



# Charter School Renewal Report

Delaware Military Academy

4/29/2024

Dr. Kurfuerst,

No later than April 30, the approving authority shall issue a charter school renewal report and charter renewal application guidance to any charter school whose charter will expire the following year.

This document serves as the report for the Delaware Military Academy.

### **CHARTER SCHOOL INFORMATION**

The Delaware Military Academy

Mailing Address: 112 Middleboro Road

City/State/Zip: Wilmington DE 19804

Telephone: 302-998-0745

Fax: 302-998-3521

Website: [www.demilacad.org](http://www.demilacad.org)

### **History of School**

The Delaware Military Academy was founded in 2003 by a retired Army Colonel and a retired Navy Master Chief. The school was designed to develop young men and women to be strong citizens, confident leaders and excellent students. The first cadet class graduated in June of 2006. Since then, twenty-two more classes have graduated from the Delaware Military Academy totaling 2,242 alumni. These twenty-three classes have earned in excess of one hundred sixty nine million dollars in scholarship monies and 86% of them have gone on to a post-secondary program of study. In addition, the Academy has sent 38 graduates off to United States Service Academies and over 70 graduates have attended college for free on ROTC scholarships. 10% of our graduates have enlisted directly into some form of military service directly from high school. In 2013, the Academy had four alumni graduate in the same class from the United States Naval Academy – a first in Naval Academy history. We continue to strive to provide the best education for all our cadets on a daily basis. You are all a part of making that happen!

## **Mission**

The mission of the Delaware Military Academy is to prepare young men and women for their next level of education by providing them with a foundation that leads to good citizenship. Encouraged by military training, learning will take place within an environment that embraces both mental and physical health. This holistic approach to education fosters an understanding of the obligations of citizenship and self-discipline. In addition, cadets are exposed to positive moral ideals while being afforded opportunities to engage in appropriate social activities.

## **Philosophy**

Delaware Military Academy's academic, extra-curricular, and leadership programs intertwine to create a well-rounded learning experience for cadets. Through the development of honor, discipline, and integrity, cadets will cultivate strength of character, individual excellence, and responsible leadership. Upon graduation, cadets will possess the skills and characteristics needed to lead lives of academic, personal and professional achievement.

## **Belief Statements**

- The role of the Delaware Military Academy is to educate the entire cadet, paying particular attention to academic, social and emotional needs.
- An education at the Delaware Military Academy fosters citizenship, leadership, self discipline and independent thought.
- Military training teaches cadets a sense of responsibility, integrity and morality. • Responsible citizens have a sense of honor and respect for themselves and for others. • Hard work, dedication, and motivation are essential for learning.
- Cadets, parents and teachers share accountability and responsibility for the cadet's education.
- A safe and enjoyable learning environment promotes positive interaction between cadets and teachers.
- Cadets graduate from DMA ready to accept an adult role in society.
- Service builds strong character, unity, and a sense of responsibility for others.

## **Targeted Population and Enrollment Demographics**

The school's targeted population of 585 cadets includes students who reside in New Castle County and have an interest in the military.

## **Delaware Military Academy Snapshot**

[State Report Card Data- DMA](#)

## **DMA Financial Performance Goals**

**Goal 1:** The Delaware Military Academy will meet the planned enrollment of 585 cadets.

DMA will continue to attend middle school high school fairs including the ones hosted by the Red Clay Consolidated School District. In addition, DMA will continue to advertise in the News Journal our fall Open House for prospective students in October of each year. DMA has, on average, 400 or more applicants each year to fill 150-155 spots in the freshman class. We have met our enrollment goal each year.

**Goal 2:** The Delaware Military Academy will utilize cost-saving measures while maximizing instructional resources.

DMA will continue to assess requests from each academic and operational department. Serious consideration will be given to each request, taking into account the constraints of charter school funding. Preparation of the Preliminary Budget begins in April, and is worked on through the end of the fiscal year. The Final Budget is approved in the November/December time frame each year, once the September 30 Unit Count is certified.

**Goal 3:** The Delaware Military Academy will continue its fundraising efforts.

Due to the lack of capital funding granted to charter schools, DMA will continue to seek out donors to assist with the completion of our planned campus expansion. We have established good rapport with various foundations and individuals. Efforts will be made to reach out to them again, as well as seeking out new opportunities.

**Goal 4:** The Delaware Military academy will continue to meet or exceed its debt covenant requirements.

DMA plans to successfully meet or exceed the current ratio requirement, as well as the unrestricted days of cash on hand requirement. DMA has successfully met or exceeded these requirements in each of the preceding years. These requirements will be monitored through the overall budget planning process.

**Goal 5:** The Delaware Military Academy will receive a clean audit with an unqualified opinion.

DMA has consistently received unqualified opinions on its annual independent audits. Any recommendations have been addressed immediately and there have been no findings. DMA will achieve this goal by maintaining complete and organized financial records, being totally transparent, and continuously working collaboratively with the Board of Directors and CBOC/Finance Committee.

## **Renewal Process**

Red Clay issues charter school renewal report to DMA by 4/30/24

DMA to respond with any corrections 5/10/24

Governing board of DMA submits renewal application to Red Clay 9/30/24

Public Hearing mid-October 2024

Red Clay board vote on renewal November 2024

## **Approval Criteria**

The renewal application from DMA will be assessed by the 16 criteria outlined in Title 14, Chapter 5, 512. A pre-established committee will vote on renewal.

## **Summary**

The Red Clay Consolidated School District looks forward to collaborating with the Delaware Military Academy in the upcoming renewal process. Please feel free to ask any questions along the way.

**Hugh Broomall** Ed.ED.

Deputy Superintendent