

2023 End of Year Report State of Massachusetts

CHIEF STATE SCHOOL OFFICER

Jeff Riley, Commissioner

Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

MILITARY FAMILY EDUCATION LIAISON

Christine Cowen, Military Connected Student Specialist Massachusetts Department of
Elementary and Secondary Education

MILITARY/DOD REPRESENTATIVE

Col Taona Enriquez, Mission Support Group Commander, Hanscom AFB, United States Air
Force

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Jon Santiago, Executive Secretary of Veterans Services', Massachusetts Department of Veterans'
Services

Representative Ken Gordon, Massachusetts State House of Representatives

Becky McFall, Superintendent, Lincoln Public Schools

Thomas Moreau, Assistant Secretary of Policy and Planning - Designee for Secretary of
Education Jeff Riley, Massachusetts Office of Education

Col Taona Enriquez, Mission Support Group Commander, Hanscom AFB, United States Air
Force

CAPT Amy Grable, Commander USCG Base Boston – Coast Guard Liaison

CAPT Sean Hannigan, Commander USCG Base Cape Cod – Coast Guard Liaison

Ex-Officio Members

Susan LaFlame - State Family Program Director, Military & Family Support Center
MA National Guard Family Program

Phil Napolitano– Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) Assistant Director

Points of Contact:

J. Clarke Orzalli - RADM USN (ret) – Commissioner 206-459-3222 [corzalli@gmail.com](mailto:orzalli@gmail.com)

Christine Cowan – Military Family Education Liaison 781-338-6301 ccowan@doe.mass.edu

Accomplishments:

August 2022 – Passed the Speed Act which implemented the Massachusetts Purple Star School Program. Applications are being accepted until 29 September 2023 for the first class.

19-20 October 2022 - Commissioner Orzalli and School Liaison Officer Laurel Wironen attended MIC3 ABM in Baton Rouge LA.

25 October 2022 - State MIC3 Council Meeting was held virtually

21 November 2022 – Commissioner Orzalli met with new DOD Liaison Col Taona Enrriquez, 66 Mission Support Group Commander, Hanscom AFB, United States Air Force.

14 April 2023 – Commissioner Orzalli, Presented Month of the Military Child Proclamation signed by Governor Healy and Lt Gov. Driscoll to Bedford High School Principal Heather Galante, and Bedford School Superintendent Phil Conrad. Bedford High School was celebrating Purple Up day. The event was also attended by State Council members; State Representative Ken Gordon and DOD Liaison COL Taona Enriquez, as well as School Liaison Officer Laurel Wironen.

12 June 2023 – Commissioner Orzalli and SLO Laurel Wironen met with Bedford School Superintendent Phil Conrad concerning placement of a Military Connected Student.