

**0952 Leadership Education Character Development (Marine Corps
Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (MCJROTC)**

40 Weeks ● .5 Cr/JROTC .5/PE ● Grades 9-12

Point of Contact: Lt. Col. John Freda (315) 963-8400 and/or jfreda@mexicocsd.org.

Students attend an assigned class period, during the regular school day. Students may choose to voluntarily participate in the many course co-curricular, extracurricular or athletic activities. There is no military obligation. The course used a military framework to teach the essential skills for professional success.

Course Description:

The Leadership Education & Development Program is a four year (elective) program of instruction offered to MACS students in the 9th through 12th grades. Students may enroll in from one to four years of the program.

The specific program objectives are to:

1. Strengthen personal character;
2. Help to form habits of self-discipline teamwork and leadership;
3. Develop informed & responsible citizens;
4. Develop a respect for, and understand the need for, duly constituted authority in a democratic society;
5. Promote an understanding of the basic elements & requirements for national security;
6. Develop an understanding of the privileges as well as the responsibilities of citizenship, and enhance patriotic pride in our country.

This course is organized, and executes activities, in a manner that closely resembles that of the workplace. The course introduces, and constantly reinforces, those life-skills that are useful in the workplace. Entry-level leadership students learn basic workplace skills and are introduced to leadership principles, traits, and the core values of “*honor, courage, commitment.*” Advanced leadership students are assigned to positions of responsibility where they serve as liaisons between the instructors and students, direct and lead other students, perform office administration and human resources functions, account for property and order supplies, conduct multi-media advertisement of program activities and plan/execute program operations. Through these processes, the course forges self-confident, highly disciplined business and community leaders of the future who will take responsibility for their actions, aggressively seek responsibility for others, act decisively, and display only desirable traits of the highest personal character.

Students enrolled in the course tend to develop a strong sense of belonging to an extended “family” of students with like interests; this has proven to be particularly helpful for those students transferring in from other school districts and those initially lacking in self-confidence or esteem. Freshmen through seniors are grouped in the same class; providing for positive role models and a level of social interaction infrequently found in any other class. Students are encouraged to assist each other by providing peer

counseling and emotional support, tutoring each other in deficient academic areas, serving as positive role models, and providing positive peer pressure to demonstrate appropriate social behavior.

Students may participate, on a voluntary basis, in many extra-curricular activities such as weekend field trips to out-of-state high schools for team competitive purposes, adventure training at military installations, fund-raising and form social activities, and numerous community service projects which the course supports.

**This course does not in any way recruit the student for military service, teach military tactics, obligate the graduate to involuntarily join military service upon graduation, or obligate the student to involuntarily participate in any extracurricular course activities. **

Additional Course Credits:

Seniors enrolled in the course receive the following credit: Leadership .5 credit; Government (course satisfied) and PE .5 credit.

Course community service satisfies MACS annual requirement for community service.

Mexico School Board has approved students in JROTC/Leadership as meeting the NYS standards for Physical Education.

Course Benefits:

1. Receive work - force leadership training and experience while still in high school. Highlight your scholarship, college and employment applications with the words "*Leadership Education & Character Development.*"
2. ROTC scholarships are worth \$16,000.00 per year in tuition, books, and laboratory fees – plus an allowance of \$250.00 per month that school is in session. Scholarship recipients usually receive outright grants for room and board from the host college or university. At the national level, all course graduates who applied have received a minimum of one ROTC scholarship.
3. Several \$250.00 - \$500.00 local scholarships are available each year to course graduates.
4. \$5000.00 scholarships are available for demonstrated marksmanship proficiency.
5. As a Naval Honor School, our graduates may be nominated for appointment to a military academy (e.g. West Point) under the JROTC category.

6. Earn MACS Big “M” varsity sports letters for Drill, Sporter Air Rifle, or Youth Physical Fitness teams, and Color Guard.
7. Earn numerous prestigious awards and decorations sponsored by highly recognizable national organizations.

Course Prerequisites:

Students must:

1. Be enrolled in an academic course of instruction leading to graduation.
2. Be at least 14 years of age sometime during the freshman year.
3. Be certified, through a routine school physical, to participate in PE.