



Lincoln-Way District 210

News Release

From: Leah Laskowski

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RE: LW-Central, LW-West, LW-East Junior ROTC students shine at Ohio Valley Leadership School

Sunday, June 11 through Saturday, June 17, Lincoln-Way students from the Air Force Junior ROTC programs completed a week-long Leadership School conducted at Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio. Cadets endured intense physical training, leadership skill classes and team-building activities.

Amongst the 150 cadets at the camp, twelve Lincoln-Way students were also there to represent Illinois, as well as Ohio, Kentucky and Michigan high schools. Cadets who attended the course were: Hunter Brugler, Matthew Deavers, Dominica Diangi, Alexis Dunham, Arick Hauschild, Elizabeth Ihrke, Taylor Lenburg, Kirsten Lutz, Elizabeth Prynn, Raechel Sweeney, Michael Thompson and Nathaniel Zambrano. They were accompanied by Lt Col. O'Connor (LW East) and MSgt Schliffka (LW Central, LW West)

Lincoln-Way has several outstanding cadets who were recognized during this week-long program. Taylor Lenburg received the Top Academic Award, by achieving the highest score on the academic exam in the past eight years. Hunter Brugler, Matthew Deavers and Elizabeth Prynn were awarded Top Squadron Members. Dominic Diangi was presented as the Top Flight Member. Matthew Deavers and Elizabeth Prynn made the title First Place Flight Drill Competitors. Arick Hauschild took home the Field Training Exercise Award. Finally, Taylor Lenburg, Nathaniel Zambrano, Kirsten Lutz and Michael Thompson were honored with the Escape and Evasion Top Survival Rate.

"Our cadets did an incredible job representing Lincoln-Way. It was our first time to attend this particular Leadership School and it is considered to be one of the most highly structured and disciplined course available to cadets in the Midwest. They were all personally selected to attend and did not disappoint in their determination to excel," said MSgt Dan Schliffka, instructor for both Lincoln-Way Central and West High Schools.

Students will use their learned skills in the upcoming Lincoln-Way High School Air Force Junior ROTC Summer Drill Camp scheduled for Monday, August 7 through Friday, August 11. This camp is open to all Lincoln-Way students and offers an opportunity to learn discipline, leadership and teamwork.

"Ohio Valley Leadership School was a rigorous experience that tested everyone's physical, mental, and emotional strength, to a point that most high schoolers probably have not undergone before. It forced us to face our fears and misgivings, and ultimately taught us how leaders act and think. And although it was incredibly, unbelievably difficult, it was one of the most influential weeks of my life, both in teaching me about my own strength, as well the strength of relying on my peers. I am very glad to have pushed through it," said Taylor Lenburg, Top Academic Award winner.

