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The DoD STARBASE Program is an effective outreach and integrated educational program that continues to enhance the interest of learning science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) among our nation's youth. It is a valued and relevant program in local communities that is helping to build and enlarge the talent pool of potential innovative workers needed to support the DoD workforce consisting of civilian and military personnel.

In FY 2011, the DoD STARBASE Program operated at 60 locations in 34 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Military commanders partnered with 1,161 schools from 385 school districts to serve over 60,000 students. Approximately 700,000 students have participated in the program since its inception. Funding was provided to establish 16 additional locations, increasing the total number of locations to 76 with the capacity to reach over 75,000 students annually.

The 2011 DoD STARBASE Report discusses the linkage that exists between military commands, public school districts, and non-governmental organizations. It highlights the approaches taken to strengthen the community relationships and provide a worthwhile STEM education experience for the participating students. The report provides an update on the installation of the enhanced standardized program curriculum at all the program locations. It emphasizes how the program continues to expose students to positive role models within the military services. This facet of the DoD STARBASE Program, and the support it receives from senior military leadership, is critical to the student's success. Comments within this report from Lieutenant General Charles E. Stenner, Jr, Chief of Air Force Reserve and Commander Air Force Reserve Command; Rear Admiral Thomas J. Moore, Program Executive Officer, Aircraft Carriers; and Brigadier General Brod Veillon, Assistant Adjutant General – Air of the Louisiana National Guard provide insight into the value of the program. There are also observations from Keith J. Masback, President, United States Geospatial Intelligence Foundation and Ms. Paula M. Harris, President of the Houston Independent School District Board of Education. They provide an industry and educational perspective of the DoD STARBASE Program, explaining why they are strong supporters of the program.

The DoD STARBASE Program Report is an investment in the future of our youth and nation.

David L. McGinnis

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