



Brigadier General Jonathan J. McCollum, serves as the Director, Contract Administration Support Office/Chief of Sustainment, U.S. Army Central Command, Shaw Air Force Base, SC. In addition, he serves as the Senior Proponent Advisor for Acquisition, U.S. Army Reserve. Recognized as distinguished military student and recipient of the General George C. Marshall award, he graduated and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant from Georgia Military College. Upon completing Georgia College and State University with a Bachelor of Business Administration Degree, he entered the U.S. Army. During his 33 years of service, he has served in multiple positions as a Logistician and in the Acquisition Corps (Contracting).

BG McCollum's military education includes the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course, Combined Logistics Officer Advanced Course, Combined Arms Services and Staff School, Logistics Executive Development Course, the Army War College, George Washington University, Elliott School of International Affairs - Senior Manager Course in National Security, Senior Acquisition Management Course, and Program for Executives in Logistics and Technology. He is a member of the Army Acquisition Corps, Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act, Level III Certified in Contracting/Procurement, and Level I Certified in Program Management. He has completed Masters' Degrees in Business Administration, Education and Strategic Studies. In addition, he attended the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

BG McCollum's first assignment was a Platoon Leader in the 928th Maintenance Company, Light Equipment, General Support. Thereafter, he transferred to active duty as a Depot Storage Officer and Liaison Officer at Seneca Army Depot, Romulus, New York, where he was promoted to Captain and awarded the General Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award. After managing "go to war stocks" and providing supplies and equipment in support of OPERATION DESERT SHIELD/STORM, he was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort McPherson, Georgia to serve as a Logistics Staff Officer. Thereafter, he completed his first overseas assignment in Germany in the 29th Support Group as an Operations and Liaison Officer; while there, he also served with the 21st Theater Support Command as an Operation Cell Manager in support of OPERATION JOINT FORGE.

BG McCollum returned to the U.S. in service at the Pentagon and adjacent locations as a Logistics Staff Officer and a Contract Management Officer. Additional assignment/deployment locations include Greece (Exercise Dynamic Mix), Japan (374th Contracting Squadron), Kuwait (408th Contract Support Brigade - OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM), Iraq (Joint Contracting Command Iraq/Afghanistan - OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM), Thailand (Exercise Cobra Gold), Philippines (Exercise Balikatan), and additional assignments throughout the United States in Logistics or Acquisition.

BG McCollum's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with 4 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Army Superior Unit Award, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Iraq Campaign Medal with Campaign Star. He also earned the Army Parachutist (Airborne) Badge, Army Air Assault Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.

BG McCollum is an ordained clergy and a member of Kappa Alpha Psi Inc. He is the son of Harold L. McCollum, Sr. (deceased) and Eloise O. McCollum. He has one child, Jewel F. McCollum.

What does Northside High School mean to you?

Northside High School is indelibly inscribed in my memory and my reality as the place that exhibited, to me, the impetus of the Declaration of Independence. As a student, I was provided the right tools, right opportunities, by great people who exhibited extraordinary patience and extended their prowess for teaching even beyond the classroom environment. From the tenets expressed by those teachers, I learned that I was equal and endowed with treasures as those enjoyed by other students regardless of background. With these tenets, I would find opportunities to life, liberty and pursue my own happiness. As a result, through guidance from the Creator, I have had the opportunity to serve my country in many capacities and throughout the world. Much of what I desired to be and do then – and more, has become my reality. Even more, I am reminded of the great and longstanding friendships in which I continue to enjoy from NHS.

When engaged in dialogue with those I have met, regarding their education from their adolescence, it is not uncommon to endure their contempt for the minimized attention or concern absent from the High School in which they attended. On the contrary, I could not respond in like manner. The holistic demeanor from the general cadre of instructors from Northside enlisted opportunities through recognition, instruction and encouragement. Even at an entry point into college, I did not realize how prepared I was for college upon graduating from NHS. So, to those who embodied the freedoms expressed by the Declaration of Independence, I remain grateful to NHS for preparing me for the challenges in life. As conveyers of professionalism and fairness, I then commend NHS as the place where dreams are developed. From Mrs Havrilla to Mrs. Adams, LtCol(Ret) Mahaffey to SMSgt(Ret) Northenor, Mrs Gray to Mrs Myers (just to name a few), thank you for your embodiment and passion of what the US represents in the world as demonstrated by NHS – "...life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness".