## PRESS RELEASE

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## ST. PETER'S MONTESSORI FIRST MONTESSORI SCHOOL RECOGNIZED AS AN AZ PURPLE STAR SCHOOL

August 27, 2025: In partnership with the Arizona Purple Star School Program and Luke Air Force Base, St. Peter's Montessori is Arizona's first Montessori school to be recognized as an AZ Purple Star School. St. Peter's Montessori has a 60-year legacy in the west valley with a mission to make authentic Montessori learning accessible to all children. Military connected students benefit from Montessori education due to its individualized curriculum aimed at following the child and meeting the child where they are. Students also benefit from encouragement to develop independence, self-assuredness, and resourcefulness. To achieve this recognition, schools must act and show commitment to understanding the needs of military connected students through specialized staff training, a student liaison program, making information and resources for military families accessible, and built-in military recognition throughout the school year, among other requirements.

"Arizona Purple Star Schools are military-friendly schools who are dedicated to support students and families as they navigate challenges of military life, specifically during transitions and deployments. This recognition not only highlights their commitment to serving military families but enhances the resources and support available within the community. I am genuinely excited about the opportunity to collaborate with St. Peter's and the Luke Airforce Base community." – Samuel Smith, School Liaison Program Manager, Luke AFB

"The Purple Star Program and the Montessori pedagogy complement each other in that both are child centered focused. It is our goal that no child feels alone whenever they face the anxiety when a parent has to be away from home regardless of military affiliation." - David Yanez, St. Peter's School Liaison, Parent, Veteran

Learn more about St. Peter's Montessori School: <u>St. Peter's Montessori School</u>
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