

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

Nevada State Council

Wednesday, November 05, 2024

2:00 p.m.

| Office | Address | City | Meeting Room |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Department of Education | 2080 E Flamingo Rd. | Las Vegas | Board Room #114 |
| Department of Education | 700 E. Fifth St. | Carson City | Board Room |
| Department of Education | Virtual/Livestream | N/A | N/A |

DRAFT SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

State Commissioner Felicia Gonzales
State Council Member Elizabeth Erway
State Council Member Steve Staggs
State Council Member Melanie Murphy
State Council Member Nora Luna
State Council Member Julie Pazina
State Council Member Steven Staggs
State Council Member Kristina Aubert
State Council Member Kelli May Douglas
State Council Member Sydney Aschenbrenner
State Council Member Derild Parsons

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

KellyLynn Charles, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE

None

1. CALL TO ORDER; ROLL CALL; PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 2:01 PM by State Commissioner Gonzales. Rollcall was taken and quorum was established. State Commissioner Gonzales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No Public Comment

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 14, 2023, NEVADA STATE COUNCIL MEETING

State Council Member Kristina Aubert moved to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2023, meeting.

State Council Member Nora Luna seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS

Commissioner Gonzales welcomed all present members, no new members to introduce.

5. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING UPDATE

Commissioner Gonzales reminded the Council the purpose of the Compact is to provide consistency across all States, and it was drafted with the intent to avoid conflict with existing State codes where possible. It replaces widely varying state policies that affect transitioning military-connected students and supports uniform

treatment for these students as they transfer between school districts and member states. She stated that while the Compact is not exhaustive in what it covers, it does address the key issues encountered by transitioning military families and students such as eligibility, enrollment, placement, and graduation. State membership on this Commission demonstrates Nevada's commitment to military-connected students and our support for successful education transitions. Commissioner Gonzales personally thanked the members for taking the time to participate in this council today.

Commissioner Gonzales shared that the Commission conducts an annual business meeting in the fall in order to allow State Commissioners to come together and provide input on issues that have come up throughout the year in their states. It also offers the opportunity to engage in discussions within Tier groups, discuss and vote on bylaw changes that may impact our States. Commissioner Gonzales stated the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, or MIC3, held its Annual Business Meeting on October 16th and 17th, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The event, hosted by Teresa Ferenczhalmi New Mexico's Compact Commissioner, included over 120 attendees including state Compact Commissioners, ex-officio members, state and district personnel, and military school liaison officers, such as Kristina Aubert, representing various branches of service.

Highlights included a special brief on the MIC3 Strategic Plan, a presentation from the Education Commission of the States, a presentation on Impact Aid 101, and a report from Department of Defense representative, Dianna Ganote. Kelli May Douglas, Pacific Southwest Regional Liaison of the Defense State Liaison, highlighted accomplishments from 2024, and introduced the key goals and programs that would be the focus for 2025. Two panels were conducted, one from the ex-officio members of MIC3 on advocacy and awareness, and one from the school liaisons on supporting families and building partnerships. Additionally, four states, Alabama, Florida, Michigan, and Virginia gave presentations on their best practices for implementing the Compact and how they support military connected children with their education transitions.

Commissioner Gonzales informed the Council that all executive officers of the commission were re-elected for another year, Louisiana Commissioner Ernie Singleton is the chair, Minnesota Commissioner Darren Cortez is the vice chair, and Washington Commissioner Greg Lynch is the treasurer.

Lastly, at the end of the ABM, Treasurer Lynch gave a presentation on the financial responsibilities of the Commission, and a 5-year fiscal plan for fiscal year 2027 through 2032. The Finance Committee created and approved a proposed 5-year plan that incorporates dues increases beginning fiscal year 2027 and took rising inflation rates into account. Treasurer Lynch then reviewed the fiscal work that the Finance Committee had planned for fiscal year 2025, no vote was taken on the proposed 5-year plan. Commissioner Gonzales anticipates that this plan will be on the agenda at next year's meeting in Indianapolis, IN.

Commissioner Gonzales closed out this section after no further questions.

6. SCHOOL LIAISON AND MEMBER REPORTS (*Information/Discussion*)

State Commissioner Gonzales asked to hear from the School Liaison Officers and other members with something to bring to the Council.

State Council Member Aubert began by reviewing Compact related concerns that have been addressed since the last council meeting and were resolved at the lowest level, or with the assistance of the MIC3 Commissioner. The first case involved special education, specifically 504 accommodations, which was resolved between the school liaison and the school itself. Nevada awarded 2 reciprocal diplomas for seniors who moved in the second semester of their senior year. Additionally, there was one case involving a seat time requirement when a student attended school in Las Vegas during her father's deployment. The MIC3 Commissioner facilitated the award of credits for that student. She stated that families are continuing to become more aware of the Compact, and she facilitates that by providing a parent specific guide, along with emails that are sent to members of Nellis, Creech, the Nevada Test and Training Range, and all other tenant units. Other concerns being identified in her area of responsibility include the change in kindergarten age requirements. Commissioner Gonzales provided clarification on this subject. She stated that although there are age requirements to enroll in kindergarten in Nevada, if a student comes from another school where they were already in a seat attending kindergarten in the sending state, Nevada has to place them.

Member Murphy stated that there are no MIC3 challenges in her area of responsibility. Non-MIC3 challenges are educator and support staff shortages. Churchill County School District has implemented relocation and incentive pay to combat teacher shortage, along with bonus pay to attract substitutes and bus drivers. Another challenge they have been having is that their military and family life counselor billets were unfunded for 2023-2024. Lastly, she addressed Assembly Bill 185, which allows charter schools to offer priority for students of

military members. Although this is helpful, the charter school in Churchill County has not opted to provide this to families.

Member Ashenbrenner identified some lapses of education in MIC3 policies that had to do with the district being unfamiliar with MIC3 laws and regulations. Additionally, she encouraged districts to identify a method that helps them collect and keep track of data pertaining to military students.

Commissioner Gonzales closed out this section after no further questions.

7. PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM UPDATE (*Information/Discussion*)

Commissioner Gonzales asked to hear the update on the Purple Star Schools (PSS) program including the application process. She introduced KellyLynn Charles to present. ([see meeting materials](#)) Ms. Charles shared that 14 new Purple Star Schools were added in 2024, and that Carson City High School in Carson City had the district's first Purple Star School award. She also shared that applications for 2025 are now open, and there are 2 additional items to the application. First is a suggestion that middle school and high school add an additional point of contact who is one of their counselors. The second item is to offer the ASVAB to all juniors and seniors. State Commissioner Gonzales thanked Ms. Charles for all her hard work and then closed out this section after no questions.

8. NEVADA STATE COUNCIL GOAL SETTING (*Information/Discussion/For possible action*)

State Commissioner Gonzales opened the floor to KellyLynn Charles to provide updates on Nevada State Goals, to revise or develop goals as necessary for 2025. Ms. Charles started with the [2024-2025 Goals](#) presentation for Cultural and Structural goals. She reminded the Council there are Cultural Goals and Structural Goals, both broken into short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals. In short-term goals, the media campaign is in progress. A video was released on social media with various military and school representatives wishing all Nevada children a happy Month of the Military Child. Additionally, they were able to turn the Welcome to Las Vegas sign purple for the last couple weeks of April. The next Cultural goal was to create webinars and present the Compact across the state. Ms. Charles presented Social and Emotional Learning and The Military Child at 2 conferences in Nevada. For the mid-term goals, increasing the number of Purple Star Schools. The goal was to have 50 schools and 3 school districts; they are currently at 44 schools and 2 districts. The next goal was regarding exposure to the military as a viable career option. Ms. Charles, along with many other NV educators attended the Marine Corps Educator Workshop at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Ms. Charles also stated she connected with a parent in the district who regularly hosts military scholarship informational meetings. For Cultural long-term goals, mental health information has been integrated into the Military Children in Our Schools Course. For the structural goals, there were 2: increase data accuracy and specificity of military connected students, and work to assist all districts and schools on Impact Aid applications. Both goals were in progress.

KellyLynn opened the floor for questions. There were no questions.

KellyLynn asked if the members had suggestions for new goals, goals to continue, or goals to revise for the coming year. Commissioner Gonzales for short-term goals suggested hosting presentations to school boards and the Nevada School Counselor Association on what the Compact is and the Purple Star School Program. State Council Member Erway suggested building a relationship with the National Guard and Reserves to make the Compact known on a bigger and more consistent level, along with having 60 Purple Star Schools next year. Members agreed the other goals could be continued for next year.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

There were no future agenda items from the Council.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT #2

There was no public comment.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:56 PM