

Dear Parent(s) and Guardian(s):

1. I am writing to inform you of an important supportive service that is being made available to the District from the Department of Defense Child and Youth Program. The Department of Defense is providing professional, licensed consulting staff to our schools in order to provide non-medical counseling services to Service members and their families, all children, and staff in our schools. I want to clarify that all students and families are eligible for these services, not just those that are affiliated with the military. These services are being offered due to the unique challenges faced by military families, students and staff that support our families, during this time of war. The consultants that will be available in the District's schools are called Military & Family Life Consultants.

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2. The Military & Family Life Consultant will assist and support the staff and work with children and families. In his/her role as a consultant, he/she is available to:

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- Observe, participate, and engage in activities with children and youth
- Provide direct interventions in the classroom
- Model behavioral management techniques and provide feedback to staff
- Be available to staff to discuss interventions and other concerns
- Provide outreach to parents
- Conduct trainings for staff and parents

3. The subject areas that the consultants may deal with include, but are not limited to the following: communication, resolving conflicts, behavioral management techniques, managing anger, sibling/parental relationships, bullying, deployment and reintegration issues and self-esteem/self-confidence. The consultant may also work with children in other settings such as on field trips, where he/she is available to talk to the children, facilitate group activities and be involved in such a way as to enhance the children's' experiences.

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4. Although the consultant will be working the same hours as school staff, he/she is available to accommodate appointments and meetings/activities after hours and on the weekend with advance notice.

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5. Please note that at no time will the consultant meet individually with a child without being in line of sight of school staff or their parent/guardian. With the exception of mandatory state and federal reporting requirements (i.e. domestic violence, child abuse, and duty to warn situations), the support from the Military Family Life Consultant is private and confidential to encourage the widest level of participation.

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New York State regulations require that we seek consent from you in order for direct services such as these to be delivered to your child(ren) in the school setting. Therefore, included with this letter is a consent form for you to sign, date and return to your child's school at your earliest convenience indicating whether you consent to have your child(ren) receive such services from the consultants.

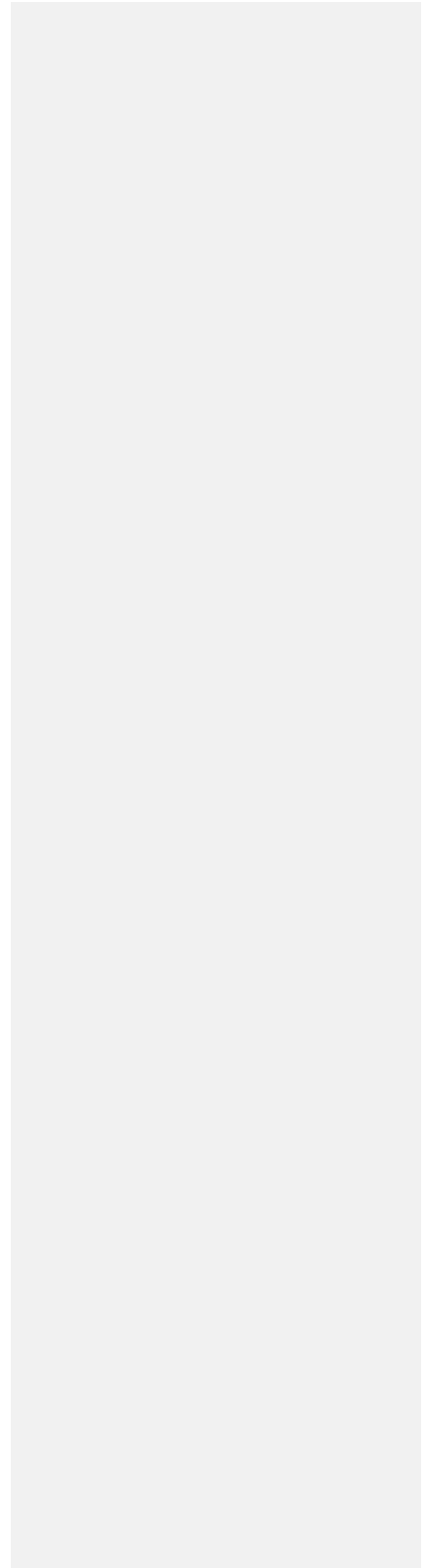
You will receive subsequent information and contact information from the Military & Family Life Consultant assigned to work at your child's school.

We at Indian River are very excited to have this valuable resource for our students, staff and you as parents and hope that you will utilize the resources of these personnel.

If you have any questions about these services, you may contact the building principal or pupil services staff at your child's school.

Sincerely,

James Kettrick
Superintendent of Schools



**INDIAN RIVER CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
MILITARY & FAMILY LIFE CONSULTANT RELEASE**

New York State regulations require that your written consent be sought prior to the provision of any direct consulting services to your child or children in the school setting.

I, the undersigned, fully understand that my child may receive direct, consulting services from a Military & Life Family Consultant in the school setting during school hours or on field trips or during other school sponsored activities. I willingly give permission for my child to have such services. I realize that the District and school staff will not knowingly provide complete or detailed information about my child or our family without first seeking further consent for release of such detailed information to the Military & Life Family Consultant.

Student Name: _____

School Building: _____

Teacher Name: _____

I give permission to Indian River Central School District to have my child receive direct, consulting services from the Military & Family Life Consultant. I also understand that I have a right to refuse this release.

I do not give permission to Indian River Central School District to have my child receive direct, consulting services from the Military & Family Life Consultant.

Parent/Guardian's Name: _____

Address: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Date: _____

