



Wisconsin State Commissioner Report 2021

Shelley Joan Weiss, Wisconsin Commissioner

August 2021

Wisconsin State Council membership

- Shelley Joan Weiss, Commissioner, Chair
- Jill Underly - Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction
- Thomas McCarthy - Executive Director for the State Superintendent
- Andrea Donegan - Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) Liaison, School Counseling Consultant
- Benjamin Jones - DPI Legal Counsel
- Senator Patrick Testin - Legislative Representative
- Michael Harris - Superintendent of Tomah Area School District (Military Impacted Schools)
- Amy Van Deuren - Superintendent of Sparta Area School District (Military Impacted Schools)
- Rebecca Walley - Wisconsin School Liaison Officer for Military Families (based at Fort McCoy)
- Col Kathleen Adamson - Military Representative
- Lynn Sisco - Military Family Representative
- JD Englehardt - Wisconsin Department of Military Affairs, Child and Youth Program
- Rebecca Boehlke - Representative, Military One Source
- Stephanie Hauser- Representative, Executive Director of the WIAA
- Angelene Mattes - Representative, WI Parent Teacher Association
- Governor Executive Branch appointee - To be announced

Points of of contact for Wisconsin

- Primary - Shelley Joan Weiss, Commissioner, shelleyjoan.weiss1@gmail.com, 608.698.2409
- Secondary - Andrea Donegan, DPI Liaison, Andrea.Donegan@dpi.wi.gov, 608.224.6175

Summary of activities

Student/District Issues

- No student issues arose throughout the course of the year.
- Shared information with families, school counselors and school districts on:
 - College scholarships
 - Military friendly schools/colleges
 - Children's use of educational benefits earned by parents who are/were military members
 - National Guard ChalleNGe Academy
 - ROTC programs
 - Information on entering the military
 - Contacts with the County Veterans Service Officers

Dues

- Dues paid to MIC3 for 2020
- Dues paid to MIC3 for 2021

Numerous changes on the State Council

- The change in the leadership at the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) from a statewide election and retirements resulted in changes for two council members.
- The retirement of a DPI liaison resulted in a change.
- The retirement of the Tomah Area School District Superintendent resulted in a change.
- The retirement of the military member resulted in a new appointment from the DoD.
- The resignation of the DMA Child & Youth Program Director resulted in a change.
- The retirement of the Executive Director of the WIAA resulted in a change.
- We are awaiting an appointment from the office of Governor Tony Evers (in progress)

Celebrations

- We shared information on the Military Family Appreciation Month and Month of the Military Child and shared on social media platforms
 - Articles/information published for both celebrations in

- The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction ConnectEd
 - The Wisconsin Association of School District Administrators Newsletter
 - The Association of Wisconsin School Administrators Newsletter
 - The WI Parent Teacher Association Newsletter
- Worked in collaboration with a Military Spouse to create and sell Tshirts in celebration of Purple Up - The Month of the Military Child
 - Collaborated with the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) to promote Purple Up
 - Profits from t-shirt sales were donated to the MCEC
- Proclamations for the Month of the Military Child created by and shared on social media platforms
 - Wisconsin Governor Tony Evers
 - State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor
- Sharing information
 - Shared information with State Council members from:
 - Military One Source
 - WI Department of Military Affairs Child & Youth Program
 - Updates on changes to Council membership
- Meetings
 - Andrea Donnegan, DPI Liaison
 - Dr. Jill Underly, Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Thomas McCarthy, Executive Director of the Office of State Superintendent
 - State Council Meeting scheduled for 20 AUG 2021
- Other
 - Participated in the online annual business meeting 2020.
 - Registered for the annual business meeting 2021 - online version.
 - Presented at the annual DPI Conference - Building the Heart of Successful Schools.
 - Coordinated the 2020 & 2021 Educator Leadership Rendezvous in conjunction with the Wisconsin Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Command and a representative of the Wisconsin DPI.
 - Shared information with approximately 30 educators involved in the program.
 - Involved Dr. Jill Underly, Wisconsin State Superintendent of Public Instruction and LaToya Holiday, Special Assistant to the State Superintendent in the 2021 Educator Leadership Rendezvous hosted by the Wisconsin Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Command at Fort McCoy, WI.

- Dr. Underly and Ms. Holiday traveled from Madison to Fort McCoy with Wisconsin Adjutant General for Army, Brigadier General Joane Mathews on the Army National Guard Blackhawk Helicopter.
- Participated in the selection process for the Wisconsin Teacher of the Year.
- Ongoing communication with DoDEA on current best practices and other relevant information.
- Communicated with Commissioners of other states in search of best practices.
- Ongoing communication with states implementing Purple Star Schools.