

Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3)
Nevada State Council
Wednesday, NOVEMBER 14, 2022, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

MEETING LOCATIONS			
Department of Education	2080 E Flamingo Rd.	Las Vegas	Board Room
Department of Education	700 E. Fifth St.	Carson City	Board Room
Department of Education	Virtual/ Livestream	n/a	n/a

SUMMARY MINUTES OF THE COMMISSION MEETING

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Via Videoconference

State Council Member Nicole Jullanant
State Council Member Steve Staggs
State Council Member Summer Stephens
State Council Member Marva Clevon
State Council Member Brittney Miller

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

In Person

State Commissioner Felicia Gonzales
State Council Member Colonel Kevin Mares
State Council Member Kristina Aubert

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

State Council Member Holly Payne
State Council Member Cecilia Yacuta
State Council Member Evan Rush
State Council Member Deja Walker-Cole

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

KellyLynn Charles, Office of Educator Development, Licensure, and Family Engagement
Martha Warachowski, Office of the Superintendent

AUDIENCE IN ATTENDANCE

Via Livestream

Kelli May Douglas

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

Meeting called to order at 3:05 PM by State Commissioner Gonzales.

Roll call was taken, and a quorum was established.

State Commissioner Gonzales led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2: PUBLIC COMMENT #1

No Public Comment

3: APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 10, 2021, NEVADA STATE COUNCIL MEETING

State Council Member Brittney Miller moved to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2021, meeting.

State Council Member Summer Stephens seconded the motion. Motion passed.

4: WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS AND NDE REPRESENTATIVE

Before introducing the new members, State Commissioner Gonzales recognized Carol Padilla. She served as a School Liaison Officer (SLO) for Nellis and Creech Air Force Base (AFB), served as a school volunteer at Coral Academy, was well known in Clark County schools, and is considered one of the best and experienced SLOs across the United States. State Commissioner Gonzales introduced a new council member, Colonel Kevin Mares who is replacing Colonel Figuera. Colonel Mares is the Mission Support Group Commander for the 99th Airbase Wing at Nellis Air AFB. State Commissioner Gonzales next introduced the new School Liaison Officer for Nellis and Creech, Kristina Aubert. State Council Member Aubert introduced herself and stated she is excited to make positive changes and outcomes for military-connected students throughout the state.

5: COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

State Commissioner Gonzales restated the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) mission of providing consistency across States with the intent to avoid conflict with existing State codes where possible. It replaces widely varying state policies that affect transiting military-connected students and supports uniform treatment for these students as they transfer between school districts and member states. State Commissioner Gonzales went on to state that while the Military Interstate Children's Compact (the Compact) is not exhaustive in what it covers, it does address the key issues encountered by transitioning military families and students deal with areas such as eligibility, enrollment, placement, and graduation.

State membership on the Commission demonstrates Nevada's commitment to military-connected students and our support for successful education transitions.

The Commission conducts an annual business meeting in the fall. This meeting allows State Commissioners to come together and provide input on issues that have come up in their states. It also offers the opportunity to attend workshops, discuss issues, and vote on bylaw changes that may impact their States. The annual meeting also allows attendees to hear about best practices in managing issues that come up regarding the Compact.

State Commissioner Gonzales went on to report that the MIC3 held its annual business meeting on October 19 – 20, 2022 in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, the first in person meeting since the pandemic. The event hosted by Dr. Ernise Singleton, LA Compact Commissioner, included over 120 attendees, including state compact commissioners, ex-officio members, state and district personnel, and military school liaison officers from various branches of service. Commissioner Gonzales shared the highlights of the business meeting, to include Ken Bradford, LA's Department of Education Chief Operations Officer, keynote speaker Mrs. Sharine Brown, who emphasized the importance of the Commission and our state councils. State Commissioner Gonzales shared the executive officers that were elected for a second term. Those names include Connecticut Commissioner, Laura Anastasio as Chair, Louisiana Commissioner, Ernise Singleton as Vice Chair, Missouri Commissioner, Bryan Henry as Treasurer, and Arkansas Commissioner John "Don" Kaminar.

State Commissioner Gonzales recalled last year's proposal to expand the Military Interstate Children's Compact coverage to include children of the Nevada National Guard and Reserves. Currently, only children of servicemembers on Title 10 orders are covered under the Compact. Nevada State Council members and military-connected stakeholders were surveyed and asked to recommend a position. After considering the issues of need,

choice, and fairness, based on the feedback, the Nevada State Council recommended expanding the Compact to include the children of the National Guard and Reserve, regardless of orders. At the annual business meeting, the Commission approved the development of a legislative toolkit for member states who wish to pursue similar legislative coverage or dependence of the National Guard and Reserve beyond those covered under Title 10 active-duty status. Additionally, State Commissioner Gonzales shared a secondary issue that was discovered. There was an incorrect citation in the model language in the compact in Article 2a and 3a1, both of which refer to members of the National Guard and Reserve on active-duty orders pursuant to 10 USC section 1209 and 1211, these provisions should both cite instead to 10 USC chapter 1209 and 1210. She stated this is a technical error in a section of the Compact which controls its coverage area, and it is best practice that the citation error should be corrected in each compacted state, Nevada included. Following the discussion at the annual business meeting, a second measure was approved to provide administrative and legislative support to member states to correct the compact citation statute.

State Commissioner Gonzales opened the floor for discussion. State Council Member Assemblywoman Miller, asked since we have passed legislation supporting this measure, is legislative action necessary to correct the citation. Commissioner Gonzales confirmed that a bill will need to be drafted after speaking with the Attorney General's office. The Office recommended that it could be a proposal to the Chair of the Education Committee as one of their bills. The change for coverage of the children of National Guard and Reserve, which would have to be a separate bill, will also need a sponsor. State Council Member Assemblywoman Miller stated that since this is a change there could be a bill submitted through the Legislative Operations and Elections interim committee. She stated that she could have it addressed. State Commissioner Gonzales thanked her and said she will email her the details.

State Council Member Douglas, SW Regional School Liaison Officer of Marine Corps Installation West (MCI-West), asked if there will be a change from Title 10 to just stating Active Duty instead of changing section to chapter. State Commissioner Gonzales stated that we will wait for MIC3 to provide the model language for all states so there is consistency. State Council Member Douglas asked whether Space Force would be included. State Commissioner Gonzales stated that it is included. State Council Member Douglas asked for clarification on whether adding members of the National Guard was going to be in MIC3 or outside the statute.

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 stated that some of the challenges, especially in Clark County School District (CCSD), are the school staffing shortages, for example substitute teachers, bus drivers, and support staff. There has been an impact for bussing for students. She has been working with schools that service Nellis AFB to help with issues. Another challenge faced are preschool options, inbound families are requesting support for finding preschool options. Senate Bill 102 requires kindergarteners to be 5 by their first day of school. This has been impacting families who experience a permanent change in station from other states before their child was enrolled to kindergarten and were on track to start kindergarten. Some best practices are that MIC3 concerns are solved at the lowest level and continuing to educate and train for MIC3 at all opportunities with the school principals, registrars, counselors, along with inbound and outbound parents. Families are still receiving free school meals in CCSD because they are still participating in the Community Eligibility Provision of the Federal Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act, which has been a huge benefit to military connected students.

No other liaison had items to report.

7: PURPLE STAR SCHOOLS PROGRAM UPDATE

Commissioner Gonzales asked to hear the update on the Purple Star Schools (PSS) program including the application process. She introduced Martha Warachowski and KellyLynn Charles to present.

Martha Warachowski started with “Why Purple Star Schools.” She shared the [Nevada Purple Star Schools Update 2022 PowerPoint](#) presentation. In summation, she stated that Purple Star Schools are designed to help schools respond to the educational and social-emotional challenges military-connected children face during their transition to a new school and this program keeps students on track to be college, workforce, and life-ready. She then spoke about the process for schools to apply to become a Purple Star School and thanked KellyLynn Charles for providing this process. Martha stated that there are 2 application periods per year and that they are dedicated to ensuring that any school receiving the PSS designation meets the requirements outlined in the application process. She stated that schools that are awarded the PSS designation are given a special recognition banner and certificate to display on site and a professional learning book to guide ongoing professional development. She then turned it over to KellyLynn Charles.

KellyLynn Charles added that once a school applies there are 3 reviewers that score the school based on the rubric. She stated that if a school does not meet the requirements, they are provided feedback and given an opportunity to submit the required feedback by the deadline. KellyLynn stated that there have been a few changes to the required activities section of the application. Her example: during the pandemic, since in-person activities were halted, schools were allowed to add future activities onto their application. KellyLynn stated that going forward there will be a limited number of future activities allowed on the application. There was also a change in the wording option from “Planned Event” to “In Progress” to shift narrative that the activities are in progress and not just planned. KellyLynn spoke on the last requirement for the application, the Military Children in our Schools Canvas Course. She stated that this course is also provided on Google for those who do not have access to Canvas. The course is self-paced where participants learn about military culture, the compact, learning strategies for supporting military-connected students, and provided resources for teachers, students, and parents. KellyLynn stated that there was a change in wording for the “Optional Activities” section of the application. That change was adding the wording “Completed,” “In Progress,” and “On Hold” for those activities that are in the process of being planned for a future date. KellyLynn stated there is an annual reporting form in the works for schools to show what they have done each year to maintain designation.

KellyLynn announced awarding 13 schools and 2 districts the Purple Star Schools Award in April 2022. Churchill County and Mineral County had every school in their districts individually earn the PSS status. Therefore, as a district they have made a commitment to military children. The following schools that earned the PSS status are:

1. Mineral County High School
2. Hawthorne Elementary School
3. Hawthorne Junior High School
4. Schurz Elementary School
5. Churchill High School
6. Churchill Middle School
7. E.C. Best Elementary School
8. Numa Elementary School
9. Lahontan Elementary School
10. Palo Verde High School
11. Desert Oasis High School
12. Rundle Elementary School
13. Doral Academy Northern Nevada

KellyLynn announced that there were 5 more schools that were awarded the PSS status in November 2022. The following schools that earned this status are:

1. Mojave High School
2. Cora Academy of Science – Centennial Hills
3. Lamb of God Lutheran School
4. Elizondo Elementary School
5. Mt. Rose Academy of Languages

KellyLynn and Martha hosted an informational table at Aviation Nation at Nellis AFB from 4:30 AM to 6:30 PM both days of the event, where NDE staff, teachers, principals, and even a student from a Purple Star School joined the table to speak to the hundreds of participants. Families and students from all different schools stopped by the table. Flyers were handed out along with “Purple Up for Military Kids” bracelets. State Commissioner Gonzales thanked KellyLynn and Martha for their presentation and opened the floor to questions. State Council Member Dr. Summer Stephens stated that the change in what needs to be shown to qualify for being awarded PSS status is a good change and having the ongoing requirements is a great idea. State Council Member Jullanant spoke for State Council Member Yacuta and said that the panel process providing feedback is a good process.

8: NEVADA STATE COUNCIL GOAL SETTING (*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 2023. KellyLynn Charles started with the [2022-2023 Goals](#) presentation for Cultural and Structural goals. Cultural goals were broken into short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals. In the short-term goals, the media campaign goal is currently in progress and the webinar goal was met. In the mid-term goal, increasing the number of PSS in Nevada was met with 25 schools and 2 districts. The long-term goals, both goals were in progress: increase site visits by military personnel to schools to show that the military is a viable career option and Nevada guard as a champion of mental health efforts. 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 there were any new goals, goals to continue, or goals to revise for the coming year. State Commissioner Gonzales liked to keep all goals the same but just increase the amount of Purple Star Schools. Member Staggs agrees with State Commissioner Gonzales. KellyLynn asked how many Purple Star Schools to have by November 2023. State Council Member Dr. Stephens stated she would like to see 10 more schools and 1 more district. Commissioner Gonzales agreed with State Council Member Dr. Stephens.

State Council Member Staggs motioned to approve reinstating the current goals for 2023 and adding 10 schools and 1 district into the Purple Star School program. State Council Member Aubert seconded the motion. Motion approved.

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.