

Massachusetts Council of Military Interstate Commerce Commission
Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2024
Microsoft Teams Virtual Meeting

Attendance

Members:

RADM J. Clarke Orzalli USN (ret), Commissioner, Massachusetts MIC3
Andrea Gayle-Bennett, Deputy Secretary - Executive Office of Veterans Services
Ernestina Sirignano, Executive Office of Veterans Services
Kerri Anne Quinlan-Zhou, Bourne School Superintendent
Christine Cowen, Military Family Education Liaison to MIC3, Military Connected Student Specialist, Designee for Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Laurel Wironen, School Liaison, Hanscom AFB
Col Jorge Jimenez, Commander USAF AFMC 66, Hanscom AFB

Ex-Officio Members:

Julia Dennis, MA National Guard Family Program

Other Guests:

Jessica Foley, Representative Gordon's office
Cherise Imai, Commissioner, National MIC3

Agenda:

- I. Welcome and Introduction**
 - a. **New representatives announced:**
Col Jorge Jimenez Commander USAF AFMC 66, Hanscom AFB.

- II. Vote to Approve Minutes from November 16, 2024 Meeting**
 - a. Minutes were approved.

- III. Discuss Activity since November 2023 Meeting**
 - a. **Annual Report to Compact**
Governor's Proclamation represented last April at Bourne Public Schools.
 - b. **Cases and Inquiries since last meeting – Christine Cowen**
 - Six inquiries answered by Military Family Liaison at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. No cases were initiated due to these inquiries.

c. Purple Star Schools

- Two Schools Bedford HS, and Hanscom Middle school have been awarded Purple Star Status.
- Second Annual Purple Award process started. Webinars conducted and applications accepted until the end of January and hopefully awards out in April after review.

d. Training and Outreach

- Annual Educational Stability training was conducting and MIC3 was covered as well as the amended MA law for remote registration.
- Meeting in Fall 24: With Federation for Children with Special Needs – they will gladly help get the word out about MIC3, as well as Purple Award application.

IV. Ex-Officio Members

- a. No update or questions.

V. Review of MIC3 Annual Business Meeting – Cherise Imai

- a. Welcomed in New Mexico

b. General Updates

- Cherise spoke about cases to be submitted to MIC3 that are raised to the commission level. Massachusetts does a good job in this area.
- There is some turnover in states due to retirements resulting in training for new Chairs/commissioners (18)
- Panel discussion about MIC3 implementation and supporting families in transition – this panel was well received
- Next meeting is October 23 and 24 in Indianapolis at NCAA

c. New Policy Statements

- Rules discussed at committee meeting concerning attendance
- Revenues were also discussed; \$1.15 per military connected student identified – looking to increase dues in 3 years; vote will be taking at the next ABM

d. New Training Materials

- New video series based on collection of studies – best practices from 4 states on program implementation

VI. Public Comment

- a. None

VII. Discussion and Next Steps

- a. Commissioner Orzalli will work with Laurel Wironen to arrange for visits to the two Purple Awarded schools.

- b. Commissioner Orzalli mentioned that there are 2500 military connected students which are a large percentage of coast guard connected. Local USCG base commanders are liaisons to the state council.
- c. State Statute error in the reference codes. Jessica Foley will follow-up with Representative Ken Gordon.
- d. Commissioner Orzalli will meet the new colonel at Hanscom.
- e. Col. Jimenez will try to get a Coast Guard representative on this board.
- f. Commissioner Orzalli thanked Andrea Gayle-Bennet concerning the former commander of the Constitution and the placement of her students in Boston public schools.
- g. Kerri Quinlain-Zhao from Bourne mentioned the Superintendents Conference in July where she will discuss MIC3. She also said there is a focus on Purple Up in schools on Cape Cod.

VIII. Adjourn

10:36 a.m.