

Florida Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)
End-of-the-Year Report
2025-2026

1. Name	Terrance J. McCaffrey
I am the Compact Commissioner for	Florida
The membership of the state's MIC3 Council consists of the following:	State Council Members: • Compact Commissioner Col. Terrance J. McCaffrey, USAF (Ret) • Dr. Peggy Aune, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement, Florida Department of Education (FDOE) • Dr. Andrew Weatherill, Senior Director, Student Support Services, FDOE • John Spolski, Assistant Superintendent, Okaloosa County School District • Allison Liby-Schoonover, Representative for the Speaker of the Florida House • Danny Burgess, Representative for the President of the Florida Senate • Lisa Hill, Military Family Education Liaison • Rear Admiral John W. Hewitt, Commander, Navy Region Southeast, Representative from the Department of Defense Ex-officio Members: • Jordanne Stark-Miller, Florida High School Athletic Association • Patrigna Murphy, School liaison, Navy Region Southeast • Lacey Allen, Regional School Liaison Program Specialist, Region East • Elaine LaJeunesse, School Liaison, Eglin Air Force Base • Dr. Mackinley Cross, School Liaison, Hulbert Field • Dr. Venetia Waters, School Liaison, MacDill Air Force Base • Susan Clark, School Liaison, Patrick Space Force Base • Mallory Gross, School Liaison, Tyndall Air Force Base

	• Garth Gourley, School Liaison, USAG Miami • Teri Wanamaker, School Liaison, Jacksonville Naval Air Station • Kimberly Fegley, School Liaison, Key West Naval Air Station • Sharon Kasica, School Liaison, Mayport Naval Station • Erin Pickard, School Liaison, Panama City Naval Support Activity • Hannah McCarthy, School Liaison, Pensacola Naval Air Station • Chris Hendrix, School Liaison, Whiting Field Naval Air Station
Two points of contact for issues related to the Compact in my state are:	<u>PRIMARY POINT OF CONTACT</u> Terrance J. McCaffrey, Col, USAF (Ret) 9703 Prestancia Way Tallahassee FL 32312 Email: mic3.fl@gmail.com Phone: 757-771-1468 <u>SECONDARY POINT OF CONTACT</u> Andrew Weatherill, EdD Senior Director, Student Support Services Student Support Services Project/USF Bureau of Exceptional Education and Student Services (BEESS), FDOE 325 West Gaines Street, Room 644 Tallahassee, FL 32399 Email: Andrew.Weatherill@fldoe.org Phone: 850-245-7840
Accomplishments	Florida Council Accomplishments: • Purple Star Schools & Districts: Florida is home to 451 Purple Star Schools, six Purple Star School Districts, and 33 Collegiate Purple Star School Campuses, including nine state universities, 22 state colleges, and two career & technical colleges, all recognized for their exceptional commitment to supporting military-connected students and families. • Month of the Military Family: In April of 2026, the Council supported and shared the Governor's proclamation

	for this special observance, reinforcing the state’s commitment to honoring military families and their sacrifices. “Purple Up!” Toolkit: To support celebration and awareness efforts in April, the Council continued to provide a “Purple Up!” Toolkit, offering districts and schools easy-to-use resources for highlighting their support. House Bill 1255 (2025) Implementation: FDOE developed a training module designed to facilitate and expedite the transfer of K–12 student education records from out-of-state schools. School districts are responsible for ensuring this training is accessible to employees who work directly with military-connected students and their families. The training emphasizes Florida’s commitment to supporting military families while providing an overview of key federal and state laws, regulations and best practices that help ensure smooth educational transitions and continuity of services for military families. Coordinated Support for Military Families During Operation Epic Fury Safe Haven Clay, Duval, Escambia, Hillsborough, Orange and Polk County school districts, along with Florida Virtual School, collaborated with the MIC3 Council members, FDOE and School Liaisons to support military-connected families relocating from Bahrain. Through this partnership, families were connected with enrollment assistance, school and community resources and transition support services, resulting in the successful enrollment of 30 students. Supporting Military-Connected Families’ Transitions School Liaisons reported 36 MIC3 cases resolved during the 2025–26 school year; all but 3 were resolved at the lowest level. The majority of inquiries and cases
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	pertained to Chapter 300 (Transfer of Student Records) and Chapter 400 (Graduation).
Activities	Florida MIC3 (Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission) Council Activities: Regular Quarterly Meetings The Florida Council convened on the first Friday of each quarter, hosted by the FDOE. These meetings consistently included updates from Lindsey Dablow, Executive Director of the national MIC3 office, ensuring Florida stays informed of national trends and best practices. School Liaison (SL) Officers' Engagement School Liaison Officers participated in all quarterly sessions, offering insights into current cases and challenges, helping shape the Council's support strategies. School Liaison (SL) Meetings Joint Service School Liaisons (SLs) convened at least seven times during the 2025–26 school year to share cases, collaborate, and enhance knowledge of educational resources for military families. Purple Star Schools of Distinction Initiative FDOE hosted dedicated quarterly meetings for Purple Star-designated districts and schools. These sessions support current and prospective Purple Star schools and districts and provide opportunities to share updates and highlight programs offered across Florida. Ongoing Support through FDOE Outreach The FDOE Bureau of Family and Community Outreach consistently provided office hours to assist Purple Star districts, ensuring sustained technical support and implementation guidance. MIC3 Outreach Plan MIC3 Council Members expanded awareness of resources and support for military-connected students and families

	through strategic outreach efforts. New opportunities included School Liaison presentations to the Purple Star Teacher Leadership Program and the integration of MIC3 information in the Florida Defense Support Commission’s statewide Military Benefit Guide, increasing stakeholder engagement and visibility of MIC3 resources.
Presentations	Florida Council on the Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3) Quarterly Highlights Purple Star Schools of Distinction Update Dr. Andria Cole, Chief of the Bureau of Family and Community Outreach at FDOE, provided a quarterly update on the Purple Star Schools of Distinction initiative. As part of ongoing engagement, each MIC3 quarterly meeting featured a Purple Star school, district or college campus sharing best practices and strategies for supporting military-connected students and families. Purple Star Schools Reflection Districts, schools and college campuses recognized under this distinction continue to demonstrate innovative and impactful ways to serve military families and support smooth transitions. Agency Collaboration Representatives from key agencies, including the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP), Military OneSource, Florida Defense Alliance and the Florida Chamber of Commerce, shared valuable resources and partnerships that support military families and enhance statewide military readiness efforts. Month of the Military Child & “Purple Up!” Day Presentation Dr. Peggy Aune, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement at FDOE, highlighted statewide initiatives and celebrations for Month of the Military Child, including “Purple Up!” Day and

	emphasized the importance of recognizing and supporting military children throughout Florida. • Resiliency Florida & Hope Florida Resources Dr. Aune shared tools and supports related to Resiliency Florida and Hope Florida initiatives aimed at promoting well-being, character education, and family supports across Florida’s schools and communities. • Family Café Engagement The Council participated in the Family Café Education Conversation Panel and Military Family Hall, featuring: ○ Dr. Andrew Weatherill, Senior Director of Student Support Services, BEESS, FDOE ○ Chelsea Strickland, Educational Program Director for Instructional Support Services, BEESS, FDOE ○ Patrigna Murphy, School liaison, Navy Region Southeast ○ Lacey Allen, Regional School Liaison Program Specialist, Region East ○ Dr. Maria Barkmeier, Special Education Consultant, Florida Military Family Special Needs Network ○ Other representatives from military family support organizations. This event provided a platform to share insights, strengthen partnerships and uplift the voices of military families.
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