

## **Bentonville, Arkansas Schools NJROTC Program**

Launched in 2021, Bentonville Schools NJROTC Program is the only JROTC program in NW Arkansas. Its goal is to introduce interested students (cadets) to the privileges and responsibilities of citizenship, offer opportunities for peer-to-peer leadership, introduce the cadets to military planning and leadership models and instill in them the importance of accountability and attention to detail.

The program fields over 100 cadets and operates at both Bentonville and Bentonville West High Schools. As it is not yet funded by the Navy, it is technically a Navy National Defense Cadet Corps. Last year the program submitted for funded status and upon confirmation by the Assistant Secretary of the Navy will be funded and thereby deemed a Navy JROTC Unit. Last year, its Navy Area Manager nominated it as most improved unit in the 54-unit of Area 9 which includes Missouri, Arkansas, Tennessee, and parts of Texas and New Mexico.

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