

Additional Ideas for the squadron and teacher to consider for the adopt program:

- 1- If desired, provide teachers with [sample informational letter to parents](#) to explain the *Adopt* program.

- 2- As COVID restrictions allow, the squadron should work with the DAE to coordinate a [Teacher Orientation Program \(TOP\) flight](#) with the Wing Ops team so the teacher will get more interested and excited about the benefits of being a CAP AEM. Options for the flight are:
 - a. The TOP flight can be flown over the school with the students on the ground below, and the teacher can take an aerial photo of the school/students.
 - b. The school principal can also be provided a complimentary CAP AE membership so that he/she can also take the TOP flight and speak to the students from above via a phone and speaker system on the ground.
 - c. The squadron could try to coordinate a field trip to the local airport for the classroom of students where the teacher (and, if desired, principal) will take off and land. Students get a tour of the airport while the teacher (and principal) fly.
 - (1) The pilot can do the pre-flight briefing with the teacher (and principal) while the students also observe. (This can be videoed for future use with students.)
 - (2) Photos with the pilot, the teacher (and principal), and students beside the CAP plane can be taken and shared with the school and the community as a public awareness initiative.

- 3- Plan a virtual or in person Adopt/ACE program lift-off for the students. Or, use these ideas as additional activities after the minimum of three assigned lessons are complete.

Suggestions to consider include:

 - a. Have lessons prepared to conduct with the students on this day. (Suggestions in #7 above.)
 - b. Have an airplane “fly-off” contest.
 - c. Build and liftoff a tissue paper hot air balloon.
 - d. Determine feasibility of a hot air balloon being inflated and tethered on the school grounds.
 - e. Determine feasibility of a helicopter landing at the school for the students to tour.
 - f. Determine the feasibility of a drone (sUAS) demonstration at the school.
 - g. Have a special (in person or virtual) speaker for the students.
 - h. Work with or demo one of CAP’s STEM Kits with the students.
 - i. Determine feasibility of a trip to the local airport or a local aviation museum.
 - j. OR, whatever is possible and desired--- large or small.

- 4- Work with the teacher to plan one or more (in person or virtual) visits to the squadron to have cadets speak to the students about the cadet program.
 - a. Have cadets share info about regular cadet programs, activities, and community service opportunities, as well as scholarships, o’flights, flight academies, the Wings program, and NCSAs, etc.
 - b. Have the cadets talk about how CAP has helped them in school and in life.
 - c. Show the cadet video found on the [Cadet Programs webpage](#).

- 5- Coordinate with the teacher to determine desire for an in person or virtual CAP cadet program informational session to introduce the squadron experience to interested students and parents.
 - a. If any student is interested in becoming a cadet in the squadron, assist the family in learning about the membership process.
 - b. Make sure the new cadet is welcomed to and involved in the squadron to better ensure retention of the cadet.

- 6- Since the [Air Force Association](#) is a supporter of the CAP ACE program, the squadron may want to reach out to closest AFA chapter to determine how both CAP and the AFA can work together to support the adopted classroom.
 - a. Get an idea of how a good collaborative partnership has worked in the [2020 National ACE Collaborative Point of Light Program award](#) involving school program, CAP, and the AFA.
 - b. See info on how an AFA chapter can be involved in the ACE program [HERE](#).
 - c. Speak to the teacher about approving AFA members to also work with your students.
 - d. Encourage the teacher to apply for [a \\$500 AFA Educator Grant](#) to help fund a special project for the classroom. (Applications are open from 1 September until 15 December annually.)
 - e. Work with the AFA chapter and determine interest in helping to purchase [ACE shirts](#) for the students, either by the AFA chapter, or both the chapter and squadron—or, by finding another community sponsor.

- 7- Help coordinate an end-of-program gathering with the teacher and the squadron to distribute end-of-program certificates to the students. Invite other CAP (and AFA) guests, students' parents, and school system and community guests.

