AFIMSC commander wants to get to know you

Malcolm McClendon AFIMSC Public Affairs

JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO-LACKLAND, Texas – "It's important to me to get to know people," said Maj. Gen. John Allen, commander of the Air Force Installation and Mission Support Center, during his first AFIMSC Brown Bag Lunch Oct. 20.

The virtual meeting, conducted in a relaxed forum, was an opportunity for Allen to get to know and hear from the AFIMSC Airmen executing the mission every day, as well as for him to share a little about himself and answer any questions.

The commander plans to host the 60-minute Microsoft Teams sessions on a regular basis to allow Airmen from across the enterprise to participate.

"This isn't me pushing a message or anything, this is just us getting together to talk," said Allen. "What I've found is that it can be an effective way to check up on things you might have heard. You might be wondering about the new commander, 'Who is he?' or 'I heard he's going to do this,' so this is the forum to ask those questions and I'll answer them."

Curtis Stanley, Agile Combat Support analyst with AFIMSC's Expeditionary Support and Innovation Directorate, appreciated that the general was taking time to get to know the force and answer those types of questions. He wanted to know the commander's thoughts about whether AFIMSC would adopt a different AFIMSC organizational structure.

"He answered my question and even went past our scheduled time, ensuring we understood his thoughts," Stanley said. "I do feel better connected to the way he thinks and his commitment to Airmen."

Candice Vasquez, a government information specialist with AFIMSC's Installation Support Directorate, attended the meeting to get to know the new commander.



"I wanted to get to know the general away

from the official setting and hear what his vision was for AFIMSC," Vasquez said. "I found he's very family oriented and has big plans."

Vasquez added she felt the brown bag lunches are a good idea, because they are intimate and convey a sense of unity as a team.

It is Allen's vision to get to know as many AFIMSC Airmen as possible.

"I encourage supervisors to attend these sessions and bring the most junior Airmen they can find. Young minds, plus senior leadership vision, equals a stronger force," Stanley said.

Vasquez agreed.

"I would recommend my fellow AFIMSC Airmen sign up for the brown bag, because they would have the chance to talk to the general in an informal setting," she said.

The Brown Bag Lunches are open to all AFIMSC Airmen both military and civilian, limited to 15 people per session and take place between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Central Time. Participants should sign in no later than five minutes before the session begins and ensure they're camera- and mic-ready. Dress is uniform of the day for military members and normal workplace attire for civilians.



To sign up, click <u>here</u>.