

Military Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children FLORIDA COUNCIL MEETING

January 12, 2024

10:00 am ET

Microsoft Teams meeting:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/5b7b75c3-92a9-4624-ad81-38b473bbd1e2@63bf107b-cb6f-4173-8c1c-1406bb5cb794>

Meeting ID: 276 648 543 963

Passcode: 3TrYjS

TOPIC	SPEAKER
Roll Call	Damera Hopkins, School Counseling Consultant/Military Lead Contact
Welcome	Dr. Peggy Aune, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement
Message from the Compact Commissioner	Col. Terrance J. McCaffrey, USAF (Ret), Florida Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3)
2024 Florida Teacher of the Year Comments	Adrianna Swearingen, Northside Elementary, Bay County School District
Purple Star Schools of Distinction Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharing practices among schools • Holiday Heroes project 	Andria Cole, Chief, Bureau of Family and Community Outreach
Purple Star Schools of Distinction Reflection	Elisa Jannes, Principal, Sigsbee Charter School, Monroe County School District
Updates from the Military Family Education Liaison	Lisa Hill, Military Family Education Liaison
Updates from the National Office	Cherise Imai, MIC3 Executive Director
Updates from the School Liaison Officers	
Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Comments/Questions 	
Future Meeting Dates for 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 12, 2024 • July 12, 2024 	

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Compact Council Members		
Compact Commissioner Col. Terrance J. McCaffrey, USAF (Ret)		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Commissioner of Education Vice Chancellor Dr. Peggy Aune		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Superintendent of the school district with the highest percentage of per capita Steve Horton, Designee		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Family Ed Liaison Lisa Hill		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
MIC3 Executive Director Cherise Imai		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Representative for the Speaker of the House Allison Liby-Schoonover		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Representative for the President of the Senate Danny Burgess		Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Representative for the Department of Defense Capt. Ian Johnson		Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ex-officio Member from the Florida High School Athletic Association Jordanne Stark		Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Representative from the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) Damara Hopkins, Student Support Services		Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>

School Liaison Officers		
NAS Whiting Field	Dawn Kaunike	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
NAS Pensacola	Carissa Bergosh	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NSA Panama City	Erin Pickard	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
NAS Jacksonville	Teri Wanamaker	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
NAS Jacksonville	Patrigna Murphy	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
NS Mayport	Sharon Kasica	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NAS Key West	Dawn Mills	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Region	Michele Taylor	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Hurlburt Field	Lacy Allen	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Patrick Space Force	Susan Clark	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Tyndall AFB	Mallory Gross	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Eglin AFB	Elaine Lajeunesse	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Eglin AFB	Margaret Rivera	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
McDill AFB	Venetia Waters	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
L NAF (USA)	Shunta Belance	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
School Liaison, USAG Miami	Claudette Mohn	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
M Col USAF AFMC 96 MSG	Tassika Davis	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
AF	Lori Phillips	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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Additional Attendees	
Andrew Weatherill	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Brandi Sanchez	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Andria Cole	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Lindsey Dablow	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Jonathan Mwakyanjala	Present <input type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Tony Graham	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Cindy Huffman	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Jennifer Darnell	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Kim Brumage	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Elisa Jannes, Sigsbee Charter School, Monroe County School District	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>
Adrianna Swearingen	Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not in Attendance <input type="checkbox"/>

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TOPIC	SPEAKER
Open Roll Call	Damera Hopkins, School Counseling Consultant/Military Lead Contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll Call was taken by Damera Hopkins as attendees joined the meeting. 	
Welcome	Dr. Peggy Aune, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Improvement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Aune reviewed the agenda, which was shared via the meeting invitation. 	
Message from the Compact Commissioner	Col. Terrance J. McCaffrey, USAF (Ret), Florida Military Interstate Children’s Compact Commission (MIC3)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compact Commissioner McCaffrey began the meeting and stated that the 2024 Legislative Session has begun. He advised that we should pay attention to military initiatives. Compact Commissioner McCaffrey introduced the 2024 Florida Teacher of the Year, Adrianna Swearingen, from Northside Elementary School in the Bay County School District. 	
2024 Florida Teacher of the Year Comments	Adrianna Swearingen, Northside Elementary, Bay County School District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Swearingen thanked everyone for inviting her to attend the meeting. She stated that the military initiative means a lot to her as she grew up in a military family and has had positive experiences with the military and transitioning to new places and schools. She was proud to share that Bay County had 17 Purple Star Schools. 	
Purple Star Schools of Distinction Update	Andria Cole, Chief, Bureau of Family and Community Outreach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sharing practices among schools Holiday Heroes project 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The FDOE website has been updated to reflect a total of 197 Purple Star Schools of Distinction in Florida. The Bureau of Family and Community Outreach (BFCO) team has developed a plan to share best practices among the Purple Star Schools. The plans include quarterly virtual opportunities via webinar to share best practices through district points of contact as well as a specific opportunity for prospective Purple Star Schools to receive technical assistance on the requirements and the application process. The team will work with Ms. Hopkins to ensure the Council is included in the communication when specific dates and links are shared. Holiday Heroes Project - BFCO was honored to participate in Lt. Governor Nuñez’s initiative, Holiday Letters for Heroes, in December 2023. Students from Florida’s public, charter and private schools were encouraged to write letters and send artwork thanking our Florida National Guard for their service. BFCO supported this project by coordinating the receipt and processing of more than 40,000 letters sent in by students of all ages. The letters brought joy to the guardsmen and women. Bureau Chief Cole stated that BFCO was happy to have been a part of this process and wanted to thank everyone who participated. Bay News 9 aired a report about Purple Star Schools and the Florida National Guard holiday letters. A link to view the news segment is available at https://baynews9.com/fl/tampa/news/2023/12/08/purple-star-schools-write-holiday-letters-for-heroes. 	

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Purple Star Schools of Distinction Reflection	Elisa Jannes, Principal, Sigsbee Charter School, Monroe County School District
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elisa Jannes, Principal of Sigsbee Charter School, shared photos of her school, which has steadily increased in enrollment. School staff welcomes all students, with special considerations for military families. They developed a lottery system for enrollment that always accommodates military families. All communication is online so parents can see newsletters. Principal Jannes described her town as a small community with a very close relationship with schools and the military. For example, military personnel welcome students on the first day of school. • Sigsbee has served 14 years as a charter school. Their connection with students is through place-based education (marine lab, kayak elective, Everglades, Dolphin research center, etc.). • Wounded Warrior Project - Students create welcome packages for them. The Month of the Military Child is celebrated in April. • Compact Commissioner McCaffrey thanked Principal Jannes for her dedication to military students. 	
Updates from the Military Family Education Liaison	Lisa Hill, Military Family Education Liaison
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mrs. Hill will be working with school liaison officers (SLOs) to document an outreach plan ensuring continued education for stakeholders in the MIC3 program. • SLOs are already active in MIC3 outreach through their close partnerships with school districts, military installations and families. • Mrs. Hill will document a plan for military contacts to use to disseminate and receive information via social media pages, briefings, trainings, websites, etc. • The National MIC3's new online training portal is an excellent educational resource. SLOs will look into adding the portal link to military family sections on school websites. • The Outreach Plan will address reaching families/stakeholders living further away from larger school districts and military installations. 	
Updates from the National Office	Cherise Imai, MIC3 Executive Director
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The annual meeting was held in Richmond, VA, and Florida continues to be a leader in supports for military-connected students and families. • The Compact 101 webinar is still available for free at https://mic3.net/mic3training-net. • Toolkits were updated and launched for parents. • Ms. Imai will spend the next year evaluating training programs to make sure they are effective. 	
Updates from School Liaison Officers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon Kasica shared that there are potential issues with the Step Up for Students scholarship funding organization because there should be open enrollment for military families throughout the year. The requirement in section 1002.394(8)(a)4, Florida Statutes, is that no students may be submitted to the Department after February 1, 2024. The application window was closed so that the scholarship funding organizations would have an opportunity to review all applications and supporting documentation, including further correspondence with families if necessary, and provide the final list by the deadline. • Lacey Allen, the new regional Air Force school liaison from Hulbert Field, was introduced. 	
Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Comments/Questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No comments from the public. • Dr. Aune thanked the presenters for their time and dedication.
Meeting Dates for 2024 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 12, 2024 • July 12, 2024 	