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Bell High JROTC Earns Honor Unit With Distinction Designation



Army Cadet Command inspectors visited Bell High School to conduct an Army JROTC Program for Accreditation (JPA) evaluation on Thursday (Jan. 19). This comprehensive evaluation is executed every four years and places an emphasis on continuous improvement in teaching, learning and leading. The JPA evaluation included Cadet Staff briefings, Community Service Learning briefings, Drill Team and Color Guard performances, Staff and Cadet interviews, and Staff and Classwork reviews. Bell JROTC achieved a score of 97 percent to earn the Honor Unit with Distinction (HUD) designation. JROTC programs must score a minimum of 95 percent overall to earn this highest designation. The cadets began focusing on preparation for this comprehensive evaluation over the summer, and continued their preparation during the school year and during the Christmas break. This was no easy task, considering that the cadets have their normal classwork for other courses and participate in other fall extracurricular activities -- including band, varsity athletics and work. All cadets played an instrumental role in achieving this prestigious designation -- with the following cadets leading the way: Hunter Martin (Battalion Commander), Emerson Valdez (Command Sergeant Major), Mikayla Baillie (Executive Officer), MacKenzie Brantley (Personnel Officer), Tela Powers (Security and Safety Officer), Dylan Reid (Operations and Training Officer), Kenneth Freeman (Supply Officer), Jessica Coney (Public Affairs Officer), A J Horne Jr. (A Company Commander), Dakota Sherlock (A First Sergeant), Otis Ware II (B Company Commander), Melina Kalandyk (B First Sergeant), Quinton Silas (Platoon Leader), and Terek Liles (Squad Leader).

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