

MCCS HQ
Building 693

MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

Newsletter
Jan-Mar 2026

welcome

Kindergarten Transition

Workshops!



Weds, 4 Feb 2026
Training Room, MCCS HQ Bldg 693

Two sessions available
9:00-10:30 a.m.
or
3:30-5:00 p.m.

Registration Required
(928) 269-5373
yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org

Topics Include...

- School Options
- Enrollment
- Transportation
- School Age Care
- Readiness & Support

*Workshop is intended for parents;
childcare is not provided



SPRING INTO SUCCESS with online tutoring



Greetings from the

MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program!

Greetings from your MCAS Yuma School Liaison and installation point of contact for all PK-12 school related questions. School Liaisons are uniquely qualified to help address your school related questions and concerns during times of transition and anytime while aboard MCAS Yuma.

In this quarterly edition of the SLP newsletter, you will find:

- ♦ Kindergarten Transition Workshops
- ♦ Helpful Parent Resources & Enrolling in School
- ♦ PCS Smooth Move & Welcome Aboard Briefs
 - ♦ 2026 MCCS Youth Sports Calendar
 - ♦ Early Literacy Calendars
- ♦ Helping Children Find Purpose
- ♦ College & Career Corner + Scholarships
- ♦ PSAT, National Merit & Scholarships
- ♦ Transfers Before & During Senior Year

USMC School Liaisons are the critical link between families, commanders, communities, and schools to improve educational outcomes, quality of life, and operational readiness.

Visit MCCS Yuma on Facebook

[MCCS Yuma – Children, Youth and Parent Programs | Facebook](#)





Parent Resources



School PCS Checklist

Schools & Calendars for Yuma County

Bus Map & Schedules for MCAS Yuma

Arizona Department of Education

Encircle Families

Homeschool Info for Yuma County

MCAS Yuma K-12 School Info Packet for Families

Tips for Parent-Teacher Conferences

Tips for Helping with Homework

Resources for Reading & Literacy

Khan Academy

What do I need to register my child for school?

- ◆ Child's Original Birth Certificate
- ◆ Immunization Records
- ◆ Proof of Arizona Residency
- ◆ PCS Orders to Yuma
- ◆ Current IEP and/or 504 Documents (if applicable)
- ◆ Proof of Withdrawal (previous school)
- ◆ Last Report Card

Know Your Rights—Interstate Compact Rules for AZ

The Military Interstate Compact has certain provisions for children of active duty military service members regarding school enrollment, registration, and other K-12 education related issues that are impacted by frequent PCS moves. Read the full compact in Arizona to know your rights as a military family. *These statutes only apply to Arizona public and charter schools and do not cover children enrolling in private or homeschool programs.*

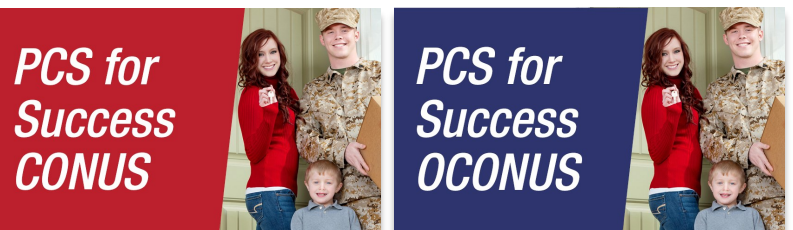
Attend and Get the Info You Need

Are you just arriving to MCAS Yuma? Come check out the **Welcome Aboard Brief** at Sonoran Pueblo! Meet the School Liaison and talk about schooling options and resources.

Getting ready to PCS? Attending **PCS for Success Brief** is an excellent step towards getting yourself and your family ready for your next move. School Liaison will share best practices and tips for smooth schooling transitions.

Call (928) 269-6499 to register or request a sponsor.

<https://yuma.usmc-mccs.org/calendar-of-events>



Youth Sports

2026 CALENDAR

SPORT	AGE	REGISTER DATES	SEASON DATES
Soccer	3-12	Nov 3-28, 2025	Jan 24-Feb 28, 2026
T-Ball	3-6	Jan 5-30, 2026	Mar 21-Apr 25, 2026
Coach Pitch	7-9	Jan 5-30, 2026	Mar 21-Apr 25, 2026
Basketball	7-12	May 4-29, 2026	Jul 25-Aug 22, 2026
Summer Series: Race Ready Splash Camp	5-14	Jun 1-12, 2026	Jun 16-26, 2026
Summer Series: Strike into Summer Bowling Camp	10-14	Jun 15-26, 2026	Jul 2-30, 2026
Summer Series: Indoor Little Champs Camp (Misc. Sports Activities)	3-9	Jun 29-Jul 10, 2026	Jul 21-31, 2026
Flag Football	5-12	Jul 6-31, 2026	Oct 3-Nov 14, 2026
Rugby Tots	3-4	Jul 6-31, 2026	Oct 3-Nov 14, 2026
Cheer	5-12	Jul 6-31, 2026	Oct 3-Nov 14, 2026
Soccer	3-12	Nov 2-27, 2026	Jan 23-Feb 27, 2027



- All Youth Sports Seasons are \$60
- All Youth Sports Camps and Returning Cheer are \$30
- All season practices start 2 weeks prior to the start of the season date

Scan Code to Register
mccsYuma.com



MCCS
 SEMPER FIT

Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		Daily Fun with Your Little One! Help your child get ready to learn to read! Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.		1 Reading On New Year's Day, read <i>Because by Mo Willems</i> , about inspiration and persistence for the new year.	2 Rhymes How many words can you and your child think of that rhyme with "new" and "year"?	3 Math Play Mitten Pairs with your child by matching and counting pairs of mittens.
4 Play Use toy trucks to plow pretend snow. Use cotton balls or salt.	5 Sounds Chirp, tweet, caw, hoot! It's National Bird Day. Ask your child how many different bird sounds she can make.	6 Songs Watch <i>The Four Seasons</i> from Laurie Berkner. Move along with your child as he learns about winter and other seasons.	7 Reading Celebrate Thank You Month by reading <i>Thank You, Omu</i> by Oge Mora with your child.	8 Stories Place 3-5 unrelated objects in a bag. Have your child pull them out one at a time and create a story that includes each of the items.	9 Science Freeze small toys in ice. Then have your child use salt to "melt and rescue" them.	10 Play Walk with a beanbag between your knees and have a penguin waddle race with your child!
11 Writing Draw a snowman and help your child label the parts: hat, eyes, nose, buttons.	12 Math For Soup Month, make soup using math! Ask your child to help you measure the ingredients. Talk about how long the soup will cook.	13 Rhymes Go to the library and ask the children's librarian to recommend a rhyming book or two.	14 Sounds Using empty paper towel rolls or wooden spoons as rhythm sticks, play your child's favorite song and have her match the beat.	15 Play Hide toys or objects around the room and give your child clues to find them.	16 Math Do snowball addition with cotton balls or pom poms. "If I have 2 snowballs and you give me 1 more, how many do I have now?"	17 Science It's Kid Inventors' Day. Provide a variety of cardboard boxes, tape, and other craft supplies to let your child build anything she imagines.
18 Math Make snowballs with your child from snow or tissue paper. Ask him to count each one he throws.	19 Reading It's Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Visit @BrightlyStorytime on YouTube and search the book title <i>Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.?</i> by author Lisbeth Kaiser to hear the read-aloud.	20 Science It's Penguin Awareness Day. Visit aquariumofpacific.org and enjoy the live penguin cam with your child.	21 Sounds For Squirrel Appreciation Day, bundle up for a nature walk with your child. Listen for squirrel sounds: scurrying, rustling, squeaking.	22 Play What better time to try out a new hobby with your child than Hobby Month? Head to your local library and try something new at a workshop or event.	23 Writing Write letters in trays filled with salt or sugar (like snow).	24 Rhymes On Compliment Day, practice rhyming with your child using compliment words: kind/find, sweet/neat, nice/ice.
25 Math Make hot cocoa together and count the scoops of cocoa. If you add marshmallows, count those too!	26 Sounds Tap out a beat on a table or counter. Ask your child to copy your beat.	27 Science Observe bare trees and evergreens with your child. Ask her to talk about the differences.	28 Reading It's Library Shelfie Day! Take a picture with your child and his favorite bin of books. Use #libraryshelfie to share it out.	29 Stories Ask your child to tell you a story. "It's snowing outside! What should we wear: a hat, scarf, mittens?"	30 Songs Listen to a slow song and a fast song with your child. Ask him which he liked best and why.	31 Writing Use wiki stix, playdough, or pipe cleaners and help your child form letters.



January 2026

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Daily Fun with Your Little One!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Writing Draw different-shaped snowflakes and help your child color in each one.	2 Play It's Groundhog Day. Head outside with your child. Do either of you see your shadow?	3 Math When making dinner, have your child help you measure out a few different ingredients.	4 Stories Ask your child to tell you a short story about why February is the shortest month in the year.	5 Rhymes Can you and your child name all the different words that rhyme with "heart"?	6 Stories It's the start of the 2026 Winter Olympics! Ask your child what event he would participate in if he were there.	7 Writing Help your child list her favorite things about February.
8 Play Fold up white coffee filters and cut different shapes into them to make one-of-a-kind snowflakes!	9 Reading It's Black History Month. Head to your local library and ask your children's librarian for some book recommendations.	10 Math Organize candy hearts by color. How many of each color are there?	11 Science Today marks Inventors' Day. Using cardboard tubes, old egg cartons, string, and other items, encourage your child to create her own invention.	12 Play Using watercolor paints, help your child create a winter scene.	13 Math Today is the start of the Great Backyard Bird Count. Head outside and see how many birds you and your child can count.	14 Writing Happy Valentine's Day! Help your child draw or write some of the things he loves on paper hearts.
15 Songs Sing a song together in a very high voice. Then do the same thing in a very low voice instead.	16 Reading It's Presidents' Day. Pick out a book or two to read together about former U.S. presidents.	17 Stories On Random Acts of Kindness Day, tell your child a story about a time someone was kind to you and how it made you feel.	18 Science On this day in 1930, Pluto was discovered! Celebrate the dwarf planet by recreating it with Play-Doh. Don't forget the crater marks!	19 Writing Draw hearts in different styles and encourage your child to color each one.	20 Play Make a heart with your hands and take pictures of yourselves.	21 Rhymes Read a book together and look for words on each page that rhyme.
22 Science It's Engineers Week! Challenge your child to create bridges out of folded pieces of paper and test which shape holds the most weight.	23 Play Sometimes, you can see animal prints in the snow or dirt. See if you can find any.	24 Sounds Head outside and listen for different birds or animals. Can you make the same chirping noise?	25 Rhymes Write down random rhyming words on a sheet of paper and have your child match the rhyming pairs.	26 Play Take a trip to your local playground or park and play outside.	27 Sounds Warmer weather is near! Ask your child what a hibernating bear sounds like when it wakes up in the spring.	28 Reading Together with your child, read <i>Leap's Day</i> by Stephanie Bee Simmons, a story about the calendar, friendship, and the things that make us special.




Help your child get ready to learn to read!

Each day features a fun activity that will help your child build pre-reading skills. Activities are color-coded by skill. Ask your children's librarian for more ideas on how to promote early literacy skills with daily activities at home.

February 2026




HELPING CHILDREN DISCOVER PURPOSE



In Child & Youth Programs, children and teens grow as leaders, uplift those around them, and create lasting positive change. Through CYP, youth discover that kindness, leadership, and service strengthen them, their peers, and their community.

WAYS TO SHOW KINDNESS

KINDNESS WALK



Create chalk messages or drawings to brighten someone's day.

GOODIE BAGS



Share small treats or thank-you bags with first responders or gate guards.

MENTOR A YOUNGER FRIEND



Read, play, or spend time with younger youth who look up to them.

DO WHAT YOU LOVE



Use hobbies—like knitting, sports, or fitness—to help others. Donate handmade items or volunteer at youth events.

JOIN A COUNCIL OR CLUB



Support youth causes, share ideas, and help shape the community.

PARTNERS

Child and Youth Programs partners with national organizations to expand leadership and service opportunities.

[Boys & Girls Clubs of America](#): Torch Clubs and Keystone Programs

Marine Corps Teen Council: Leadership, advocacy, and community impact

[Volunteer Management Program](#): Matches teens with volunteer roles based on interest

MCCS Yuma—Volunteer Opportunities

[MCCS Volunteer Opportunities](#)





Earn College Credits & Cut Costs with AWC

Dual Enrollment

High school students in Yuma County can take college-level courses through Arizona Western College (AWC) while still in high school — earning both high school and transferable college credit. Many high school students successfully complete their HS diploma and Associate's Degree from AWC.

Arizona Promise

AWC's AZ Promise program helps recent graduates get reimbursed for tuition and fees when they complete an associate degree and transfer to a partner university within 5 semesters. Eligible students must:

- Graduate from a Yuma County high school or complete a homeschool program in Yuma or La Paz County
- Complete the FAFSA each year at AWC
- Enroll and attend AWC full-time for a maximum of 5 semesters after graduating high school
- Upon earning transfer degree, transfer and enroll full-time at a Yuma-area university partner after AWC graduation to qualify for reimbursement.

Learn More:

- Dual Enrollment: <https://www.azwestern.edu/dual-enrollment>
- AWC Promise: <https://www.azwestern.edu/admissions/promise>

Transfer Your GI Bill Benefits

Active-duty Marines and Sailors can transfer unused Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits to a spouse or child — covering tuition, housing, and books. Transfers require 6+ years of service and a commitment to 4 more years. Must be done before leaving active duty, and dependents must be enrolled in DEERS.

More info: [VA GI Bill Transfer](#) | [milConnect Portal](#)

SAT Test Dates and Deadlines

Test dates and deadlines apply to all students—U.S. and international—taking the SAT.

Register at <https://mysat.collegeboard.org/>

STEDY — Career & Technical Education in Yuma

What It Is:

The Southwest Technical Education District of Yuma (STEDY) offers tuition-free career and technical education (CTE) for high school students, helping them earn industry certifications, college credits, and real-world skills.

Programs Offered:

Hands-on career training including:

- Business Management
- Cosmetology Hairstyling
- Digital Animation
- Electrical Technology
- HVAC
- Medical Assisting
- Network Security
- Logistics & Supply Chain

...and more pathways aligned with workforce demand.

Who Can Join:

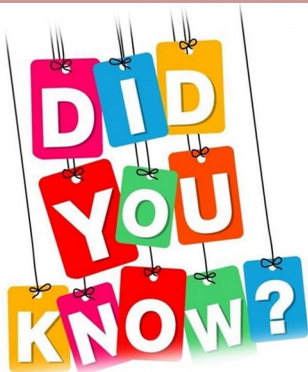
High school sophomores, juniors, and seniors (public, charter, private, or homeschool), with a 2.0+ GPA, good attendance, Yuma County residency, and commitment to a 2-year program.

Costs & Credits:

Programs are **free** (textbooks/materials included; small annual fees apply). Students earn high school credit and in some programs can earn college credit or certifications.

www.stedycte.org

SAT Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes/Late Reg.
23 Aug 2025	8 Aug 2025	12 Aug 2025
13 Sept 2025	29 Aug 2025	2 Sept 2025
4 Oct 2025	19 Sept 2025	23 Sept 2025
8 Nov 2025	24 Oct 2025	28 Oct 2025
6 Dec 2025	21 Nov 2025	25 Nov 2025
14 Mar 2026	27 Feb 2026	3 Mar 2026
2 May 2026	17 Apr 2026	21 Apr 2026
6 June 2026	22 May 2026	26 May 2026



School Transfers Before & During Senior Year

- Arizona law (A.R.S. § 15-1911), known as the Military Interstate Compact, includes provisions to facilitate the on-time graduation of military-connected high school students.
- That means local districts must waive similar coursework already completed, accept comparable exit exams, and—even if a student transfers during senior year—ensure the student can receive a diploma based on the sending school's requirements so that graduation isn't delayed due to a PCS move.
- Parents should share PCS orders and connect with school counselors early to activate these supports.

We value your feedback! Take a moment to let us know what we're doing well and what you would like to see from the MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

Complete the ICE Survey by going to:
<https://ice.disa.mil>



What to Know About the PSAT, National Merit & Scholarships

Families are often surprised to learn that the PSAT taken in October of junior year is the *only* test that qualifies students for National Merit consideration — making early planning especially important for students who may change schools due to PCS moves.

Because National Merit cutoffs are set by state, where your student attends school matters: in Arizona, recent Semifinalist Selection Index cutoffs have been around 218.

National Merit recognition is highly selective: fewer than 1% of students nationwide earn Semifinalist status, making it a powerful academic credential for military-connected students who may attend multiple schools.

Eligibility is based on a "Selection Index," not just the total PSAT score, which helps level the playing field for students coming from different school systems or curricula.

For military families thinking long-term about college affordability, strong PSAT performance can open multiple scholarship paths — including National Merit awards, corporate scholarships, and generous college-sponsored aid.

Many colleges actively recruit National Merit Finalists, offering scholarships that can significantly reduce or eliminate tuition.

Military-connected students have access to free academic support through Tutor.com/Military, which offers 24/7, one-to-one online tutoring in math, reading, writing, and test prep — including PSAT and SAT support — at no cost.

To receive most National Merit scholarships, students must advance to Finalist status, which requires a short application, strong grades, and sometimes confirming SAT or ACT scores — not just a high PSAT score.

Even students who do not advance still benefit: National Merit Commended recognition is a nationally respected academic honor that strengthens college applications, particularly for students with varied school transcripts.

Consistent preparation matters more than last-minute studying, and military families can support success by encouraging regular reading, math practice, and use of flexible online resources that travel well during moves.

For military families, early awareness of the PSAT and National Merit program can be a strategic advantage, turning a single junior-year test into scholarship opportunities that reduce college costs and increase post-secondary options.

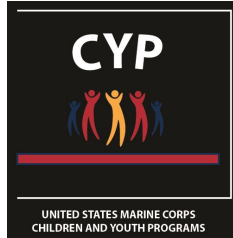
Learn more at <https://www.collegeboard.org/psat-nmsqt>

Looking for installation support for a child who already has an IEP? Reach out to the MCAS Yuma EFMP at (928) 269-2949.



EFMP Exceptional Family Member Program

Families who have childcare needs are encouraged to contact MCAS Yuma CYP Resource & Referral (928) 269-3234/3251.



Family Care Program

MCAS Yuma School Liaison Program

yumaschoolliaison@usmc-mccs.org

(928) 269-5373

www.mccsYuma.com