

## I N F O R M A T I O N   F O R   P A R E N T S

Your child's class has been selected to participate in STARBASE, a unique and exciting hands-on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics program hosted by the 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. Located at the West Virginia National Guard in Charleston, STARBASE inspires students and helps strengthen their learning through unique, challenging and fun academic programs where they explore, experiment, expand their knowledge, and build essential life skills. There are currently over 60 STARBASE sites around the country! For more information, please visit our website at [www.wvstarbase.org](http://www.wvstarbase.org).

### **WHAT STUDENTS DO AT STARBASE:**

- Conduct hands-on science experiments
- Tour a C-130H aircraft
- Design 3D objects using PTC CREO/Engineer software
- Complete extension activities (if applicable)

### **WHAT STUDENTS LEARN AT STARBASE:**

- Fundamentals of Chemistry
- Newton's Laws of Motion
- The Engineering Design Process
- Applications of three-dimensional graphic design

### **APPLICATION FORMS:**

In order for your child to participate in this free program, a completed "Student Application" form must be submitted to his/her classroom teacher. Signatures are **required** in TWO PLACES on the form. Students who arrive with incomplete or unsigned applications may be returned to school.

### **LUNCHES:**

Students may elect to bring a bagged lunch from home or to eat one prepared by the school. If your child chooses to bring a bagged lunch, please observe the following guidelines: 1. Lunches should be packed in disposable containers (plastic shopping bags, ziplock bags, etc.) that may be thrown away at the end of the lunch period. Please avoid sending lunch boxes if possible. 2. Please refrain from packing messy foods like raisins, sunflower seeds, candy, gum, etc. 3. Soft drinks are not permitted. 4. Please do not send anything that needs to be heated. 5. Please observe your school's policies regarding food allergies.

### **SPECIAL NEEDS:**

Our staff works very hard to accommodate students with special learning needs and those with physical limitations. If your child requires special accommodations, please discuss the issue with your child's classroom teacher and ask that all relevant information be passed along to our staff. We want EVERY child to have a positive, memorable experience at STARBASE!

### **STEM NIGHTS:**

Throughout the school year, we will host a series of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) Nights. Parents, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students, are invited to join us for a variety of fun and exciting hands-on activities at our facilities in Charleston, or possibly in a local school. Each event will feature a different STEM-related theme. To learn more about STEM Nights, please call our office at (304) 341-6440 or visit our official website.

### **RECRUITING:**

Many parents ask "Is STARBASE a recruiting tool?" Absolutely not. Our country is facing a severe shortage of qualified STEM professionals. The Department of Defense hopes that STARBASE will help address this shortage by inspiring students to pursue careers in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics – particularly in the aerospace industry. Rest assured that we are not here to recruit children into the military. A military facility like ours simply provides a unique setting with the positive role models that all children need (and cool airplanes too).

### **SOCIAL MEDIA:**

Want to keep up with us before you come or even after you leave? Check us out on Facebook or Snapchat. You can find STEM facts, STARBASE photos, and other fun information. Check us out! [www.facebook.com/wvstarbase](http://www.facebook.com/wvstarbase) or Snapchat Username: WVSTARBASE

### **PHOTOGRAPHS:**

STARBASE is a once-in-a-lifetime experience, so we want to give your child a way to remember his/her time with us. Classroom teachers are encouraged to use our high-quality digital cameras to chronicle your child's time at STARBASE. The photographs will be available to you in our *password-protected* photo galleries. To access our photo galleries, use the URL and password found on the sticker to the right. **PLEASE NOTE: THE URL AND PASSWORD ARE CASE-SENSITIVE AND MUST BE ENTERED EXACTLY AS THEY APPEAR ON THE STICKER.**

