this year, we said goodbye to our previous Senior Army Instructor (SAI), **LTC (Retired) Eric Atherton**, after his four years of service to the Eagle Battalion; we wish him the best in his new job. This year, we also welcomed **SFC (Retired) Daniel Hyacinthe** as our new AI. He previously taught 1 year of JROTC at Forest Park High School. He served 21 years as a healthcare specialist in the United State Army.



### Camp Eagle

Camp Eagle was held on August 26 and was a huge success, with a majority of our incoming Cadets attending. The senior Cadet staff and other volunteer Cadets did an amazing job at creating a fun and challenging learning environment for the new Cadets of the program! The incoming Cadets performed well in our various physical, team-building, and drill activities as well as a special physical test brought by Army Recruiters from the Gaithersburg office.

## **Wear Blue Run to Remember**

Some of our cadets this year volunteered for the annual Wear Blue Run to Remember Marine Marathon. The event proudly aims to honor currently serving and veterans with their special "Wear Blue Mile." It has volunteers such as our cadets hold up flags each with a ribbon naming one veteran that was requested by a family member or friend. The result is a beautiful line full of flags and screaming supporters that the runners of the marathon love to go through. Here's what one cadet had to say about the experience **"It was wonderful I got to support all the runners and support all the veterans that were running... [!] Got to give back"**-C/CPT Sacrey.



## **Fundraisers**

Over the course of the start of the year, we have started to set up a bake sale at multiple events held at Magruder such as football, volleyball games and even a cheer competition. The bake sale consisted of various baked goods donated by cadets such as cookies, brownies and cupcakes. We are happy to announce that each of the fundraisers was a massive success and we hope to do plenty more of these in the future.

## **Raider Team**

Our Raider team began diligently practicing at the start of the school year and we were able to already go to two different competitions! Their first competition was on Oct 1st which was a 2 man competition at Century High School of which our two cadets C/1LT Trysten Cooper and C/PV1 Kason Haban placed 4th overall! Our Raider team also competed in a 9 man competition. Many of the cadets participated in their first ever competition and one of our cadets C/PFC Benjamin Leonard said "Raiders is the best teamwork environment I've been in"



## Color Guard



Our Color Guard this year is now commanded by C/CPT James Diaz and C/1SG Jessyca Batista and they have been hard at work continuing our tradition at Magruder at the beginning of every home football game our wonderful Color Guard presented the colors. We are proud to have them as they performed excellently each game and truly are an exceptional

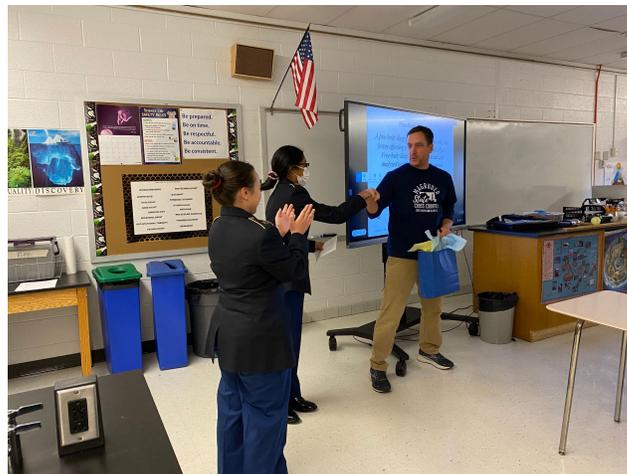
representation of the dedication that our program brings to young cadets.

## Drill Team

Now introducing our new Drill Team! It is currently a joint team with our Color Guard as we currently don't have enough people stand alone interested in Drill to create its own practice, but we hope to be there by the end of the year. Drill is a wonderful opportunity for cadets to be involved in JROTC without the pressure of being alone in Color Guard and none of the physical requirements of our Raider Team. So if any cadets reading this are interested in joining Drill Team please see C/CPT James Diaz or 1SG Jessyca Batista.

## Veteran's Day

In honor of Veterans Day a couple of our cadets helped honor our veteran staff members at Magruder! As seen in the picture we awarded staff members with a gift bag, and we hope this becomes a long standing tradition here at Magruder.



## **Turkey Bowl**

On Nov 17th we held our annual Turkey Bowl which pits our two companies Alpha and Bravo against each other in a friendly competition of flag football. In order to ensure equal participation from both boys and girls, whenever a girl scores a touchdown they are awarded double the points. This led to a fierce game between the two with it ultimately resulting in the first tie in the program's history. We were also able to record a video of the game using a GoPro attached to Cadet Shane Kelly which will be released for everyone to see in the coming weeks.

## **Upcoming Events**

Christmas Potluck/Flag Football-Dec 23

Wreaths Across America-Dec 17

Colors Presentation at Choir Concert- Dec 6