



2023 Annual MIC3 Report

New Hampshire

Dear Executive Director Cherise Imai,

I am honored to submit the 2023 annual Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission report on behalf of the New Hampshire State Council, supporting students whose parents/guardians are on active duty or serving in the National Guard or the Reserves.

Throughout the year the New Hampshire MIC3 State Council has remained active in its support of the Compact under Title VIII as defined in New Hampshire's RSA's (Revised Statutes Annotated).

The Council met their obligation to hold a state council meeting on May 23rd via an online meeting to accommodate the members' busy schedules. Council members were provided updates on the annual business meeting held in the Fall of 2022. The Council was provided highlights on the inclusion of the National Guard and Reserves. The discussion focused on the challenges faced during deployment including mental health counseling for adults and children, access to affordable childcare, spousal employment, and health care. The members were also updated on House Bill 1653 signed into law by Governor Sununu and key issues for the US DOD.

The Council heard reports regarding the MIC3 National Strategic Plan 2023-2025 and the work of the Training Committee to provide resources for the states as well as training for essential staff in schools.

One activity that has been well received by the council members was the case studies of situations facing military families. This provided the attendees with real life situations and solutions to support the students and families.

New Hampshire is very fortunate to have the Commander of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard as part of the Council. This year, Commander Smith has kept the council up to date on the growth occurring at the shipyard with the construction of 2 additional dry docks as well as the significant increase in personnel for both temporary and permanent sailors and families.

In addition to Commander Smith's update on the activities at the naval shipyard, David Madden 157th Airman and Family Readiness Coordinator for Pease Air Force Base shared with the council the arrival of 159 Airmen. He discussed the challenges faced with housing availability and costs.

This year the council wanted to hold a "Tri State Council meeting (NH, VT, and Maine) given that we share some of the same challenges. We were unable to schedule this event, but the council has every intention to move forward with this initiative. The Commander of the Navy Shipyard has graciously offered his facility for the meeting as well as a tour of the shipyard.

This winter the student liaison (SLO) for the Navy, Kristen Ferullo presented an overview of the MIC3 work in the state to school superintendents at their monthly meeting held in Concord. Kristen's presentation was well received and generated many additional questions and requests for information.

Many resources are available to schools including Purple Star School Toolbox, Deployment Kits, Tutor. Com and apprenticeships available at the shipyard.

For the past several years as Commissioner, I have served on the national MIC3 Training Committee. The committee meets monthly and is responsible for supporting new Commissioner's via a Mentorship program and a variety of webinars. In addition, the committee supports the development of training tools to be used by groups supporting students and families as well as for families learning about the support offered by the Compact.

The Council affirmed the following recommendation for the upcoming year.

- Organize and hold a Tri State meeting of MIC3 leadership from Maine, Vermont, and New Hampshire.
- Broaden the reach of the School Liaison Kristen Ferullo via various organizations throughout the state such as School Principals, School Counselors, Social Workers, and Superintendents.
- Work with the NHED (New Hampshire Education Department) to improve the military identifier data.
- The state council recommended a targeted effort to add voices to the council. This includes a legislative representative, Governor's Office, School Counselors Association and Principal's association.
- The Title VIII language requires a correction based on a scrivener's error. The technical amendment will amend the wording "Section" to "Chapter."

In New Hampshire we continue to have a close-knit educational community resulting in our ability to be responsive to students and families in transition.

I am grateful to have the opportunity to work with Kristen Ferullo, the Student Liaison Officer for the Navy. Her wealth of experience and knowledge of military families has been of incredible valuable to leaders across the state of New Hampshire. She offers guidance and support throughout the transition process and always keeps the needs of students as her priority.

I continue to be honored to serve as the New Hampshire Commissioner for the Military Interstate Compact Commission for Children. I hope in some small way I can find solutions to support our students and families.

Respectfully,

Kathleen A. Murphy
NH MIC#3 Commissioner