BE A GOOD ADVOCATE FOR VETERAN STUDENTS

1. Stop and Listen. Transitioning can be hard, and being a sounding board can be extremely helpful.

2. Refer Well. Don't hesitate to refer a student to MVSS or to any other campus resources, but make sure the referral is appropriate.

3. Don't ask many questions. Most veterans consider their service record confidential, and asking questions about their military service can be offensive.

4. Don't tell your war stories. Make the conversation about the student and their needs. Once you develop a stronger relationship, your personal stories can be shared.

5. Making politically charged statements about the military and war can be damaging in building relationships with veterans.

6. Take proactive steps to make your classroom a safe place for veteran students. Allow seating in the rear. Accommodate service animals. Post disclosures about potential trigger subjects in your syllabus. Facilitate safe discussions regarding trigger subjects.
QUESTIONS NOT TO ASK VETERANS

~ Did you kill anyone?
~ Did you see anyone die?
~ Are you glad you are back?
~ Did you miss your family?
~ Do you have to/want to go back?
~ What was it like?
~ Was joining the military worth it?
~ How do you feel about the war?
~ Are you really a veteran?

QUESTIONS TO ASK VETERANS

~ What branch were you in?
~ What was your job in the military?
~ What are your career goals?
~ How is your transition going?
~ How I can help you accomplish your goals?