

Northwestern educators get synopsis of recruit training during week-long visit

BY CPL. SHAWN M. DICKENS
Chevron staff

High school administrators, teachers, counselors and a radio personality from Recruiting Stations Portland, Ore., and Seattle, participated in a week-long synopsis of Marine Corps recruit training during the Educators Workshop Monday through today.

The educators began their first day aboard the depot by being greeted the same way every new recruit is greeted.

When the bus screeched to a halt in front of the famous yellow footprints, drill instructors quickly bombarded the vehicles and made their intimidating presence known to the educators.

After yelling for the educators to exit the bus and line up

on the yellow footprints, the drill instructors paced up and down the rows barking orders and ensuring the educators got into the proper position of attention. After several minutes of controlled chaos, the drill instructors stopped their yelling and took a moment to congratulate the educators because they had survived the first two minutes of Marine Corps recruit training. The educators were then taken on a tour of the rest of the receiving process by their drill instructor guides.

"The whole experience has been amazing," said P.J. Hapenny, teacher, South Medford High School, Medford, Ore. "Being treated like a Marine once we got here was really neat and set the tone for the whole workshop."

The educators also attended classroom briefs describing the entire enlistment process,

including recruiting, joining the Marine Corps, boot camp graduation, the Fleet Marine Force, and Marines' lifestyles.

They also visited various training sites around the depot. They watched demonstrations of water survival training at the depot Swim Tank; recruits duke it out in pugil sticks; and even received a class and a demonstration of the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program.

"The Marine Corps offers a lot of diverse opportunities that I was not aware of," said Philip Summers, teacher, Durham Education Center, Portland Ore. "I am sure many of my students would benefit (from the Marines)."

The educators visited Marine Corps Air Station Miramar to learn about the Marine Corps Aviation Program and take an opportunity to get up close and personal with static

displays of both fixed-wing and rotor-winged aircraft used by the Marine Corps to accomplish their missions both overseas and here in the United States.

The educators also visited Weapons Field Training Battalion, Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton,

Calif., to view weapons training displays, and participate in simulated marksmanship training.

Educators leaving the depot today said that they now have a better understanding of the Marine Corps and the young men and women who embody it.



Educators are briefed by Staff Sgt. Mark I. Renteria about the receiving process new recruits go through during their arrival to recruit training. Pfc. Lauren Stehwi/Chevron.



Educators ask questions about Marine Corps aviation to a Marine Corps pilot during their trip to Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., as part of the Educators Workshop, Jan. 20.

Cpl. Shawn M. Dickens/Chevron



Susan McCray, a teacher at Eastmont High School in East Wentworth, Wash., sounds off as a receiving drill instructor, Staff Sgt. Mark I. Renteria, drill instructor, Receiving Company, tells her to stand at attention on the depot's yellow footprints, Jan. 19. Educators from Recruiting Stations Portland, Ore., and Seattle, got a taste of Marine Corps life this week. Pfc. Lauren Stehwi/Chevron.

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