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December 3, 2024

Marcus Chambers  
Superintendent  
Okaloosa County Schools

Dear Superintendent Chambers:

Congratulations on the following school in your district being designated by the Florida Department of Education as a **2024 Purple Star School of Distinction!**

Collegiate High School

The Purple Star School of Distinction Designation, established by the Florida Legislature and signed into law in June 2021, recognizes schools that support the unique needs of military families. Florida is committed to being the most military-friendly state in the nation, and this program supports students as they relocate to new schools due to a parent's change in duty station.

A Purple Star School of Distinction supports military families through the implementation of activities such as:

- Highlighting annual military recognition events, e.g., Month of the Military Child, Month of the Military Family, Purple-Up! for Military Kids, Veterans Day and Memorial Day;
- Publicizing support for military students and families;
- Providing opportunities for active-duty parents to volunteer at the school;
- Participating in one or more service projects that connect the school with the military community; and
- Offering the Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) program.

The Department recognizes and applauds the commitment your district and schools have made to ensure military-connected families are supported in Florida. Each school will maintain their designation as a Purple Star School of Distinction for three (3) school years. After three years, schools must reapply to maintain the Purple Star School of Distinction Designation.

Sincerely,

Paul O. Burns, Ed.D.

DR. PAUL O. BURNS  
SENIOR CHANCELLOR