



**Oklahoma Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children**  
**Minutes**  
**7:30 AM CST**  
**Friday, May 12, 2023**  
Virtual (Zoom)

On Friday, May 12, 2023, at 7:30 AM, the Oklahoma Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children Commission met virtually via Zoom. Dr. Darrell Floyd Compact Commissioner called the meeting to order. Roll was called with the notation that Ryan Walters had been sent four (4) invites to this meeting, with no response. The group did the flag salute and Pledge of Allegiance over Zoom.

Dr. Floyd and members reviewed the agenda for the May 12, 2023, meeting. A motion was made by Dr. Cobb with a second by Kevin Hime to approve the agenda for the meeting. The motion carried.

Dr. Floyd asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the June 23, 2022, meeting. Dr. Cobb made the motion and Kevin Hime seconded. The motion carried.

Dr. Floyd had everyone go around and introduce themselves to the group. Dr. Floyd provided an overview of the MiC3 Compact. Everyone in the nation has one of these compacts, with the purpose of making the transitions of military students as smooth as possible. The design and intent are to assist military students in their transitions.

MIC3 Communications Associate Christina King gave the National Office Report, updating on the challenges faced and solutions to those challenges. The first challenge addressed was the frequent turnover of school personnel with solutions being to identify opportunities to train and inform stakeholders of the rules and regulations and working with the Department of Defense to inform parents with preschool through high school-aged children of the rules to advocate for their student when they PCS to a new school. The second challenge mentioned was the need to update and enhance current and new resources to inform stakeholders of the Compact. Possible ways to do this are new trainings such as the Compact 101 in Spanish and an American Sign Language version; in-person trainings such as the recent training in Japan with the DODEA Pacific leadership; the online, on-demand, learning management system (LMS) that is planned to launch in November 2023; and continued virtual trainings (Compact 101 and 201) available monthly.

Ms. King also reported that the Commission is correcting an error in each state statute. The reference to "active duty and Guard on Title 10 orders" is incorrect. For Oklahoma, the statute currently states: 10 USC Section 1209 and 1211. The statute should reference 10 USC Chapter 1209 and 1211. The Commission is identifying states to research and identify if that state has a technical amendment; and if this is the case, to work with the national office to correct the statute.

Ms. King ended her report by extending appreciation from the National Office to Commissioner Floyd for his service, stating, *“On behalf of the commission, we present the State Service Award in recognition for his hard work and support ---- he will be missed. Dr. Floyd has been a great Commissioner for Oklahoma and member of the Commission.”*

Dr. Floyd brought up the discussion regarding adding the National Guard to Compact. He and the Committee are in support of the effort and feel it is important to support the National Guard students and personnel and feel those students should not be penalized just because they are not on “active duty”.

Dr. Floyd expressed support of the Purple Up! initiative for the Month of the Military Child and thanked everyone on the committee for their efforts.

Dr. Floyd updated members that there are supposed to be five (5) voting members appointed, with three (3) in attendance here today. He stated the State Superintendent is supposed to be the Chair of this committee but that he does not respond to invitations. Dr. Floyd added that due to these types of issues, sometimes non-voting members must step in and vote when needed.

Dr. Floyd provided the Oklahoma MiC3 update. He stated he has dealt with approximately five to six (5-6) issues relating to military students over the past year. He stated that is not all the cases, but many issues are resolved at the local level or sometimes military personnel directly contact the MiC3 National Office in Kentucky. Most issues can be resolved quickly by reaching out to the appropriate people – campus personnel or School Liaison. Issues usually revolve around credits, honors credit issues, graduation issues, sometimes extracurricular and athletic issues/deadlines, etc.

Dr. Floyd reported this model of MIC3 in all 50 states has also been used as the model for the same type of system nationwide for interstate teacher certification and licensure reciprocity. Rep. Miller added that she has been involved with that legislation and Dr. Rick Cobb reported it has been passed and signed by the Oklahoma Governor. Dr. Floyd thanked them both for their work getting that passed.

Dr. Floyd asked for continued support in considering approval of Oklahoma’s National Guard to be a part of MIC3 as an action item. Sybille McKay made a motion to continue support of this. Kevin Hime seconded. The motion carried.

Colonel Higgins talked about best practices, thanking Mr. Jackson and stating they worked together to help transferring students not lose credits or eligibility. Col. Higgins reported another best practice is working with enrollment centers at the local level when high schools are able to set aside spots for incoming students to do an early virtual registration. One challenge they continue to face is the OK history requirement to graduate. Not every state has that high school graduation requirement, so they have asked the legislature to move this down from 9<sup>th</sup> grade to 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Lastly, he mentioned the need to educate families on the state’s open enrollment/transfer rules and regulations. He added that, “Yes, military students are held

harmless, but this does not mean that the student and parent get to pick which campus they will attend. The school district makes that determination, based on capacity.”

Nicole Painter discussed how many parents and students that are transferring ask to enroll in specific classes or specific schools early so they do not miss the window while transferring. She stated they are working with the parents and schools to bridge this gap and help them understand they do everything they can to help them get their school of choice, but the above capacity issue is the determining factor.

Dr. Floyd mentioned the possibility of a federal grant for public schools inside a Military Base that could provide funding to improve or replace that campus.

Executive Director David Jackson stated that the OSSAA is the Oklahoma Secondary School Activities Association that encompasses over 100,000 athletes. Oklahoma is one of 20 states that also govern school activities such as athletics, speech and debate, etc. Their role centers around the eligibility of students. One thing they need to continue to communicate is the eligibility of students transferring from one OK school to another OK school. They strive to help military students remain eligible, but that is not always possible. Dr. Floyd expressed his thanks and appreciation for the work OSSAA does.

Dr. Pam Deering thanked everyone in attendance for all the work they do for military kids, it gives her hope that there is a place for kids to turn to for help. She stated that Oklahoma has lots of issues that depend on funding right now, and she thanked the committee for its patience while the budget is being worked on. Dr. Floyd thanked her for her support.

Dr. Floyd reported that he has submitted the invoice for the Oklahoma Commission Dues for FY24 (in the amount of \$10,999) to the legislature for payment on May 7, 2023. Janet Nelson is the Finance Officer. She will be the contact person for payments of dues moving forward. She has been in contact with the legislators, and she does not foresee any issues with payment. This should be processed and paid in June or July.

Dr. Floyd stated he will be retiring from his position as Enid Public School Superintendent and as the Oklahoma MIC3 Commissioner, effective June 30, 2023. The process for his replacement as Superintendent has been completed. Dr. Dudley Darrow will take over, effective July 1, 2023. The process for his replacement as the MIC3 Oklahoma Compact Commissioner has also begun and the governor will ultimately make that official appointment.

Nicole Miller mentioned the education bill on credentialing issues in relation to the Military Compact stating the Oklahoma bill is around 25 pages long and that she is proud of the work the committee is doing and hopeful to keep moving forward. Dr. Floyd thanked her for her support.

Sybille McKay thanked Kevin Hime for his support and reported she does not have many issues. The majority of issues are communications issues (or lack thereof) and can be easily resolved with a phone call to the school districts.

Dr. Cobb had no final comments.

Kevin Hime thanked Commissioner Floyd for his work and service.

Dr. Darrow expressed that he is looking forward to working with the committee and is honored to replace Dr. Floyd.

With there being no old business or new business to discuss, Dr. Floyd adjourned the meeting at 8:28 a.m.