

# State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

## Annual Meeting

Bellevue Public Schools Welcome Center Board Room  
2600 Arboretum Drive  
Bellevue, Nebraska

**September 12, 2018**  
**10:30 A.M.**

### Minutes

The Nebraska State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children held its annual meeting on September 12, 2018. Publicized notice of the meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the Internet, which gave the date, time and location of the meeting.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education and Council Commissioner of the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:30 a.m. The following members were present: Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent, Bellevue Public Schools; Colonel Dave Norton, U.S.A.F., 55<sup>th</sup> Wing Mission Support Group Commander, Offutt Air Force Base; Charles Gorman, representative for Senator Mike Groene, and Sara Hulac, Legal Counsel III. Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education, was absent.

Brian Halstead announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

Phillip O'Donnell, Military Affairs Liaison, Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs, thanked and appreciates the support the Council provides for military families. Mr. O'Donnell highlighted a February 23, 2018 memorandum from the Secretaries of the Air Force, Army and Navy to the National Governors Association which "encourages leadership to consider the quality of schools near bases and whether reciprocity of professional licenses is available for military families when evaluating future basing or mission alternatives." By fulfilling its mission, the Nebraska State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children helps

to maintain the quality of schools near Offutt Air Force Base and improves the base's value to the Department of Defense.

### **3. APPROVAL OF 2017 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Sara Hulac second by Dr. Rippe: To approve the minutes of the September 13, 2017, State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children meeting.

Voting Yes: Halstead, Rippe, Norton, and Hulac

Absent: Matthew L. Blomstedt

The motion passed.

### **4. REPORTS BY MEMBERS ON ACTIVITY OR ISSUES**

Mr. Halstead reported that he attended the National Annual Meeting of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) last October in Rhode Island. He is planning to attend the next meeting scheduled this October in Ohio. Mr. Halstead reported that he presented at the training offered by MIC3 last fall in Bellevue. School districts from all over Nebraska were represented and the training was well received.

Mr. Halstead reported that there were no issues presented to NDE by individuals or military families this past year. He indicated that in the NDE State Accountability Report Card, to be released in December 2018, military children will be denoted for the first time.

Dr. Rippe reported that there have been no issues and appreciates the relationship with Offutt Base personnel, Col. Norton and School Liaison Officer (SLO) Michelle Pridell, who all do a great job.

Col. Norton reported that there have been no issues at the Offutt Air Force Base and reiterated the appreciation of the relationship between Offutt and school districts in and around the base. Col. Norton indicated that it is well known at the base that within a 30 mile radius of Offutt there are excellent school districts for their students to attend.

Charles Garman, representative for Sen. Groene, had nothing to report from the Senator.

Sara Hulac had nothing to report.

### **5. DISCUSSION OF NEBRASKA'S PARTICIPATION IN AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN**

No Council member had any concerns or issues to report.

There being no further business to come before the Council, and a thank you to Bellevue for hosting today's meeting, Brian Halstead adjourned the meeting at 10:37 a.m.

**\*Support Materials for this meeting are available for inspection in the NDE's General Counsel's Office**