

## NEWS - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Jessica Thibodeau, Military Child Education Coalition
Jessica.Thibodeau@MilitaryChild.org or (254) 953-1923 x 1138

## Military Child Education Coalition & Texas Education Agency Celebrate Month of the Military Family

AUSTIN – The Military Child Education Coalition® (MCEC) is proud to join the Texas Education Agency (TEA) in spotlighting November as Military Family Appreciation Month. November is an opportunity to recognize the contributions made by military families for our country.

Texas was home to 89,060 military-connected students during the 2016-2017 school year, many of which may have been affected by mobility, transition, and family separation. "Military and veteran-connected children are in nearly every zip code," said Dr. Mary Keller, CEO & President, Military Child Education Coalition. "MCEC is proud to partner with organizations like TEA to provide relevant support systems, resources, and opportunities, ensuring every child is college, workforce, and life-ready."

MCEC and TEA are working together by providing resources and technical assistance to school districts of Texas military-connected students through programs designed for students, parents, and stakeholders. The partnership uses internet-based technology and the application of lessons learned from collaborative student data collection with Texas A&M University.

Thousands of men and women make Texas their home while serving our country at military installations statewide. "The experiences of military children contribute to the diversity of our classrooms and help make the Texas public education experience a well-rounded one," said Commissioner Mike Morath, Texas Education Agency. "The sacrifices made by families who are uprooted in the name of military service should be recognized not just during National Military Family Appreciation Month, but also throughout the year."

MCEC will continue to collaborate with TEA to provide military families in Texas – or those moving to Texas – access to resources and information regarding public education requirements in the state. To learn more about some of the education resources and programs available to members of the military and their families, visit the TEA web page at <a href="http://tea.texas.gov/mil/">http://tea.texas.gov/mil/</a>.

The Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) is a 501(c)(3) global, nonprofit organization focused exclusively on the well-being and needs of America's approximately four million military and veteran-connected children, specifically in the areas of academic opportunity and excellence, school transition support, and developmental needs. Our goal is to ensure that every military-connected child grows and thrives through good and challenging times in order to be college, workplace, and ultimately, life-ready.

To learn more, visit www.MilitaryChild.org.