



KENTUCKY STATE COUNCIL MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT COMMISSION

ANDY BESHEAR
Governor

700 Capitol Avenue
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone 502-564-2611

STEVEN P. BULLARD
Commissioner

TO: Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)

FROM: Brigadier General Steven P. Bullard, USAF Retired
Commissioner, Kentucky State Council

DATE: June 30, 2022 (covers period 1 July 2021-30 June 2022)

SUBJECT: 2022 Annual Report on Kentucky MIC3 State Council (<https://mic3.net/state/kentucky/>)

PURPOSE: To provide an annual report summarizing the Commonwealth of Kentucky's State Council activities, to include membership and key points of contact

State Council Roster

- Brig Gen (USAF Ret.) Steven P. Bullard, State Council Commissioner
- Commissioner Jason E. Glass, Kentucky Department of Education
- Colonel Lance O'Bryan, USA, Garrison Commander, Fort Knox, Kentucky
- Senator Mike Wilson, Kentucky General Assembly
- Representative Myron Dossett, Kentucky General Assembly
- Mr. Chris Bentzel, Superintendent, Christian County Public Schools
- Ms. Teresa Morgan, Superintendent, Hardin County Schools
- Ms. Tracy Goff-Herman, Academic Program Manager, Kentucky Department of Education

State Council Point of Contact

STEVEN P. BULLARD, Brigadier General USAF/ANG Retired
(State Council for Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission
Commissioner- Kentucky)
Executive Director
Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs
Office of the Governor
State Capitol Suite 132
Office 502-564-2611 ext 480
Cell 502-892-1418
steven.bullard@ky.gov

State Council Secondary Point of Contact

Ms. Tracy Goff-Herman

Academic Program Manager/Policy Advisor
Kentucky Department of Education
Office of Special Education and Early Learning
300 Sower Blvd., 5th Floor
Frankfort, KY 40601
Office 502.564.4970
Tracy.Herman@education.ky.gov

Activities of the State Council

MIC3 Annual Conference (November 4-5, 2021; virtual)

Kentucky State Council Commissioner Bullard attended the annual conference via Zoom teleconference. In November 2021. For the second consecutive COVID-impacted year, the conference was held virtually. Highlights included a keynote address by U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona, reports by MIC3 elected officials, committee chairs and ex-officio members, and the installation of new chair Laura Anastasio (Connecticut), succeeding Don Kaminar (Arkansas). Chair Anastasio announced the appointment of Commissioner Bullard to serve as the national Compliance Committee Chair. Commissioner Bullard intends to participate in person at the 2022 MIC3 annual meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana this November. He reminded Kentucky MIC3 commissioner members that anyone associated with MIC3 may attend these meetings, not just commissioners, and urged our Fort Campbell and Fort Knox liaisons to consider attending. The conference also highlighted our two outstanding videos from 2021, which were universally acknowledged as the best submitted across the nation.

- Governor and First Lady Beshear's video
 - Link – https://youtu.be/BA_sQDHvb5k
- Army approved joint Fort Campbell-Governor/First Lady video
 - Link – <https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=771687410212902>

Bullard added that he discovered during the November MIC3 Annual Business Meeting that he had failed to submit Kentucky's National Guard/Reserve Inclusion Position Statement in December 2020. He thought he had; however, he saw in the new national MIC3 submissions tracking pie chart that it was blank. Checking up, he found he had prepped the email but forgot to hit send. That's rectified now, he said. There was no negative impact because the national assessment remains ongoing, he said.

State Council Annual Meeting (January 18, 2022; virtual)

The State Council conducted its annual meeting on January 18, 2022 through Zoom video teleconference due to the ongoing COVID crisis. In Kentucky, per direction of the governor, the KCMA executive director serves as the state commissioner for this national program. We also are required to have a Kentucky Department of Education representative, which is currently Tracy Goff-Herman. Bullard noted that MIC3, which ensures smooth transfer to new school districts, is very effective here in Kentucky. We have a great partnership with Kentucky Department of Education and our DODEA school liaisons at Fort Knox and Fort Campbell. All elements are going well, he briefed.

Those present included Commissioner Bullard, Kentucky Department of Education MIC3 Representative Tracy Goff-Herman, Military MIC3 Representative Colonel Lance O'Bryan (Fort Knox Garrison Commander), Command Sergeant Major William Fogle (Fort Knox Command Sergeant Major), Christian County Public Schools Superintendent Chris Bentzel, Dr. Dallas Kratzer (Kentucky Commission on Military Affairs, or KCMA), Stacey Shane (KCMA). State Senator Mike Wilson and State Representative Myron Dossett were unable to attend to due Kentucky General Assembly meetings. Joining late by phone/teams/email were Hardin County Schools Superintendent Teresa Morgan and Fort Campbell School Liaison Officer Melissa Silva, while Fort Knox

School Liaison Officer Brenda Weatherington followed up immediately afterwards with her input and was briefed on the meeting by Commissioner Bullard.

Bullard noted the loss this summer of Kentucky MIC3 State Council member Senator Tom Buford. Kentucky's MIC3 State Council was created by the Kentucky General Assembly during their 2008 session, through Senate Bill 68, sponsored by Sen. Buford. He was one of two legislative members of the Kentucky MIC3 State Council, along with State Rep. Myron Dossett. Sen. Buford has been succeeded by Sen. Wilson, who is both a Marine veteran and a member of Senate leadership. MIC3 has provided Kentucky a certificate of recognition and MIC3 coin for presentation to Sen. Buford's family. Bullard is coordinating with Sen. Wilson for a presentation, most likely coming in the summer of 2022 during the Joint Interim Committee period. That way both Senate and House members can be present.

Cherise Imai, National MIC3 Executive Director, presented an overview of current national MIC3 programs and reviewed the 2021 Annual Business Meeting, which, for the second consecutive COVID-impacted year, was held virtually in November. Highlights included a keynote address by U.S. Secretary of Education Dr. Miguel Cardona, reports by MIC3 elected officials, committee chairs and ex-officio members, and the installation of new chair Laura Anastasio (Connecticut), succeeding Don Kaminar (Arkansas). She noted the Kentucky Commissioner Bullard has been installed as the new national Compliance Committee chair, which also places him on the Executive Committee.

Bullard added that the MIC3 Compliance Committee meets bimonthly and the Executive Committee monthly, currently by Zoom. He said he looks forward to learning more about MIC3 from a national perspective. From my perspective, said, it's great to see MIC3 taking hold nationally, with almost every state actively participating. We are working towards 100 percent active participation and completion of annual activities. It's a challenge with 50 states but we're very close, he stressed.

He apologized for postponing the meeting from December, saying December is much preferred because the legislature is now in session and schools are busy with second semester start-up. However, he said, a short-notice Governor's Cabinet meeting came up, driving the postponement. We intend to return to December this Fall, he said. He added that the national MIC3 continues to assess the potential for including the National Guard and Reserves in the MIC3 compact, saying Kentucky favors inclusion, if it can be accomplished without a significant related dues increase. In the interim, he noted, Kentucky does not distinguish the type of military participation, since National Guard cases are rare and tend to be internal to the Commonwealth. He noted full-time Kentucky Guard personnel do move around the Commonwealth, as they change assignments routinely from east, west and central Kentucky locations. On rare occasions they also take national assignments, though those personnel usually transition to Title 10, or federal, status, which is covered by the compact. He noted the Joint Chiefs of Staff asked for the inclusion of the National Guard and Reserve into the MIC3 compact, as much for perception purposes as anything. The MIC3 National Guard and Reserves Task Force continues to assess extending applicability beyond Title 10 National Guard and Reserve dependents. It's easy on a state-specific level, Bullard noted, but becomes complicated when applying the principle to all 50 states. He noted that Kentucky already includes DOD civilian employees, a best-practice exception to the norm done properly through the General Assembly by adding the exception to the compact through stand-alone legislation versus modifying the compact itself.

Melissa Silva, the School Liaison Officer for Fort Campbell, announced she is being promoted into a new role.

She was succeeded by Laquvia Garrett, contact information:

School Liaison Officer, Child & Youth Services

Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

2702 Michigan Ave

Fort Campbell, Ky 42223

Office:270-798-9219

Cell: 931-561-4204
DSN: 336-9219

Bullard contacted national MIC3 for the appropriate update to both Kentucky and Tennessee's MIC3 state pages.

Supporting Legislation

No MIC3 related legislation was considered by the 2022 Kentucky General Assembly. However, Bullard briefed the Interim Joint Committee (House and Senate) Veterans, Military Affairs and Public Protection Committee in June 2022 that we intend to amend KRS 156.735 to add the National Guard and Reserve to the Kentucky-specific protections of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) during the 2023 General Assembly. This move has been requested by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for nationwide implementation. MIC3 staff is leaning towards accomplishing this, voluntarily, on a state-by-state basis. It is a no cost addition – rarely needed, but potential scenarios exist and support is already provided as a courtesy, when requested. Kentucky has already added DOD civilians to this protection – a national best practice.

Month of the Military Child

Last year, a major highlight of our year was the completion of two videos and a Governor's proclamation honoring April's Month of the Military Child. The Governor and First Lady teamed up to film a follow-on video on their social media for 2022. In addition, at our invitation, First Lady Britainy Beshear visited Fort Knox DODEA schools on April 14 and Fort Campbell DODEA schools on April 22 to promote the Month of the Military Child, meet leaders of both installations, and promote military family readiness.

Annual State Dues Assessment

Kentucky received its Fiscal Year 2023 dues assessment for membership in the MIC3 on May 2, 2022, in the amount of \$10,273, invoice number FY22-001KY, and submitted it for payment, per Governor-directed memo, to the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs. The current dues formula for FY23 is outlined in the Compact Rules, Chapter 200, Sec. 2.103 (<http://www.mic3.net/assets/rules-book-edits-20190905.pdf>). Payments are due by September 30, 2022. Payment in full was processed by the Department of Military Affairs on May 31, 2022 and was processed by MIC3 on June 8, 2022.

Administrative Requirements

Gen. Bullard completed and submitted to MIC3 his mandatory Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest statements in January 2022.

FY22 Kentucky MIC3 Cases

- Army family transferred mid-summer to the Fort Knox area for assignment to U.S. Army V Corps, unable to enroll their child into their local school in the Jefferson County (Louisville) Public Schools system, which is full
 - Child was placed on a waiting list in August 2021 and was initially forced to attend a school 25 minutes by car away, when the school of choice is right by their home
 - Child was prioritized on the waiting list and granted admission as soon as a slot opened, on 4 October 2021

- Army family transferred to Fort Knox Summer 2021 for assignment to U.S. Army Human Resources Command, son cut from the Elizabethtown High School Freshman Baseball Team
 - Child participated in off-season workouts but only showed up for the first day of a 3-day tryout in February 2022 as he was unaware it was a 3-day tryout due to communications failures
 - Coach cut the player from the team for not completing the tryout
 - Father (soldier) appealed for reconsideration but was denied
 - Process flowed from direct appeal to Brenda Weatherington to Commissioner Bullard to the MIC3 national staff, with no relief or accommodation
 - Parent appealed to MIC3 for punitive action
 - MIC3 legal counsel conducted a review of the case and discussed its findings with MIC3’s Executive Committee at its meeting on April 19, 2022
 - After considering the facts and circumstances of this matter, the Committee acting on behalf of MIC3, declined to take further action in this matter
 - Under the language of the Compact, the Elizabethtown Independent School District (EISD) is only required to “facilitate the opportunity for transitioning military children’s inclusion in extracurricular activities”
 - Because the Compact’s requirements for local education agencies relating to a military student’s participation in extracurricular activities is extremely narrow in scope, the Committee concluded that that further action would not result in a finding of a violation; and most importantly, it would not provide the player with the relief sought from EISD
 - Per National Chair Laura Anastasio’s communication with the parent, this conclusion is not an endorsement of EISD’s conduct in this case; however, without clear evidence to support the claim that there was no facilitation of the opportunity to participate in the sport and therefore the Committee cannot take any further action in this matter

Military Student Identifier Update

As part of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requirements, the U.S. Department of Education requires school districts to identify students who are armed forces family members. This information is a voluntary submission by parents and guardians. Kentucky’s Student Information System (KSIS) includes a “Military Connections” tab to track guardian data for those who are active duty military personnel. A student is considered military connected if a parent or guardian is a member of the armed forces on active duty or serves on full-time National Guard duty. KDE continues to promote the importance of this data collection to public schools and districts.

Information related to the collection of this data can be found at Kentucky Department of Education’s website: [KSIS Data Standard – Census \(Section G: Military Connections\)](#)
[Sample Data Collection Form for Local Districts and Schools](#)