



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT**  
*STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION*



**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Cherise Imai, Executive Director  
Interstate Compact Commission Central Office

**FROM:** Laura Anastasio, Commissioner's Designee  
State of Connecticut

**DATE:** June 6, 2022

**SUBJECT:** Connecticut State Council for Military Children

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In compliance with the policy of the Interstate Compact Commission, I am writing to report the activities of the Connecticut State Council for Military Children for the 2021-22 fiscal year.

Membership of the Connecticut State Council

The current members of the Council are:

- Charlene M. Russell-Tucker, Commissioner of Education
- Laura Anastasio, Commissioner's Designee
- The Honorable Holly Cheeseman, Representative 37<sup>th</sup> Assembly District
- Valerie Nelson, Groton Public Schools
- Jason S. Hartling, Ledyard Public Schools
- Kristea Francolino, New London Public Schools
- Bob Ross, Executive Director, Office of Military Affairs
- Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Groton Board of Education
- Hamlet Hernandez, Superintendent, Branford Public Schools
- Captain Kenneth M. Curtin, Jr., Commander Naval Submarine Base New London, Department of Defense Liaison (nonvoting)
- Miranda Chapman, Military Family Liaison, Naval Submarine Base New London (nonvoting)
- Louis Tallarita, Connecticut State Liaison (nonvoting)

The Connecticut State Council (Council) met in a joint meeting with the Military School Liaison Committee (MSLC) on September 23, 2021. The Council discussed the Student Success Video Program and discussed how to promote this initiative. The Council reviewed the implementation of Public Act 21-86, new legislation allowing for military families to establish residency in any district in Connecticut with PCS Orders to the state. The statute allows many families the ability to enroll in the district of choice prior to establishing permanent residency. However, if the family cannot find housing in the district of choice, the student might have to change schools. The MSLC/State Council recommended that the group draft a model policy for the school districts in the region to consider implementing to maintain continuity in how districts treat families in this situation. The group discussed the NGR matter and determined that Connecticut would support enacting outside legislation to extend Compact benefits to the NGR.

The Council's second joint meeting with the MSLC of this fiscal year was held in person on March 24, 2022. The group was updated on the NGR matter, MIC3 Success Stories and discussed activities for the Month of the Military Child/PurpleUp! Day in Connecticut. The group also was informed of the monthly Compact 101 Training sessions, upcoming workshops for parents- one on the Military Interstate Compact and second on Moving with a Military Student. In addition, the group discussed the upcoming School Options Fair at the Submarine Base, Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona's Letter in Support of MIC3, and the updated data on military children for New London County.

The Commissioner's Designee assisted in facilitating the enrollment of a military student in a Hartford region magnet school that the student had attended when previously residing in the state. In addition, the Commissioner's Designee met with a military family and district personnel concerning a dispute over the placement of a student although the dispute was not covered under the Compact.

Points of Contact for Connecticut:

1. Commissioner's Designee:

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