



PHOTO ACCESS FOR PARENTS -

The U.S. Air Force Academy Public Affairs office provides command information to the installation and the public. One of the ways we do this is through social media venues such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. All information provided is official, but there is also fun stuff on there too. Did you know you can download photos from our Facebook page for free?

[Official USAFA Facebook site](#)

[Official USAFA Twitter site](#)

[Official USAFA Instagram site](#)

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Prep School Access:

<https://twitter.com/USAFAPrepSchool>

www.facebook.com/AFPrepSchool

<https://www.instagram.com/usafaprepofficial/>

We also want your Academy photos. Upload them to Instagram using #YourAcademy and YourUSAFAPrep for the Prep School. You might see it on Facebook and Twitter. If you have any questions, please call the Public Affairs office at (719) 333-7731.

Cadet Class Statistics (as of 31 March 2020)

Class Year	Men	Women	Total
2020	697	286	983
2021	764	293	1057
2022	791	278	1069
2023	781	305	1086
WING	3033	1162	4195

58 International Cadets are counted in the Cadet Wing Strength, but do not count in the Fiscal year Strength.

PREP SCHOOL INFORMATION

Below is the Point of Contact for questions for our Preparatory School Candidate parents.

Central Email for Prep School Questions:

PrepInfo@usafa.edu, or phone (719) 333-2583

Website: <https://www.usafa.edu/prep-school/>

FACEBOOK:

<https://www.facebook.com/USAFAPrepSchool/>

Mail: HQ USAFA/PS

5229 Cedar Drive, Suite 117

USAF Academy, CO 80840-3100

Prep School 2019-2020 Academic Calendar:

https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/PL_2019-2020_Calendar.pdf

The power of a good teacher: Cadet asks influential teacher to commission him into U.S. Space Force



C1C Kishan Patel is commissioned in a virtual ceremony by Lt. Col. Karin McWhorter, his former high school teacher, and a member of the Academy's faculty. (Courtesy Photo)

Story by Jennifer Spradlin, April 18, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Kishan Patel is set to commission into the U.S. Space Force as a cyber officer.

Six years ago, he knew nothing about the military. It was his high school math teacher who opened his eyes.

Lt. Col. Karin McWhorter taught at the Mississippi School for Math and Science while her husband was assigned to Columbus Air Force Base. McWhorter was also a Reserve Airmen, serving as the head Academy admissions liaison officer for the state. She graduated from the Academy in 1998.

Football is king in the South and McWhorter liked to represent her alma mater, especially for interservice games. Her enthusiasm about the Academy is what first caught Patel's attention.

"I didn't know about the Academy, which is pretty common in Mississippi, but watching the spirit videos that other cadets had made or

seeing performances by the Wings of Blue - I guess I was enticed," Patel said.

McWhorter helped Patel through the application process and later returned to the Academy to teach calculus. She reconnected with her former student the summer after his freshman year.

"He was so different. He knew nothing about the military in high school, so it was amazing to see how quickly he had embraced the Academy," she said.

Patel has excelled at cyber science and was part of the Academy's award-winning cyber team. He said the instructors here, including McWhorter, have been instrumental in his success.

"They're absolutely incredible, and not just in the classroom, they care about how you are doing and are looking to help you develop into the best officer you can be," he said.

The two have remained in contact and Patel called to ask McWhorter to commission him. It will be a virtual ceremony, but both said the significance will not be diminished.

"As career educator, I have always told my students that my legacy is them," she said. "I'm not going to be a CEO or run for congress, but I believe the people I have taught will do those things. I get really excited about those possibilities and love that I get to have a part in their journey."

Patel said he would tell anyone interested in the Academy to see beyond the benefits of a free education or job security. To him, it's about being part of a team with a higher purpose.

"We are part of the most powerful fighting force in history, united by a common goal. Who wouldn't want to be a part of that?" he said.

Graduation Day: Air Force Academy celebrates Class of 2020



Story by Ray Bowden, photos by Staff Sgt. J.T. Armstrong, April 18, 2020

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY, Colo. — Graduation for the Air Force Academy's Class of 2020 may have been different from what cadets originally expected, but the ceremony on the terrazzo April 18 contained all the trappings and formality you'd expect the school to deliver.

Vice President Mike Pence changed his plans amid the global COVID-19 pandemic to give the commencement address, the Thunderbirds flew over, and 967 new officers closed-out their four years at the school by hurling their caps into the air at the end of the ceremony on the terrazzo.

"Today, the 967 exceptional young leaders of the 62nd graduating class of the United States Air Force Academy started their careers as officers, and I am confident that they will take our Air and Space forces and make them their own," said Academy Superintendent Lt. Gen. Jay Silveria during the ceremony's opening remarks.

Early this month, Silveria announced his plan to move the ceremony from May 28 to April 18, a move supported by Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein, which meant faculty and staff at the school ramped up their efforts to get senior cadets to an earlier-than-expected graduation day.

The base also made several moves in March and April to keep cadets, staff and their families at the base safe from the effects of the novel coronavirus. Most freshmen, sophomores and

juniors left the Academy in March and all cadets began distance online learning. The base locked down to all but official business and families and friends of cadets learned the graduation ceremony would not be public.

Silveria acknowledged these concerns and expressed his gratitude.

"To the parents, families, friends, loved ones, our local leaders, and community members, thank you for your unwavering support," he said.

The superintendent gave a nod to the online audience watching the event from afar via livestream.

"This is a community we would normally welcome to Falcon Stadium but under the current circumstances we are honored to have your support from wherever you may be tuning in," he said.

Missing from the ceremony were the hugs, handshakes and chest bumps cadets typically deliver after receiving their diplomas. Each cadet marched or sat at least six feet away from their peers before, during and after the ceremony.

Secretary of the Air Force Barbara Barrett, Chief of Staff the Air Force Gen. David Goldfein, and Chief of Space Operations for the U.S. Air Force Gen. John Raymond were at the ceremony.

Goldfein administered the oath of office for the Air Force officers and Raymond administered the oath of office to the 86 graduating seniors who are now officers in the Space Force.

In his remarks during the ceremony, Raymond said the new Space Force officers will "fight and win the battle for space superiority."

"You are our future and I need you to be bold," he said.

The Space Force opened for business Dec. 20 to protect U.S. and allied interests in space.

Silveria also thanked the class of 1959, the Academy's first graduating class for a plaque prepared for the class of 2020 "recognizing the permanent bond between past and future, formally honoring the class of 2020 as one that has further strengthened the proud traditions of this institution."

The graduates will leave the Academy in stages throughout April for their first Air Force assignment or their homes for 60 days.



HELPFUL WEBSITES and POCs

Parent Information Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/parents/>

Graduation Information Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/>

AOG's Event Calendar Link:
www.usafa.org/Calendar/Events

Academic Calendars Link:
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/academic-calendar/>

Cadet Curriculum Handbook: (also outlines summer programs available for cadets in what year):
<https://www.usafa.edu/app/uploads/CHB.pdf>

Cadet Major listing:
<https://www.usafa.edu/academics/majors-minors/>

Cadet Clubs: <https://www.usafa.edu/cadet-life/clubs/>

Cadet Survival Guide: Go to www.usafasupport.com and click Arnold Hall

Cadet Media: www.usafasupport.com/cadet-activities/cadet-media

Admissions: (parents can help us recruit future cadets): www.academyadmissions.com/

Sports Schedules:
www.goairforcefalcons.com/calendar/events/

Base Cadet Treats (Flower Shop):
(719) 472-8589, petalsnblooms.com

Gift Cards order phone numbers:
Cadet Store (Base Exchange) (719) 472-1953
10 FSS: (719) 472-7930

Hometown News Release (must have CAC card):
<https://jhns.release.dma.mil/public>

Life Touch photos:
POC: Sherri Peloso <http://lifetouch.com/>
1 (800) 426-9533 extension 128 or 241

UPCOMING DATES:

11 – 15 May 20	Cadet Finals
17 May 20	Prep School Baccalaureate
18 May 20	Prep School Graduation/Parade
22 May 20	2021 Ring Dance 6:00 – 10:00 pm (Mitchell Hall/Arnold Hall)
28 May 20	2020 Class Graduates https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/graduation/
30 May 20	1st Summer Session Begins
20 Jun 20	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
25 Jun 20	2024 Class In-Processes
26 Jun 20	2024 Swearing In Ceremony (time TBD)
4 Jul 20	4 th of July Holiday (2024 BCT training continues)
31 Jul 20	2024 BCT Graduation (not for parents) Cadet Wing only
1 Aug 20	3 rd Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm
6 Aug 20	Cadets Classes Start
4 -7 Sep 20	2020 Parents Weekend https://www.usafa.edu/about/traditions/parents-weekend/
19 Sept 20	Football Game at Purdue
12 Oct 20	Columbus Day No Classes
11 Nov 20	Veterans Day No Classes
24 – 29 Nov 20	Cadets Thanksgiving Break Return by 7:00pm 29 Nov 20
5 -6 Dec 20	Deans Weekend
7 -11 Dec 20	Cadet Finals
14 Dec – 3 Jan 21	Cadet Winter Break Return by 7:00 pm on 3 Jan 21
18 Jan 21	Martin Luther King Holiday No Classes
15 Feb 21	Presidents Day No Classes
24 – 26 Feb 21	National Character & Leadership Symposium (NCLS)
11 – 13 Mar 21	2024 Recognition
19-28 Mar 21	Cadets Spring Break Return by 7:00 pm 28 Mar 21
8 – 9 May 21	Deans Weekend
10 – 14 May 20	Cadets Finals
26 May 21	2021 Graduation
31 May 21	Memorial Day Holiday
29 May 21	1st Summer Session Begins
19 Jun 21	1st Summer Session Ends/ 2nd Summer Session Begins
24 Jun 21	2025 Class In-Processes
4 Jul 21	4th of July Holiday (BCT continues)
10 Jul 21	2nd Summer Period ends/3rd Summer Period Begins
31 Jul 21	3 rd Summer Session Ends/BCT Ends/Cadet Wing Returns by 7:00pm

Parent Liaison Contact Info:

MARIE NIKOVITS

Parents' Liaison

Phone: (719) 333-3828,

Toll Free: (877) 268-3383

Fax: (719) 333-1433

E-mail: USAFA.ParentLiaison@usafa.edu