

Dept. of Public Instruction: Evers to join military family celebration in Tomah

Posted on Thursday, Apr 12, 2018

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MADISON — State Superintendent Tony Evers will join students from the New Lisbon, Sparta Area, and Tomah Area school districts, their families, educators, and other invited guests for a celebration of Military Child Month at the Cranberry Country Lodge in Tomah on Friday.

Under the theme, “Brave Hearts and Resilient Souls,” the event recognizes the challenges and successes of students whose families serve in the armed forces. Activities begin at 11:30 a.m. with the program including music from the Sparta High School choir and introductions of dignitaries and their remarks. Additionally, Fort McCoy’s Military Student of the Year and the Tomah High School Military Student will be introduced and speak. In his remarks, Evers will bring congratulations to students, calling attention to the family, teacher, and community mentor supports that contribute to student success.

The event is hosted by the Tomah Area School District, Cindy Zahrte, superintendent. Student and family participants will also be from the Sparta Area School District, Amy Van Deuren, superintendent, and New Lisbon School District, Dennis Birr, superintendent. Other program participants include Shelley Joan Weiss, Wisconsin commissioner for the Interstate Compact for the Education of Military Children; Becky Walley, outreach director and school liaison officer at Fort McCoy; Garrison Commander Col. David Pinter Sr., Fort McCoy; and Army Chief of Staff Col. Brian Wolhaupter, Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs.

The Month of the Military Child observance was established in 1986 by former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger to underscore the important role that military children play in the armed forces community.