



# Bulldog Bulletin

September 2021 Edition

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## **LEADERSHIP LESSONS**

### The Different Perspectives of Leadership

*Santana Reyes*

### **A Quick Return to Being a Follower**

JROTC, unsurprisingly, places a strong emphasis on leadership and being a leader. Taking on the role of a leader. It's critical because you'll be a leader at some point, whether as a squad leader, supply sergeant, first sergeant, executive officer, company commander, or even guidon to eventual battalion staff leadership. Without a doubt, JROTC molds you into a leader. Of course, there's nothing wrong with it; it's a wonderful thing, and you'll be astonished at how much you can do. But first, let me go back to one of the most critical steps in being a leader: being a follower..

This summer, I had the opportunity to participate in the Junior Cadet Leadership Challenge, otherwise known as JCLC. It was, as the name implies, a significant challenge. JCLC was organized at CSU-P this year. My goal for participating was to put my leadership talents, which I had worked hard to acquire throughout my junior year, to good use.

My first day was jam-packed with activities. We were separated into two companies after sorting out in a formation. People were eventually chosen for leadership roles in both the companies and the battalion as a whole, and we were assigned "battle buddies." I was appointed to be a squad leader, a position I hadn't held in quite some time.

However, at the end of the second day, I was exhausted and underwhelmed in my ability to participate in the challenge. That evening, I sat in my small dorm, wondering if I might learn anything useful, if anything taught there would help me strengthen my leadership. Or was it all just things I'd previously learned? This question kept me occupied for the majority of the night, and I began to reflect on my journey to the position that I currently hold. Part of me felt as though I was back at square one of becoming a leader, and so I wandered back to my years as a LET 1 and LET 2, back to when I was a follower and fresh commander. I thought about the valuable lessons I learned during those years, and how they were some of the most important experiences in my high school career as a whole.

The more I thought about these memories, the more I thought that maybe I wasn't taking advantage of the possibilities of being a follower. When you go through this long journey from follower to leader, it is quite easy to get stuck in this mindset that you must always be in a leader role. But sometimes you can't, and that's not necessarily bad. There are many different roles out there to help develop yourself, and it is not bad at all to go back to whatever part of your journey to explore more of it.

I realized that I needed to embrace being a follower again so I could understand and learn more from others around me. I wanted to learn and analyze all the different forms of leadership from the cadets that are a part of the other battalions of Pueblo. I'm glad I had the opportunity to meet so many great

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people and learn from their journeys from followers to leaders. I was able to fully enjoy JCLC, and the camaraderie of my battle buddy and company was astonishing.

It is important to always strive to be a good leader. Being a good leader means looking and learning from the different perspectives of your journey. Always reflect on the lessons you learn, and remember: it is never a bad thing to return to different points of your journey to remember these lessons.

## **CADET SPOTLIGHT**

*Gabriella Acosta*



**c/Private Elijah Anderson**

Elijah Anderson is the Guidon of Delta Company and is being recognized for being a hard working cadet and having great potential. He has many goals and the drive to achieve them, which is why we are proud to acknowledge his dedication. Elijah shows off the kindness in his heart, as well as the amazing attitude he carries. Needless to say, we are excited to see the great things he will do!



c/Private Brandon Sardello

Charlie Company's staff would like to show their appreciation to Brandon as a notable cadet. He does an amazing job as his company's Guidon, and he is known to take initiative when learning new things. Brandon is also on a few teams including Rifle and Raider, he is known to push his limits to achieve his goals. This cadet is very respectful of his job and those around him, and he shows great promise!

**Company/Battalion Staff, if you have a cadet that you would like to be recognized, message Gabby on discord for more information!**

## **WACKY QUOTES**

*Ciara Reyes*

*These kids are like bouncy balls -random red head*

*Something funny -Gabby*

*How do you steal cheese? -Garrett*

*Leadership advice?! Do what you're told or die! -Major*

*You're choking your chickens in here. -Demoss*

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## **CURRENT EVENTS**

September 11th, 2001

*Michael Lamb*

Not only every day, but especially on the solemn anniversary, we remember victims of the 9/11 attacks, their families, and all those who served in the years following. This year, we remember the 20th anniversary of the tragedies that occurred on September 11th, 2001. In the time following the attacks, people across the world united in remembrance. Amidst the nation's darkest days, millions of candles cast light upon our communities. Twenty years later, we keep the same spirit, only this time, The Department of Homeland Security hosted a virtual candlelight. This month we remember all 2,977 people that would say goodbye to their families for the last time that day.

## **TEAM UPDATES**

*Xavier Rael*

- Drill Teams: Will be looking for new members in spring
- Competition Color Guard: Will be looking for new members in December
- Honor Guard: Is looking for new members, talk to Santana Reyes
- National Cyber League/Cyberstart/All other Cyber Teams: NCL has begun
- JLAB Academic and Leadership: Message Kyrie Gruca and Gabby Acosta to join, practice starts at the beginning of October
- Rifle Team: Had their first match against County on 9-16-21
  - Pueblo County A took first with a score of 1013
  - Pueblo Centennial A took 2nd with a score of 857
  - Pueblo County B took 3rd with a score of 853
  - Pueblo Centennial B took 4th with a score of 723
- Service Learning Project: Message Garrett Waldrep to join SLP

*If you would like to have your School Team/School Related/Extracurricular Activity put onto this list, please email - [ga5020@d60student.org](mailto:ga5020@d60student.org)*

## **POLLS**

*Gabriella Acosta*

Check out the Polls!

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*Cheese Animals Subway*

## **AWARDS AND PROMOTIONS**

*Gabriella Acosta*

### *Promotions:*

Aaron Knabe, Alpha Company: Promotion from c/Private to c/Captain

Jayden Ocasio, Alpha Company: Promotion from c/Private to c/1st Sergeant

Hector Hernandez Munoz, Bravo Company: Promotion from c/Private to c/Captain

Adriano Benavidez, Charlie Company: Promotion from c/Private to c/1st Lieutenant

Garrett Waldrep, Charlie Company: Promotion from c/Sergeant First Class to c/Captain

AJ Acosta, Charlie Company: Promotion from c/Corporal to c/1st Sergeant

Alexis Mondragon, Delta Company: Promotion from c/Private First class to c/1st Lieutenant

Roman Martinez JR, Delta Company: Promotion from c/Corporal] to c/Captain

Sabastian Peek, Delta Company: Promotion from c/Sergeant First Class to c/1st Sergeant

Brad Benoit, Echo Company: Promotion from c/Corporal to c/Captain

Nathan Sheppard, Foxtrot Company: Promotion from c/First Sergeant to c/Captain

Anthony Lopez, Foxtrot Company: Promotion from c/Private First Class to c/1st Sergeant

**Good luck Company Staff!**

## **CLASSIFIEDS**

*Ciara Reyes*

Cyberdogs is looking for new members, if you're interested please contact Santana Reyes: [sr1482@d60student.org](mailto:sr1482@d60student.org) or come into the JROTC room afterschool on Tuesday or Thursday.

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Ceremonial Color Guard and Honor Guard are looking for people to perform during football games and assemblies. Please contact Ciara Reyes for more info about Honor Guard: [cr1481@d60student.org](mailto:cr1481@d60student.org) or Michael Lamb for Color Guard: [ml7815@d60student.org](mailto:ml7815@d60student.org)

If you are a sophomore looking for a leadership position and more important skills then SLP might be the team for you! Please contact Garrett Waldrep if you are interested: [gw0692@d60student.org](mailto:gw0692@d60student.org)

### **Comments?**

If you have any questions, comments or concerns, please contact [ga5020@d60student.org](mailto:ga5020@d60student.org)!

### **A VERY BIG THANK YOU!**

*A big thanks to everyone involved in the newsletter. Thank you Santana Reyes (BC) for writing the Leadership column, Gabby Acosta (S-1) for the Cadet Spotlight, Polls, and Awards/Promotions, Ciara Reyes (BXO) for the Classifieds and Wacky quotes, Michael Lamb (CSM) for Current Events. And a final thank you to Xavier Rael (S-2/3) for our team updates!*

*A big thanks to Demoss for proofing and suggesting some great ideas!*

*Another thanks to Major for publicizing the Bulldog Newsletter!*