Cherokee County School District

Agenda Request Form

Meeting Date	Agenda Item Number
August 20, 2026	Recognition Item 2

Title

AFJROTC Cadet of the Year

Requested Action

School Board Recognition of AFJROTC Cadet of the Year

Summary Explanation and Background

One of our students has been named the top U.S. Air Force Junior ROTC cadet in the world!

Congratulations to Etowah High School senior Kane M. Barnard, the 2025 -26 AFJROTC Cadet of the Year: the best of the 100,000 students who participate in U.S. Air Force JROTC programs in the nation and internationally! Kane is a four-year member and serves as Corps Commander of the Etowah HS AFJROTC program led by Lt. Col. (Ret.) Stephen Bergey and Technical Sgt. (Ret.) Ciarra Malto.

Kane also is one of only 94 students nationwide selected to receive an AFJROTC Flight Academy scholarship to earn a private pilot's license and college credits this summer. He is a three-year competitor in the JROTC Raider program and has twice been named a national champion in the multi-event military style athletic competition. A two-year competitor in the JROTC Orienteering program, Kane has been named a national champion in the competition that tests cadets' navigation, stamina, and map-reading skills.

A three-year member of the JROTC color guard and the school's track team, Kane is president-elect of its chapter of HOSA Future Health Professionals and a member of National Honor Society. He has served 224 hours of community service so far during his high school career.

Financial Impact

N/A

Exhibits: (List) — Enter URL below

N/A

Source of Additional Information — Open URL

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