

Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) Military-Connected
Academic and Support Programs (MCASP)
GRANT ABSTRACT

Santa Rosa County District School
Excite, Engage, Explore: Connecting Middle School Students to the Health Sciences
6032 Highway 90
Milton, FL 32570

Project Director

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Unique Entity Identifier: 133193409

Total Funds Requested: \$1,500,000

Military Installations Served: Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Naval Air Station Pensacola, Information Warfare Training Command Corry Station, Eglin Air Force Base, Hurlburt Air Force Base

Focus Area: Health Science

Grant Grade(s)/Levels(s): Grades 6-8

New Applicant: YES

Health Science Focus: YES

Target Schools	Grades	Enrollment, SY 2019-20			Percentage of Military
		Military	Non-Military	Total	
Avalon Middle	6-8	98	762	860	11.40
Gulf Breeze Middle	6-8	105	881	986	10.65
Sims Middle	6-8	155	989	1144	13.55
Hobbs Middle	6-8	85	663	748	11.36
Holley Navarre Middle	6-8	325	879	1204	27.00
Woodlawn Beach	6-8	244	878	1,122	26.23

Santa Rosa County School District (SRCSD) is impacted by five major military installations and known by the military community to be a military friendly, educationally competitive and innovative district. SRCSD is a proud, A-rated district located in the Florida panhandle. SRCSD's vision is for our students to be productive, successful contributors to society. Our mission is to prepare students for success by providing a superior, relevant education. Serving 28,797 students, it is crucial that educational programs provide academic rigor while also preparing students to enter college or the workforce. In 2019, eleven of the nation's 20 fastest-growing jobs were in healthcare (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020). Four of the six SRCSD high schools offer career academies preparing students for careers in health sciences with programs including biotechnology, nursing and pharmacy. In the 2019-2020 Federal Impact Aid application, SRCSD had 3,574 military-affiliated students enrolled. Because the northwest Florida area offers healthcare specialties at modern facilities with some of the most innovative medical technology in the country, our district would be remiss if we did not begin to prepare middle school students to further engage in the health care academies offered at the high school level; thus propelling them into college and/or careers in health science fields. This proposal outlines the desire for SRCSD to prepare the future workforce for work life balance by creating authentic learning experiences that encourage and prepare students to develop skills and aptitude through the application of health sciences with a focus on STEAM innovation.