



Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission HAWAII – 2019 Annual Report



Hawaii State Council Members

Specific guidance for the composition and the operation of the State Council can be found in HRS 311D - 2. The Council is to be composed of the following:

[§311D-2] State council. There is established within the board of education for administrative purposes the state council on educational opportunity for military children. The board of education shall establish the state council, as required by article VIII of the compact. The membership of the state council shall include, at a minimum:

- (1) The superintendent of education or the superintendent's designee;*
- (2) The complex area superintendents of the administrative districts that contain the Leilehua, Radford/Moanalua, and Kalaheo school complexes;*
- (3) A complex area superintendent from the Leeward district;*
- (4) The military liaison from the department of education;*
- (5) A uniformed military representative from the United States Pacific Command;*
- (6) One installation-level uniformed military representative from each branch of service of the Air Force, Army, Marine Corps, Navy, and Coast Guard;*
- (7) The governor or the governor's designee;*
- (8) The chairperson of the senate education committee or the chairperson's designee;*
- (9) The chairperson of the house education committee or the chairperson's designee; and*
- (10) Other offices and stakeholder groups the state council deems necessary.*

Members of the state council may delegate voting authority to another person for a specified meeting or meetings. The state council shall appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of this compact. The compact commissioner and the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex-officio members of the state council, unless either is already a full voting member of the state council. The council shall establish policies and procedures governing its operations but subject to the open meeting requirements of chapter 92. [L 2009, c 152, pt of §1; am L 2011, c 82, pt of §1]

Brig Gen (Ret) Kathleen Berg (10/2009) Hawaii State Commissioner Hawaii State Council	Governor David Ige (1/2015) State of Hawaii	Dr. Christina Kishimoto (8/2017) Superintendent Hawaii State Department of Education
Ms. Cherry Okahara (7/2016) Military Liaison Hawaii State Department of Education	Senator Michelle Kidani (1/2015) Hawaii State Legislature Senate Committee on Education	Mr. John Erickson (8/2013) Complex Area Superintendent Moanalua-Radford-Aiea Complex Hawaii State Department of Education
Ms. Maggie Williams (9/2019) Military Family Education Liaison	Representative Justin Woodson (3/2017) Hawaii State Legislature House Committee on Education	Mr. Robert Davis (1/2017) Complex Area Superintendent Mililani-Leilehua-Waialua Complex Hawaii State Department of Education
Ms. Lanelle Hibbs (7/2015) Complex Area Superintendent Kailua-Kalaheo Complex Hawaii State Department of Education	Mr. Sean Tajima (7/2018) Interim Complex Area Superintendent Campbell-Kapolei Complex Hawaii State Department of Education	Col Tammie Harris (07/2019) Commander 647 th Air Base Group Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Mr. Raymond Fujino (5/2015) Executive Director Oahu Interscholastic Association	CAPT Lyn Yatko (7/2018) Director, Manpower and Personnel HQ USINDOPACOM, Camp Smith HI	CAPT Darren Guenther (08/2019) Chief of Staff Navy Region Hawaii
CDR Matt ten Berge (7/2017) Resources Division Officer US Coast Guard District 14	COL Thomas Barrett (7/2018) Commander US Army Garrison Hawaii (USAG)	Wendy Nakasone Kalani* School Liaison Officer US Army Garrison Hawaii (USAG)
Col Raul Lianez (6/2017) Commanding Officer Marine Corps Base Hawaii		*Appointed by the Hawaii Education Liaison Officers



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Points of Contact

Brig Gen (Ret) Kathleen Berg, Hawaii State Commissioner and Ms. Cherry Okahara, State of Hawaii Department of Education (HIDOE) Military Liaison serve as the points of contact for Hawaii.

Summary of Achievements, Activities and Presentations

The Hawaii State Commissioner and HIDOE Military Liaison continue their outreach to Hawaii educators and staff by presenting information and providing briefs on the Compact. HIDOE Military Liaison Okahara regularly makes office calls on military members new to the Hawaii State Council to provide them with their council binder and a briefing on the Interstate Compact as well as on the other various military support activities in Hawaii, including the Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF). Brig Gen (Ret) Berg and Ms. Okahara have advised HIDOE personnel along with military and community members at various conferences and meetings.

Presentations and briefs were provided at the following events and meetings:

- Military Impacted Schools Conference – January 30, 2019
- Transition Centers Best Practices Conference – March 28, 2019
- Military Culture Course – September 17, 2019
- Meeting with new Hawaii State Council members CAPT Guenther and Col Harris at Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam – September 20, 2019
- Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) School Summit – September 26, 2019
- Joint Venture Education Forum Liaison Meetings – February 14, April 11, June 13, October 17 and December 12, 2019

Two (2) meetings of the Hawaii State Council were held during this year, on July 3, 2019 and October 2, 2019. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted on the HIDOE website (<http://bit.ly/InterstateCompact>). Inclusion on the Hawaii State Council of representation from the National Guard and Reserves was proposed at the October meeting.

HIDOE Military Liaison Okahara coordinated meetings with the Hawaii Department of Education staff and planned a Military Impacted Schools Conference held January 30, 2019, where Commissioner Berg briefed the group on the Interstate Compact. The purpose of the conference was to provide professional development and generate a community of support for military-impacted complexes and schools in order to enhance school-level support for military dependents, engage with military partners and stakeholders, and share best practices. Commissioner Berg presented to the entire group during the afternoon plenary session

HIDOE Military Liaison Okahara has provided support to various HIDOE administrators and staff who reached out to her on specific situations and inquiries. She has been able to help these HIDOE educators in navigating the Interstate Compact rules and providing additional information to assist in their communication with our military families. The military school liaison officers (SLOs) based in Hawaii have



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also been enormously helpful to incoming military families; they are very knowledgeable about the Compact rules and about the HIDOE. Hawaii public schools have a very constructive and positive relationship with the SLOs. It is very infrequent that a case rises to the level of the state commissioner. The HIDOE military liaison and the SLOs handle nearly all questions and concerns about the Compact. Only two issues, both of them about kindergarten eligibility, were brought to the state commissioner. They provided an opportunity for a very productive and thoughtful discussion at the October meeting of the Hawaii State Council that touched on the issue of Hawaii's statewide shortage of preschool programs on the military bases as well as in the civilian community.

Brig Gen (Ret) Berg, as Hawaii State Commissioner, is a Liaison Member of the Joint Venture Education Forum (JVEF), a formal partnership between the HIDOE and the United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACAOM), which meets regularly throughout the year, alternating monthly between meetings of the Liaison Members and of the various Focus Groups, and including one annual event. The twenty-nine JVEF Liaison Members are senior military and HIDOE leadership, complex area superintendents, and representatives from the Hawaii State Legislature, business organizations, and community organizations, designated by their respective organizations. Contributing Members include individuals and representatives from the military, schools, community, and business who serve on one of the four JVEF Focus Groups or ad hoc committees. JVEF provides continuous coordination through partnerships and open dialogue in order to promote an understanding of and implement initiatives to address the needs of military children and families, enhance open dialogue on education concerns of the military community, and facilitate educational support of all children in Hawaii public schools, in alignment with the HIDOE mission. As the HIDOE Military Liaison, Ms. Okahara is the JVEF Coordinator for the HIDOE and works with her counterpart from USINDOPACOM to support the Executive Co-chairs (the Hawaii State Department of Education Superintendent and the Director for Manpower and Personnel, USINDOPACOM J1) and coordinate logistics and supporting materials for all JVEF connected meetings and activities. A standing agenda item on Liaison Member meetings is a short report from the MIC3 State Commissioner.