



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY CADET COMMAND
1ST CAVALRY REGIMENT ROAD
FORT KNOX, KENTUCKY 40121-5123

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Junior ROTC Directorate

22 August 2011

The Honorable Tom Carper
United States Senate
513 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510-0802

Dear Senator Carper:

This letter is in response to your letter dated August 16, 2011 on behalf of the First State Military Academy in Magnolia, Delaware, regarding the possible establishment of a Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) unit.

At present, First State Military Academy (FSMA) has applied for a charter with the state of Delaware to open as a stand-alone high school in August 2013. If approved by the Delaware Department of Education, they plan to host an Army JROTC program as a major part of their school.

Although the Army JROTC Directorate of US Army Cadet Command is in receipt of an application from FSMA to open a JROTC program, we cannot process the application at this time until all requirements to become a school have been met, i.e. state approval, actual facility built, etc. As outlined to Mr. Kidner, FSMA must undergo a physical evaluation/site visit prior to being considered for a JROTC program. At that time, we will process the application and submit a request for Operations Maintenance Army (OMA) and Reserve Personnel Army (RPA) funding for the program.

Additionally, U.S. Army Cadet Command maintains an Order of Merit (OML) waiting list consisting of more than 220 schools that are waiting for a JROTC program. The Army has met its funded ceiling of 1,731 units in Fiscal Year 2011, and those units have already been identified. Unless Congress provides additional OMA and RPA funds, we will only be able to sustain our funded ceiling by opening new units as old units close. However, once FSMA is established as an operating school and once it is on the OML, they will be given every consideration as openings occur.

There is also another avenue available to First State Military Academy for having Army Cadets on its campus. Once the school is established and recognized by the Delaware Department of Education, they might wish to consider establishing a National Defense Cadet Corps (NDCC) unit at the school. Aside from some funding distinctions, this program is virtually identical to Junior ROTC. It uses the same curriculum, which the Army provides; however, all other costs are borne by the school.

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Thank you for your interest in this matter. I trust this information will be helpful in responding to your constituent. If you have any questions please do hesitate to call me at 502-624-7329 or email Hubert.bagley@usacc.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Hubert E. Bagley, Jr.
Colonel, US Army
Director, Army JROTC



December 3, 2012

Scott,
Dear ~~Mr.~~ Kidner,

Let me first offer my congratulations and support to you and the board's ongoing efforts to bring a full-time Junior ROTC charter high school to Kent County. Having seen firsthand the excellence of the Delaware Military Academy and what it has offered to so many cadets, the thought of that type of program with the same focus on discipline, strong academics, and building moral character is a most worthwhile endeavor.

Let me also offer that, when you open your doors in 2014, the training assets of the Delaware National Guard will be here to support your cadets. While we have significant and ongoing federal and state requirements, if an opportunity presents itself that we can offer support to the school and cadets, we will. I wish you great luck in the weeks and months to come, and look forward to the establishment of another full-time Junior ROTC high school in Delaware.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Francis D. Vavala". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Francis D. Vavala
Major General
The Adjutant General, Delaware

Mr. C. Scott Kidner
First State Military Academy
9 East Loockerman Street, Suite 309
Dover, DE 19901

Philip M. Drew
304 Chesapeake House
Bethany Beach, DE 19930-8095

Philip M. & Marianne B. Drew
304 Chesapeake House Road
Bethany Beach, DE 19930
phil@afgmortgage.com or 703-402-5735

December 26, 2011

VIA FACSIMILE/EMAIL

C. Scott Kidner, Chairman of the Board
First State Military Academy
3 Shinnecock Road
Dover, Delaware 19904

Dear Scott:

Both Mimi and I are so pleased to hear of your efforts to get the First State Military Academy (FSMA) up and running. In the years we have known you and Chris Weeks you have always taken great strides in improving the lives of Delawarrians. This new effort to improve the lives of High School students is most commendable.

We have all seen that when parents are provided with public school choice, and there is academic competition among schools, the resulting education for students is better. When our Delaware public schools rank in the lowest 10% of schools in states throughout the nation, something must change—and we commend your efforts to improve education for Delaware's children.

Your goal to emulate an existing, high functioning, and highly successful Delaware Military Academy (DMA) charter school program is most commendable. We have met several students from DMA during our years working with Delaware's portion of the Hugh O'Brien Youth Leadership (HOBY) Seminars for high school sophomores and have been most impressed by their academic status and their sense of honor and discipline.

Your plan to use the JROTC curriculum as the structure and foundation for the FSMA charter school program should prove to be most successful. We have seen the results of JROTC programs here in the Indian River School District as well in other locations and we believe you will be astounded at the results.

We wish you a Happy New Year and the utmost success in this wonderful community outreach charter school effort.

Very truly,
/S/
Philip M. Drew
Brig. Gen., USAF, (Ret.)

Very truly,
/S/
Marianne B. Drew
RADM, USN, (Ret.)

THE

CHARTER SCHOOL

O F W I L M I N G T O N

100 N. DuPont Road • Wilmington, Delaware 19807 • (302) 651-2727 • Fax (302) 652-1246

December 16 , 2011

Mr. C. Scott Kidner
Chairman
First State Military Academy
3 Shinnecock Road
Dover Delaware 19904

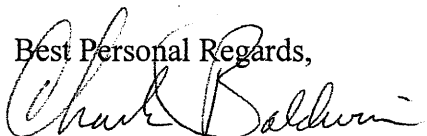
Dear Mr. Kidner;

In reference to our numerous conversations over the last number of months about the efforts to establish a new JROTC Charter High School in Kent County, let me offer on behalf of Wilmington Charter, a letter of strong support to you and your Founding Board in this endeavor.

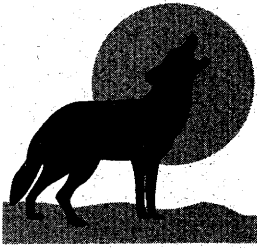
As one of the founding members of DMA some 8 years ago, we had a vision to bring a very unique educational model to Delaware. The great news is DMA continues to be one of the top ranking high schools in the state, and with your efforts to mirror them in central Delaware; this should be given every consideration for approval.

Again, from me personally and on behalf of my school, I wish you luck and strength in the coming weeks as your Board prepares the application for submittal. If there is anything that we as a school can do to help in your efforts once you receive your Charter, please do not hesitate in contacting me personally.

Best Personal Regards,



Charles Baldwin
Head of School



Positive Outcomes Charter School

3337 S. DuPont Hwy.
Camden, DE 19934

Phone: (302) 697-8805 • Fax: (302) 697-8813

December 20, 2011

Mr. C. Scott Kidner
Chairman
First State Military Academy
3 Shinnecock Road
Dover Delaware 19904

Dear Mr. Kidner;

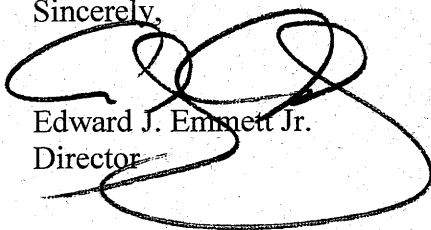
On behalf of my school, let me congratulate your team on submitting an application to establish a new JROTC Charter High School here in Kent County.

While First State Military Academy's overall mission is different from our school, charter schools are a critical educational choice for students and their parents. As you begin to replicate the highly successful Delaware Military Academy, it is my expectation this will be a great addition to the educational choices for many of our kids that are looking for this kind of environment.

Additionally, on behalf of our school and leadership, let me offer whatever assistance we can provide as you deal with the at-risk students who may desire to attend your school. Positive Outcomes is a well-recognized, successful program that provides students a chance to see real change in their lives and their approach to education. It is this modeling, staff mentoring or other support that we would offer to your leadership once the charter is approved in the spring of 2012.

Again, congratulations and good luck!

Sincerely,



Edward J. Emmett Jr.
Director