

2021 New Hampshire State Council Report

August 31, 2021

Dear Executive Director Cherise Imai,

On behalf of the New Hampshire State Council, I am pleased to submit the 2021 annual report.

The State Council met remotely in November 2020 and focused on a number of issues impacting students of active military. Two areas were discussed: social/emotional concerns and student wellness, as well as individual education plans and 504 plans. In addition, the Council heard from members of the National Guard supporting the “Purple Star” identification. Since that meeting, twenty-five (25) schools have been identified for eligibility as a Purple Star School. The Governor’s Drug and Alcohol Task Force has allotted funding to support activities in the schools. This project is in its initial stages and the identified schools have participated in a webinar to learn more about the project. Kristen Ferullo, the SLO at Portsmouth Navy Shipyard, has presented information to school contacts about the work to support students and families.

New Hampshire continues to support the inclusion of National Guard and Reserve staff in the compact. New Hampshire men and women have deployed to locations across the nation as well as overseas.

At home in New Hampshire, Guard and Reserve members may not have had to relocate their families but, given their assignments, they have spent significant time away from their families. This is certainly a concern for their children who are served in schools in New Hampshire. To learn more about the NH National Guard, I met with Major General David J. Mikolaities. He is committed to serving families and working in partnership with the New Hampshire schools.

The Council continues an effort to connect with Coast Guard staff who are stationed along the New Hampshire seacoast. This is a component of the military for whom more attention is required to ensure students and families are served by the compact. In the spring, members of the Council participated in the selection of the Military Youth of the Year. The panel was impressed with the incredible accomplishments of the students selected. Ms. Ettlich was selected as the Military Youth of the Year. This year I was honored to present a webinar on the important elements of a successful State Council. I shared the presentation with Fellow Commissioner Rosemary Kraeger from Rhode Island.

I am pleased to report that concerns that arise are addressed at the lowest level. Schools across the State are and continue to be very responsive to the needs of students and families.

Respectfully,
Kathleen A. Murphy, New Hampshire Compact Commissioner

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State Council Roster

STATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Kathleen A. Murphy, Superintendent, Concord School District, Commissioner
Russ Ober, New Hampshire State House Representative, Hudson, NH
Steve Zdravec, Superintendent Portsmouth School District
Kyle Repucci, Superintendent, Rochester School District
Jeffrey Collins, Executive Director NH Interscholastic Athletic Association
Jane Bergeron Beaulieu, Executive Director New Hampshire Special Education
Administrators
Amy Cook, Administrator Division of Community Based Military Programs DHHS
Jen Doris, New Hampshire Department of Education
Elizabeth Peabody, School Counselor Concord School District
Captain Daniel Ettlich, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Commander
Staff Sgt. Richard Frost
Vacant, Governor's Office

Contacts

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Kristen Ferullo, SLO at PNSY
Frank Edleblut, NH Commissioner of Education