

INDIANA STATE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, July 12, 2022
12:30 PM CST
Via Zoom

PRESENT:

- Brian Murphy-Indiana MIC3 Commissioner/Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) Chief of Staff
- Commander James L. Smith-Commanding Officer of NSA Crane, US Department of Defense Military Representative
- David Lehfeld, School Liaison Officer
- Dr. Timothy Edsell, Superintendent, Nineveh-Hensley-Jackson United School Corporation
- Courtney Hott, IDOE Director of Student, Family, and School Engagement
- Steve Balko, IDOE Director of School Building Safety

STAFF:

- Cherise Imai, MIC3 Executive Director
- Stephanie Ramsey, MIC3 Communications Associate

NOT PRESENT:

- Senator Jeff Raatz, Chairman Senate Education Committee

ITEM 1 – WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

1. The meeting was called to order at 12:31 PM CST by MIC3 Indiana State Commissioner Brian Murphy. He welcomed members to the inaugural meeting of the state council.

ITEM 2 – COMPACT OVERVIEW

2. Ms. Cherise Imai, MIC3 Executive Director (ED), referenced the Indiana State Profile document provided to members. She said the mission of the Compact is to ease transitions of military dependents as the move across states and worldwide. She noted the Compact is one of four Compacts that include the 50 states and the District of Columbia, and it is a contractual agreement among members to follow the rules and regulation of the Commission.

3. Developed by the U.S. Department of Defense, military impacted schools, and stakeholder groups in 2006, the task force developed the model compact language which was adopted in statute by members.

4. Under the Compact, ED Imai noted member states must: 1) appoint a state commissioner; and 2) form a state council to support the implementation of the program and assist families with Compact related cases/concerns.

5. Commissioner Murphy asked ED Imai to forward information on the Compact for further reading and review by council members.

ITEM 3 – INTRODUCTIONS

6. Members introduced themselves and provided their background, title, and employer.

ITEM 4 – NATIONAL OFFICE AND COMMISSION REPORT

7. Commissioner Murphy yielded the floor to ED Imai. She provided an overview of two memorandums from General Counsel regarding: 1) the incorrect compact statute citation; and 2) the national guard and reserve.

8. **Compact Statute Citation Correction** – She reported the Compact covers national guard and reserve dependents under Title 10 or active-duty orders. General Council stated there was an incorrect citation in the model language of the Compact in Article II(A) and in Article III(A)(1), both of which refer to “members of the National Guard and Reserve on active-duty orders pursuant to 10 U.S.C. **Section** 1209 and 1211” – and provisions should both cite 10 U.S.C. **Chapter** 1209 and 1211. Counsel noted this was a technical error in a section of the Compact which controls its coverage area, and as such it is best practice that the citation error should be corrected in each impacted state. Additionally, Counsel advised the Commission to adopt a rule to clarify the intent of the Compact, until the technical amendments are completed by states.

9. ED Imai noted her previous conversations with Commissioner Murphy indicated Indiana has a technical amendment process that could be utilized to correct the statute. He said connecting with the IDOE legislative director, as well as Senator Jeff Raatz, Chairman Senate Education Committee, would be helpful to resolve the issue.

10. **National Guard and Reserve** – ED Imai reported the Commission has been considering expansion of the Compact beyond the active-duty guard and reserve for the past three years. She noted at the Annual Business Meeting held in November 2021, the Commission did not have unanimous member support to amend the Compact statute. As such, General Counsel advised the Commission to consider allowing states to adopt standalone statute external to the Compact to provide accommodations for guard and reserve under Title 5, 32 and active guard reserve (AGR) status.

11. She noted two states have passed standalone and external legislation: 1) Kentucky adopted external language to provide coverage to USDOD civilian dependents; and 2) Arkansas adopted statute to provide coverage to all guard and reserve within their state – regardless of their title status.

12. ED Imai added both statutes have not posed any issues for the states. In fact, states have reported little to no issues with accommodating guard and reserve dependents. She noted the Commission would discuss the way forward and hopefully reach a consensus at the Annual Business Meeting in October.

13. Although there were no questions from the floor, Commissioner Murphy asked ED Imai to forward additional information on the guard and reserve to council members for further review on the issue and for their information.

ITEM 5 – SCHOOL LIAISON REPORT

14. Commissioner Murphy yielded the floor to Davis Lehfeld, School Liaison, and subject matter expert to the State Council, who provided background on his role and responsibilities. He noted 99% of the cases are resolved at the school liaison and school level. He added some parents misunderstand

the Compact and what it covers – and he provides background and expertise to resolve any issues that arise. Mr. Lehfeld stated he has not had any Indiana cases to date.

15. Mr. Lehfeld noted an issue reported across states is the federal military student identifier which is mandated under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The data currently collected by the IDOE varies from the USDOD data. Additionally, he noted the identifier is different from impact aid and data regarding federally connected students.

ITEM 6 – AROUND THE TABLE

16. Commissioner Murphy asked if members had any additional items or concerns for discussion. Members did not have comments.

17. Mr. Lehfeld encouraged members to visit the MIC3.net webpage to familiarize themselves with the Compact, and what it does (and doesn't cover).

ITEM 7 – NEXT STEPS

18. Commissioner Murphy suggested two meetings be held annually. He said additional meetings could be added if desired. Members agreed with the two meetings per year recommendation. Commissioner Murphy said he would connect with members to select the date/time for the next meeting.

ITEM 8 – ADJOURNMENT

19. Commissioner Murphy adjourned the meeting by acclamation at 12:56 PM CST.