

Iowa End-of-Year Report 2025-2026

Commissioner Name: Laura Kacer

I am the Compact Commissioner for: IA

The membership of the state's MIC3 council consists of the following:

- Jathan Chicoine- DE representative
- Andy Crozier - current superintendent
- Christopher Cox- Military/Community Coordinator
- Martha Kester - IA Guard member
- Laura Kacer- Commissioner

Two points of contact for issues related to the Compact in my state are:

- Laura Kacer - contact info. listed on the MIC3 website
- Jathan Chicoine - Dept. of Education connection

Provide the State Council meeting date(s) and documentation:

March 3, 2026

Agenda

Here is the agenda:

- Discuss Purple Star School Applications
- Discuss April 23 Event at the Capital. I reserved the Rotunda.
- Dues Increase. Currently \$2300, but will move to a \$4000 minimum.
- Explore the Iowa Compact and support Purple Star Schools in Iowa.

Jathan has the Purple Star School applications and will be sharing them with us in advance. We will discuss this further at our meeting, but as long as the school and/or district meets the established criteria, they will be approved. Our primary purpose for discussing the applications is to provide Jathan any concerns with the applications or feedback on how the school can strengthen their efforts. It looks like we will have 13 schools among 7 separate school districts. Your insights and feedback are appreciated.

We will also discuss April 23rd as a day that we could celebrate these schools in the capitol rotunda. It would be great if our MIC3 members could be in attendance. More details to come.

Cases and Inquiries:

Parent of early graduate at Washington High School reached out in February about credit earning concerns and class rank. Several phone calls were held with parent and commissioner. Email was sent to Supt. and HS principal. Concerns were resolved to the parent's satisfaction. No additional support needed by commissioner aside from sharing compact information.

Training and Education: None offered - N/A

Distribution of Compact-related Information:

Distribution of Application period for the new Iowa Purple Star School designation -
Tuesday, Dec. 9, 2025 to be considered for spring of 2026

State-level Briefs, Communications, and Presentations:

April 23, 2026 IA Dept. of Education Designates 17 schools as inaugural Iowa Purple
Star Schools.

<https://educate.iowa.gov/press-release/2026-04-23/iowa-department-education-designates-17-schools-inaugural-iowa-purple-star-schools>

Compact-related Actions:

Attending Governor signing of Senate File 275, an Act requiring the director of the Dept.
of Education to develop and administer a purple star school initiative.