

School Military Advisory Team

School Military Family Point of Contact – Principal Richards' family is very familiar with the pride, sacrifices, and other struggles of military families. She has seven grandchildren whose parents are veterans or currently active duty, two **active-duty Airforce** grandsons, and an **Army veteran** son. She understands the support the families deserve and need while a parent or spouse is absent for long periods of time or misses important family events. She is determined that the school's environment stays a place where the military child knows that staff and peers are appreciative and respectful of those who serve. From the entrance of the school through the lobby, classrooms and lunchroom, there are displays of service, military career opportunities, heroism, and gratitude.

Military Family Representative - Kailah Costello – Kailah is the mother of a Hartridge Military Child and toddler. Her husband is **active-duty Airforce**, currently out of the country. She is a full-time healthcare provider yet is available to welcome military families into our school and community. Kailah was also a **military child** while her **Army veteran father** was deployed for both Gulf Wars. Her input from the perspective of a **military child** who is now the **mom of a military child** helps our program and military families new to the area.

Officer "Tony" Lopez – **Lopez** currently serves our community as a Law Enforcement Officer and a voting member of Hartridge's Governing Board. He is **an Army veteran**. Having a governing board member with military service and children who were students here strengthens the policies and decision making that hold the school true to its values.

Military Academic Staff - Vanessa Contreras Yadav is a Hartridge teacher whose daughter currently attends. Yadav is an **Airforce veteran** and the **child of a veteran**. Her sharing of military travels abroad, patriotism, and work ethic enhance the traditional curriculum lessons and contributions to the Advisory Team.

Military Alumni - Navy Chief Cheyenne Ferguson, former Hartridge student and mom to a Military Child, communicates often from her ship. She visits in uniform when in Florida and shares her adventures. Another former student and son of Hartridge staff is a **Marine**. Former students' memories of Hartridge as well as their current career choices confirm our attention to respect, patriotism, and service.