Dear Cadets, Parents/Guardians,

Welcome to Elkins High School’s Air Force Junior ROTC Program! We are very excited about working with you and making this class a wonderful learning experience. To accomplish this goal, we believe it is very important that we (parent, cadet, and instructor) work closely together and constantly communicate throughout the year.

Air Force Junior ROTC’s mission is To Develop Citizens of Character Dedicated to Serving their Nation and Community. We will accomplish our mission by providing you an excellent curriculum and a challenging training environment where cadets can develop character, self-discipline, responsibility, teamwork, and pride in self and country.

**Costs:** Cadet’s are charged an $80 non-refundable activity fee for participation in the AFJROTC program due by **30 Sep 2019**. The cadet will receive a polo-style unit shirt to wear to unit events that do not require the uniform, and a cadet ticket to the military ball. These fees help offset the costs of trips, drill meets and unit activities. Only cash or money orders will be accepted, **no personal checks**.

**Uniforms:** Each cadet will receive a complete uniform (approx. value $258), which consists of a service coat, pants/slacks, short sleeve shirt/blouse, lightweight jacket, shoes, tie, belt, buckle, t-shirt, socks and the appropriate insignia. Cadets will also receive a physical training (PT) uniform consisting of athletic shorts and t-shirt. Also, upper class cadets will receive a set of ABUs (cap, shirt, pants, belt, t-shirt, socks and boots). All items remain the property of the United States Air Force, but it is the Cadet’s responsibility to keep it clean during the school year. Cadets must return all issued items upon demand or leaving the program. The following uniform items must be dry-cleaned before turn in: Service Coat, Lightweight jacket, shirt, and pants/slacks/skirts.

**Uniform Wear Requirements:** Effective upon enrollment, cadets must meet personal appearance and grooming standards on designated uniform days. Cadets must wear their uniform to school every **Wednesday** or any special day designated by the Senior Aerospace Science Instructor. Having a uniform in the cleaners IS NOT a valid reason for not wearing a uniform. It is the cadet’s responsibility, **not the parents** to make sure they are prepared for class. **INSTRUCTORS OR EHS PERSONNEL ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR GETTING FORGOTTEN ITEMS TO A CADET.** Cadets who fail to wear their uniform will receive a uniform grade (Major Grade) of zero for that week. To receive credit for uniform wear following an **EXCUSED** absence, the cadet must wear the uniform the very first school day they return. Cadets are also required to wear their issued physical fitness uniform on all physical training days, usually Fridays. Excessive failure to comply with uniform requirements, meet standards or discipline issues will result in removal from the AFJROTC program. Cadets who fail to turn-in their uniform at the end of the school year are placed on the Elkins High School Fines and Fees list until items are paid for or returned.
**Hair and Grooming Standards:** AFJROTC hair and grooming standards apply when cadets are in uniform. Male cadets may not wear earrings in uniform or at AFJROTC events at any time; must be clean-shaven; and must have a regulation haircut. When wearing the uniform, female cadets are required to have their hair conform to regulations (natural color, hair up and off the collar), as well as neutral/conservative fingernail polish. Female cadets are allowed to wear a maximum of one stud, pearl or post-type earring per ear. No other types of facial rings or studs (nose rings, eyebrow rings, lip rings, tongue rings, etc.) are allowed when in uniform or when participating in AFJROTC activities. Cadets not willing to conform to these standards will be removed from AFJROTC program.

**Books:** Books are the property of the Air Force JROTC Program. Books will remain in the JROTC classroom unless the cadet is given permission to check out a textbook or workbook to make up assignments or study. Cadets are responsible for all books issued and they must be returned in good condition. **DO NOT WRITE IN TEXTBOOKS.** The cost for lost or damaged textbook is $20.00 and $10.00 for workbook.

**Extra-Curricular Activities:** The AFJROTC Program offers many voluntary after school activities such as Color Guard, Drill, Saber, CyberPatriot, Rocketry and Area Presentation Teams. Cadets also stay after school to participate in leadership meetings, planning, organizing, and coordinating activities. Some of the cadet activities include field trips, community service projects, military ball, drill meets and athletic activities. Cadets are encouraged to participate in extra-curricular activities to help with their leadership development. It is the parent/guardian’s responsibility to provide prompt pickup after events.

**Field Trips:** Throughout the year, cadets will periodically take off-campus field trips. Field trips are voluntary and normally during school hours. Cadets must meet FBISD and AFJROTC academic and discipline requirements, be in good standing with AFJROTC, and have a signed field trip permission form to participate.

**Cadet Awards:** We present ribbons and awards to deserving cadets based on their participation/performance in academics, leadership, athletics, and community service. **All** cadets are encouraged to compete for these awards. The key to the cadet award program is to **get involved** in activities you like and enjoy while at the same time reaping the rewards of your labors.

We look forward to having you in our AFJROTC Program and best wishes for a successful year at Elkins High School. If you have any questions, please contact MSgt Whitaker (rodney.whitaker@fortbendisd.com) or myself (hunter.channell@fortbendisd.com) at 281-634-2697/2663.

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