

**STATE COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY  
CHILDREN**

**Douglas School District Administration Office**

April 6, 2022  
10:00 am (MT)

Present:

Ann Pettit, State Commissioner/ Douglas School  
Col Brady Vaira, USAF, Commander, 28 MSG  
Fran Apland, Ellsworth AFB School Liaison  
Jackie McPherson, Recorder

Absent:

Nancy York, SD House Representative

Present via Zoom:

Tiffany Sanderson, Secretary, South Dakota Department of Education  
Jonathan Nesladek, SD Dept of Emergency Management / Retired SDNG / parent representative

1. **Introductions:** Members were introduced and welcomed to the MIC3 State Council meeting. Ann Pettit was appointed by Governor Noem in August 2021 to be the South Dakota State Commissioner, replacing Alan Kerr. Going forward, the meeting will be scheduled in the fall timeframe to correlate with the annual MIC3 business meeting.
2. **State Council Organization.** Secretary of Education; Superintendent; Representative from military installation; once representative each from legislative and executive branches of government; and other offices and stakeholder groups the State Council deems appropriate.
3. **Purpose of the Interstate Compact-Key Messages.** The Interstate Compact is an agreement between all states and additional resources to help military dependents transition when moving with active duty deployments. It keeps consistency in the educational setting in meeting education requirements from state to state.
4. **Items covered under the Compact.** Fran has worked with some families regarding transfer of credits from one state to another. Appreciated support from state legislators to make it easier for military home school families. Asked for clarity on the bill for distance learning. Per DOE Secretary Sanderson it is based on issuance of orders, not arrival in the state.
5. **Key Issues Affecting Military Students.** The transfer of student records and education requirements are huge for high school students and graduation. Another big topic is eligibility for enrollment.

6. **State Council Responsibilities - Purple Up Week & Month of the Military Child.**  
Planning to reach out to Region 4 administrators this coming school year to increase the awareness of and purpose of the Interstate Compact. This group is an official state board. There are two websites to keep updated: [South Dakota MIC3](https://mic3.net/state/south-dakota/) and [State Council for Educational Opportunity for Military Children](https://mic3.net/).

Discussion at the national level regarding amending the Compact to include the National Guard. It could affect funding; some states feel it already covers the National Guard.

Douglas is the first Purple Star District in South Dakota. Getting the word out that April is the Month of Military Child and Friday (April 8) is Purple Up Day. The school system is an important support for military children and their families.

Ellsworth AFB has been named as the training base for the B-21. There is going to be an increase in military families moving to the area over the next three, five and ten years. This affects housing and school enrollment in the community and the school system. Planning for infrastructure to support but requires more clear numbers. The exact timelines and numbers are slow to be released by the Air Force—waiting for some of the information to be declassified to lower levels. Currently this is an obstacle in seeking federal and state funding for needed district facilities.

**South Dakota Commission website:**

<https://mic3.net/state/south-dakota/>

**Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission - MIC3 website:**

<https://mic3.net/>

**Compact Rules:**

[https://mic3.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Rules-Book-Edits-20190905\\_HYPERLINK.pdf](https://mic3.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Rules-Book-Edits-20190905_HYPERLINK.pdf)