

**Maryland State Council
June 22, 2026**

Attending

Name	Organization
Tashina Andrus	Regional School Liaison/Dept of the Navy
Carol Beck	Maryland State Department of Education
Michelle Boone	School Liaison, NSA Annapolis – US Naval Academy
Andrea Bridgewater-McCarthy,	School Liaison, Fort Detrick
Brooke Brock	School Liaison, NSA Annapolis - U.S. Naval Academy
Matrice Brooks	School Liaison, Joint Base Andrews
Jennifer Cole-Pharro	School Liaison, NSA Bethesda
Don Corbin	Safety Specialist, MSDE
Teresa Dantzier	Ombudsman, MSDE
Cheryl Dyson*	Superintendent, Frederick County Public Schools
Brad Engel	School Engagement Specialist, MSDE
Mary Gable*	Assistant State Superintendent, MSDE
Lolita Gunter	School Liaison, NSA South Potomac
Brittany Johnson	School Liaison, Aberdeen Proving Ground
Meredith McCandless	School Liaison, Fort George G. Meade, also representing Col. Gore
Kaitlin Quigley	Coordinator of Special Projects, MSDE
Alexmi Lugo Reverol	Uprooted Chesapeake
Mel Frasqueri Santiago	Uprooted Chesapeake
Brook Schmidt	Military Specialist, Parents' Place of Maryland
Ryan Voetglin*	Assistant Superintendent, Student Service, Anne Arundel County Public Schools
Andrew Warner	Executive Director, Maryland Public Schools Athletic Association, MSDE

*Member of the State Council

Invited, Unable to Attend

Name	Organization
Rene Averitt-Sanzone	Executive Director, Parents Place of Maryland
Col Yolanda Gore*	Garrison Commander, Fort George G. Meade
Laurel Crastley	Maryland State Department of Education
Alonso Hay	School Liaison, Joint Base Andrews
Anne Kaiser*	Delegate, Maryland House of Delegates
Talissa McMullen	School Liaison, Fort George G. Meade
Dawn Simpson	School Liaison, Patuxent River Naval Air Station
Gerrod Tyler	Free State PTA

Welcome and Introductions

Materials included in the folder and sent to online participants include: The MIC3 Strategic Plan for 2026-2028, List of State Council Members and Liaisons, HB102(Chapter 644), Purple Star Program Summary, and dues summary for MIC3.

Strategic Plan for MIC3

An overview of the MIC3 Strategic Plan was shared. Highlights are captured in the presentation, included with the minutes. Three main goals focus on culture, fidelity, and engagement. An organizational goal of the MIC3 is to continue to build capacity of Commissioners especially as there is turnover, and Commissioners serving who come from different roles (education, military, other). The Commission oversees the Compact and has established rules to guide states in serving military families. A balance is needed to establish or revise rules and consistency; if the rules are too specific, schools and families could encounter unintended consequences. The Commission works to build and maintain relationships with agencies at the local, state, and federal level.

Advanced Enrollment

HB 102, Chapter 644 was enacted in the 2026 Session of the Maryland General Assembly. The bill requires each Maryland local education agency (LEA) to allow dependent children to advance enroll with orders, if a final residence is not determined. The LEA must have an online method for enrollment, so that a family can enroll a student without being physically present. The bill requires timely sharing of IEPs and 504 plans.

For example, in Anne Arundel County, there is an existing remote enrollment system. A family may enroll with orders if residency is not yet established. The address that will be used is the work location on the assignment orders.

Anne Arundel County principals have experience with students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) in which the receiving school does not receive the IEP from the sending school in a timely manner. In these cases, the students may have to be re-assessed. It is hoped that the legislation's emphasis on serving students with disabilities will help with this. In Prince George's County, the liaison works to get the IEP to the County Schools central office so that it can be reviewed to help ensure that students receive services without interruptions. Guidance will be issued by MSDE.

Update on Purple Star Program

Kaitlin Quigley shared an overview of the Purple Star program that was established by Legislature to acknowledge schools doing exemplary work to support military students. Presentation is included with the minutes. There are criteria to receive the designation, including staff training, and peer-led transition program, making resources available, and a designated liaison for families. The designation is earned for two years. During the second year, the school can apply to renew the designation. In 2026, eight schools were eligible to renew the designation and all eight earned the renewal.

In a typical year, the application is released by 12/1, and is due in early March. In the interim technical assistance is provided. Applications are reviewed by a team at MSDE. Announcements have been made in April, the month of the military child. A school that does not earn the designation is advised and encouraged to submit a second time. The renewal is a more streamlined application. MSDE appreciates the collaboration of the military school liaisons in developing the application and supporting the school teams.

Maryland Cases

MSDE receives relatively few requests to intervene in cases that involve military connected students. Issues are most often resolved by school liaisons and the staff of the LEA. Questions that come to the attention of MSDE most often include enrollment and transfer of courses. The resolution typically entails making a connection to the right person in the LEA, or helping the family navigate an unfamiliar system.

National Case Review

Statistics were provided regarding cases that are reviewed at the national level. Note that this does not include matters that are resolved at the local level. Cases that are received at the national level can result from outreach of parent, or a commissioner. The majority of requests are from parents, then from Compact Commissioners. Many are unrelated to the Compact, or regarding issues that are not covered by the Compact.

Dues of the Commission

States pay dues to support the operations of the national office. The national office of the Commission provides printed and online materials, technical assistance, case review, and staff support for convenings of the Commission and its committees. Dues are based on the number of military-connected students in the state. There has not been an increase in the rate used to determine state dues since 2015. With agreement among the states, dues will increase in the 2026-2027 school from

\$1.15 per military connected student to \$1.78, with a 4% increase annually to account for inflation. Previously there was a cap on the total amount of dues, which is removed. All members of the State Council present supported the proposed rule change to increase the State dues at the 2025 meeting of the State Council.

Executive Director

A new Executive Director for MIC3 has been named - Lindsey Deblow. Lindsay has served on the staff of the Commission and was serving as interim executive director, helping ensure a smooth transition.

Adjourn