

Tuesday, May 12, 2026

Annual MIC3 Meeting/Quarterly AK SLO meeting/ Purple Star School Program Out Brief

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## I. Attendance

The following individuals were present at the meeting:

- **Janet Farris**- Fort Wainwright SLO, AK MIC3 member, and AK PSS member
- **LaVonda Russell**- Fort Greely SLO
- **Adele Daniels**- JBER SLO, AK MIC3 member, and AK PSS member
- **Don Enoch**- AK MIC3 Commissioner
- **Earnest Kincade**- Eielson Air Force Base SLO and AK PSS member
- **Georgia Sandgren**- Fairbanks North Star Borough School District Military Student Support Coordinator, AK MIC3 member, and AK PSS member
- **Eleilia Preston**- AK DEED employee and AK MIC3 member
- **Forrest Powell**- AK PSS member

## II. MIC3 Annual Business Meeting

- Mission Statement: MIC3 Commissioner requested members review the mission statement for any changes

### Statistics & Data Review:

- State-wide scores were discussed.
- Data regarding at-home graduates is noted as missing.
- Dropout rates were reviewed, with a note on MATSU dropouts.
- A point was raised by Adele regarding homeschool, especially private homeschool, identification for military-connected students.
- The topic of military children attending home schools and private homeschooling was raised.
- The question was raised if all school districts are reporting data differently. It is unknown. It was suggested a policy to be developed for all districts to report the same way.
- Dropout rate is a concern, especially for military connected students who are PCSing. Are they considered dropouts?

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#### Policy and Regulation Review:

- Reporting Consistency: It was noted that districts are reporting data differently, leading to inconsistencies. There is a need for a standardized policy to ensure uniform reporting.

#### Homeschooling Regulations:

- AAC 09.075 was identified as a great opportunity, as it allows for variance in homeschooling practices.
- A strategy was discussed to develop a memo for delaying homeschool enrollment to manage student statistics. (MIC3 Commissioner will develop memo)

#### Identified Challenges

- Enrollment: Student enrollment was identified as a key issue.
- Program Status: The status of the career path program needs to be addressed.
- Funding: Funding for PSS (Parent Support Services) and ADM (Average Daily Membership) is a challenge.

### **III. AKSLO (Alaska School Liaison Office) Updates**

#### MIC3 Challenges

- TDY/PCS: Clarification was made that TDY (Temporary Duty) is not a deployment. Notes on entitlements for PCS (Permanent Change of Station). It was determined that this is not a MIC3 Challenge because it is not PCS.
- Extracurricular Activities: The availability of sports and clubs in the Anchorage Area depends on the school and district. This was asked by Georgia Sandgren because it was a topic at an AK Defense Forum.
- MIC3 101: A quarterly virtual "MIC3 101" session was proposed. This would include inviting professional training days and publishing the schedule on the PSS site. This training will be helpful for constituency across school districts.

#### Awareness and Training MIC3 (provided by Georgia)

\_\_\_\_\_ Ed MIL Culture Training \_\_\_\_\_

- Hunter Elementary completed in January 2026 (44 staff)

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- Boreal Sun Charter completed in January 2026 (15 staff)
- Woodriver Elementary completed in January 2026 (38 staff)

\_\_\_\_\_Impact Aid Training\_\_\_\_\_

- Arctic Light Elementary PTO (8 people)

Education Challenges & Inquiries:

- An inquiry from LaVonda's office regarding a family moving from out-of-state with a 4-year-old needing preschool for special needs.
- An inquiry regarding before/after-school care for a single parent working for DECA.
- Georgia asked if buddy system is in place for any of the schools to help with transitions. Anchorage uses "Buddy Bears."

Legislation:

- Forrest noted that HB256 can be the forefront of discussion for his organization. He will pass this topic to Delma to continue helping with the bill. Senator Sullivan was mentioned as a potential champion for the bill. A follow-up conversation with base administration about the bill is needed.

Best Practices (provided by Georgia)

- MOMC Celebrations
- MOMC Proclamations (AK and FNSB)
- Resolutions (FNSBSD)
- School Wide MOMC Celebrations
- Community Celebrations (FNSB on April 25, 2026)
- PSS Recognition Ceremony/School Tours (April 17, 2026)

**IV. PSS (Parent Support Services) Out brief**

Application Process:

- All in agreement that the deadline is to be followed.
- If application is formally submitted, the application will not be reviewed for correction.

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- All applications, especially those in review, must be submitted by the deadline.
- Schools who use the PSS logo before becoming a PSS school will not be considered for Purple Star.
- Every part of the application must be completed to be considered as Purple Star. TBD cannot be used, Websites must be complete, Trainings completed, Youth Sponsorship is being implemented, etc.
- A form needs to be created to document the process and its justification so that schools are being held accountable.
- A training for PSS application process will be offered for staff. This shall be required before they submit applications, along with the additional training required.
- It is in agreement that the application is not difficult to understand to complete, especially when schools ask for assistance for review.
- Award Ceremony will be in Anchorage in 2027 with planning for 2028 in Juneau.

Action Items:

- Update initial and Renewal Application: Georgia and Janet will update the PSS applications.
- K will create PSS Application Training: Develop a formal training program for PSS staff.
- Develop Process Form: Create a form for understanding the process from start to finish. (This will be developed after K completes the training slides)

These notes were prepared by:

*Janet Farris*

Janet Farris

Fort Wainwright School Liaison Officer