

MARCH  
2022

News from the field of the premiere DoD Youth STEM education program.

## STARBASE New Mexico Hosts the First Director's Launch Training



New directors from established and new STARBASE sites gathered together in Albuquerque, New Mexico on January 26-27, 2022 to participate in the first ever group Director's Launch Training!

Due to the growth of the DoD STARBASE program nationwide and the natural turnover of directors, a new approach is being taken as to how new program directors are trained. Based on hiring date and location, the new Director's Launch training is set to take place at different locations and at multiple times throughout the year!

Participants were given access to regulatory and operational documents and historical information in preparation for the New Mexico training. The two-day training curriculum was derived from compliance and observational evaluation components of the DoDI. The training workshop included activities, engagement, and interactions that encouraged collaboration and networking. A facility tour of STARBASE New Mexico and classroom observations addressing curriculum implementation were conducted as well.

The SPECTRUM GROUP is excited to move forward and build upon existing program staff training. Be on the lookout for more training opportunities coming down the road.

*(Continued on Page 2.)*



"The science of today is the technology of tomorrow."

-- Edward Teller

(Continued from Page 1.)

## Welcome New Directors and New Sites to the STARBASE Family!

Kyle Brown, STARBASE Sacramento

Traci Davis, STARBASE Henderson

Sarah Knox, STARBASE Peterson

Tony McDonald, STARBASE Wichita

Shanna McPheters, STARBASE Nellis

Rita Miller, STARBASE Pensacola

Leah Beth Naholawaa, STARBASE Guam

Colonel Richard Oberman (representative), STARBASE New Hampshire

Tessie Sadino, STARBASE Hawaii

James Skrapka, STARBASE Oklahoma

Lindsey Spalding, STARBASE Central Florida

Celeste Taylor, STARBASE Vandenberg

Tiffany Young, STARBASE High Sierra

For those programs that have not resumed normal operations, updates to the COVID Operational Status Tracker spreadsheet are due no later than March 31st (last day of the month).

These updates are provided to OSD/M&RA as a report monthly.

The link to the spreadsheet is available in STARBASE-U. If you are having trouble accessing the tracker, please contact [email@dodstarbase.org](mailto:email@dodstarbase.org) for assistance.

*A huge thank you to the STARBASE New Mexico Staff for their hospitality!*



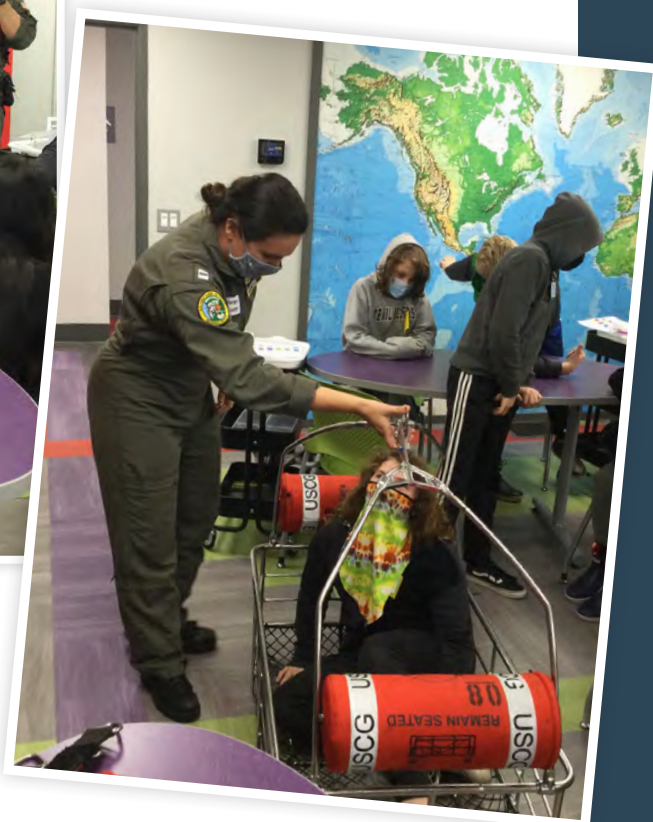
# STARBASE Camp Rilea Hosts the U.S. Coast Guard!

STARBASE Camp Rilea received a very special visit from the U.S. Coast Guard Sector Columbia River Group on March 2, 2022! They dazzled, amazed, and entertained the STARBASE students with their technology and stories of incredible rescues!

Three Coast Guard members; LT Kyle Jackson, LT Andrea Saldana, and Aviation Survival Technician (AST) 1 John Kreske are all part of the air unit in Warrenton, OR. The two helicopter pilots and one rescue swimmer discussed their jobs and responsibilities with the kids.

AST1 Kreske enthralled the kids with tales of how he does his job and talked about not only the forces of nature he has to fight, but the fact that he has to do a lot of this while strapped to a helicopter dealing with panicked people and animals.

LT Jackson and LT Saldana discussed the difficulties involved with flying a helicopter during bad weather and what technology helps guide them when they're rescuing people. They were absolutely wonderful, and the Camp Rilea STARBASE Program is immensely grateful for their service and taking the time to speak to the students!



# Former STARBASE Student Turned Instructor

"I learned about flight technology. I learned about Newton and his three laws. I learned all about airplanes so I could grow up to be a big smart scientist."

–*Static Shock, 2005, STARBASE Minnesota- St. Paul*



Fast forward to 2022, STARBASE Minnesota is fortunate to have Jessica "Static Shock" Scott as a member of the STARBASE instructor team. Jessica now goes by Artemis, drawing inspiration from NASA's lunar missions.

Jessica attended STARBASE Minnesota- St. Paul in 2005 with St. Agnes Grade School. Experiencing the flight simulator and touring airplanes left strong impressions. Jessica remembers how it felt to fly a plane in the simulator and learn facts about different aircraft. One classmate of hers now works for Cirrus installing flight controls on aircraft and fixing non-airworthy problems. Another memory that stands out for Jessica was working in small groups to design a solution to an emergency in space. She remembers the feeling of solving the engineering problem as a team, drawing on each other's strengths.

The start of the 2021-2022 school year marks Jessica's seventh year as a teacher. When asked what appealed to her about becoming a STARBASE teacher, Jessica said it was always her dream to come back to STARBASE. A rush of flashbacks of her own experience came to the forefront and she was so excited about the possibility of bringing that same impactful STEM experience to students. Jessica says, "STARBASE had such an impact on me. It is a privilege to teach with that perspective. I want my students to look back at STARBASE and feel the same way I felt as a STARBASE student."

As a classroom teacher, Jessica always sought to bring STEM into her classroom. However, she says she never had the access to resources and materials now available to her at STARBASE. As a full time STARBASE Instructor and Instructional Technology Coordinator, in addition to teaching, she enjoys learning about educational technology at a deeper level and working to create meaningful curriculum integration.

STARBASE Minnesota- St. Paul is lucky to have Jessica as part of the team and thankful of her reflections as a former STARBASE student. Thank you, Jessica!



## A Call for Participation

Throughout the year, this newsletter will continue to spotlight the achievements, partnerships, and tips of the participants of the DoD STARBASE program. Please share your achievements, success stories, and helpful tips with us at [email@dodstarbase.org](mailto:email@dodstarbase.org).

# Lift Off! Battleground Students Host DoD STARBASE

LINCOLNTON, NC - Fifth grade students at Battleground Elementary were able to spend a week as rocket scientists. DoD STARBASE, an educational program sponsored by the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, brought their STEM program to Lincolnton. Through the program, students were able to interact with military personnel to explore careers and observe STEM applications in the real world.

"Battleground Elementary was given a wonderful opportunity to participate in activities that support the science curriculum," fifth grade teacher Angela Hunter said. "We understand that every school does not receive the honor of participating in STARBASE and we feel lucky to have them with us this week. We hope that STARBASE will allow us to participate in the program in the future."

The culmination of the week was the ability to launch their own personal rockets, not quite to space, but well above the trees in many instances.

"STARBASE is fun because of activities such as 'Eggbert,'" Battleground student Aislin Mejia said. "I learned how to use materials to protect the egg so it wouldn't break."

One of the great things about STARBASE, according to student Kyla Faile is that they're allowed to make mistakes and learn from them.

"STARBASE helped me learn more about science," student Nikyla Morgan said. "I forgot how to do coordinate planes and graphing but STARBASE improved my understanding of that math skill."

Approximately 50 students brought their handmade rockets down to the Lincolnton High School football training field and with the help of STARBASE staff shot them into the air. Not all of them launched the first time. The students were able to get two tries and STARBASE had extra rockets on hand if there were failed flights. A few of the rockets ended up in the treetops, but most floated down with parachutes to be caught by the students.

"The blended approach of hands-on and application are what makes STARBASE engaging and impactful," Fifth-grade teacher Tina Hahn said. "STARBASE lessons encompass math and science standards for fifth grade and beyond. Students were also placed into teams and had to work together to problem-solve. We are so very fortunate to have had this opportunity provided by the DoD."

Battleground Principal Tracy Eley was able to get in on the fun during the launch. "Having STARBASE at Battleground was a great experience for all students and teachers," she said. "Students were able to learn about force and motion as well as have hands-on activities throughout each day for five days of instruction. Seeing the students create their rockets and then launch them was amazing. This experience was something the students will never forget."



Source: [https://www.lincolntimesnews.com/news/lift-off-battleground-students-host-dod-starbase/article\\_aa9bc514-7e19-11ec-abf6-a707b9171a79.html](https://www.lincolntimesnews.com/news/lift-off-battleground-students-host-dod-starbase/article_aa9bc514-7e19-11ec-abf6-a707b9171a79.html)

# Be the Picture of Proactivity!!

Have you ever scrambled to gather photos when the Director's Questionnaire comes around!? Well, we have the answer for you! The SPECTRUM Group has created a place for pictures in your site's shared folder on the Google Drive connected to your dodstarbase.org email address! If you snap a great photo this year, throw it in the FY22 folder!

When determining which photos are best for the annual report, be sure that you can check the following:

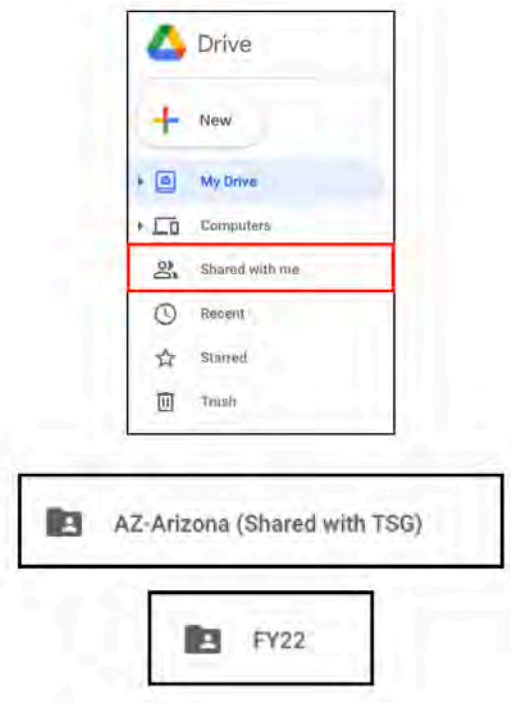
- » Is this showing approved DoD STARBASE Curriculum (unless a 2.0 or Supplemental Program)?
- » Are proper safety protocols in place for this activity?
- » Do the pictured student(s) have a signed media release on file?

## Uploading Photos to your Shared Folder:

1. Make sure that the photos meet the minimum requirement of 2-3 MB.

*The better quality photo, the more likely it is to get published in the annual report! We love to see students in action at the program and working along our military personnel!*

2. Save your photos as SiteName\_Photo#
3. Go to your Google drive and be sure you are logged-in with your @DoDStarbase.org account.
4. Click on "Shared with Me."
5. Find the folder the has your State and Site name and says "Shared with TSG", and double-click.
6. Double-click on the folder named FY22.
7. Drag and drop your photos into the FY22 folder, within your shared with TSG site folder.



**Remember that pictures that are loaded outside the shared folder cannot be accessed by TSG staff. Everything you want TSG to see needs to go in the shared folder!**

