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PRESIDENT, PATRIOTS TO EDUCATION



PATRIOTS TO EDUCATION HELPS COMBAT THE EDUCATOR SHORTAGE WITH MILITARY TALENT

Across the country, school districts are facing a growing crisis: a massive shortage of qualified educators. “Staff shortages in public schools throughout the country are reaching epic proportions,” said Michael Bobeck, president of Patriots to Education (PTE). “In Clark County, Nevada alone, more than 1,100 teaching positions were unfilled at the start of the 2024 school year.”

At the same time, thousands of service members—including active-duty spouses, National Guardsmen, and Reservists—transition out of the military each year looking for meaningful work that allows them to continue serving their communities. **PTE recognized the opportunity to solve both problems with one powerful mission: connect military-affiliated individuals with careers in public education.**

Founded in 2024 as an outgrowth of the federal *Troops to Teachers* program that was sunsetted, PTE is a nonprofit organization built by retired military and education professionals who understand the challenges of military transition and the urgent needs of school districts. Currently active in Florida, Nevada, California, and Nebraska, PTE offers Veterans and military families a clear pathway into the classroom. **Services include access to state-specific resources, introductions to hiring contacts in school districts, resume support, mentoring, and guidance on available Veteran assistance programs.**

And this is just the beginning. As PTE expands services and grows in other states, it will provide specific state coordination teams, funding for certifications and training, and nationwide opportunities based on service members’ desired location. The organization is already scaling up in North Carolina and Texas, building on strong partnerships formed in its pilot states. “We have developed wonderful partnerships with school districts and state organizations in our pilot states and are already expanding to North Carolina, and Texas,” said Bobeck. “Our partnerships with PDK International and donations by Rolls-Royce USA have helped considerably. **The number of Veterans hired in Florida and Nevada this past year has increased through our efforts there.**”

At its core, PTE believes Veterans and military spouses are uniquely qualified to lead in America’s classrooms. Their leadership, discipline, adaptability,

and real-world perspective make them ideal mentors and educators. Through partnerships with school districts, state agencies, Veteran service organizations, credit unions, and universities, PTE helps match people with these skill sets with open roles in teaching, administration, and support staff.

“We’re focused on creating a seamless pathway for our nation’s heroes to make a lasting impact in education,” said Bobeck. **“That means not only helping Veterans find jobs, but also ensuring they’re equipped with the credentials, training, and local support networks needed to thrive long-term.”**

The organization’s outreach and advocacy efforts are also growing. PTE produces a podcast, **There’s Power in Education**, and shares updates on their work via Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn. PTE is calling on community members and organizations to support their mission through volunteering, partnerships, or financial donations to fund their expansion and training programs.

PTE’s ultimate goal is national impact. “Our ongoing success will be measured not only by the number of military-related people we place in schools and in support positions, but also by the positive outcomes for students, schools, and communities. Together, we are shaping brighter futures—one classroom, one administrative, one support position at a time,” said Bobeck.

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To help our nation's heroes continue their legacy of service in the classroom or to volunteer or donate, visit patriotstoeducation.org.