



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Peninsula High School's TideHawks NNDCC Unit Elevated to Fully Funded NJROTC Status by Department of the Navy**

Gig Harbor, WA – Peninsula School District is proud to announce a significant advancement for the Navy National Defense Cadet Corps (NNDCC) unit at Peninsula High School, known as the TideHawks. The Department of the Navy has officially recognized the TideHawks as a Navy Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (NJROTC) unit, granting it full funding and substantial support.

This recognition comes just three years after the formation of the TideHawks NJROTC, marking a milestone in the program's history. The new status provides the unit with partial reimbursement for two instructor salaries, uniform support, and additional financial aid, which are essential for expanding and enhancing the training opportunities available to our cadets.

The transition from an NNDCC to a fully funded NJROTC unit reflects the exceptional success and operational excellence demonstrated by the TideHawks. The TideHawks were chosen for this honor following a recommendation from NJROTC Program representative Commander Vincent Quidachay, who cited the unit's "highly successful operation" as a key factor in the decision.

Under the steadfast leadership of CMC Robert Stockton, the TideHawks have flourished, with student cadets achieving remarkable success in leadership and naval science education. This new funding will further empower the unit to continue its mission of preparing students for leadership roles in their future careers and fostering a commitment to community service.

"The recognition of the TideHawks NJROTC as a fully funded unit is not just a victory for Peninsula High School but for our entire community," said Superintendent Krestin Bahr. "This achievement underscores our commitment to providing outstanding educational opportunities that inspire and empower every student."

Peninsula School District extends its deepest gratitude to the Department of the Navy for their support and to Commander Quidachay for his endorsement. We also commend the hardworking cadets and their leaders for their dedication and excellence that have significantly contributed to this prestigious recognition.

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