

Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission

The Thomas D. Rutan State (Ohio) Council

Minutes of the Meeting held Tuesday, 12 December 2023 1:00 p.m.

Bellville Elementary School / 195 School Street, Bellville, Ohio 44813 / + MS Teams Session



Our Mission to Ohio's Military Kids: Reduce or eliminate any roadblocks that hinder the educational success of Military Children in the Buckeye state.

Attendance:

- | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adreana Tartt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chip Merkle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenn Davis | <input type="checkbox"/> Shannon Cox |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Allison Russo | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chris Picha | <input type="checkbox"/> Julie Gray | <input type="checkbox"/> Shari Obrenski |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ashley Twedt | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christine Young | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kathy McFarland | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Shatila Smith |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Becky Hornberger | <input type="checkbox"/> Courtney Tyree | <input type="checkbox"/> Kristin Ronai | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tammy Puff |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Brian Lampton | <input type="checkbox"/> Darren Miller | <input type="checkbox"/> Matt Cox | <input type="checkbox"/> Terry Johnson |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brittany Miracle | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Petro | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mark Jones | <input type="checkbox"/> Thomas Rutan |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Courtney Kessler | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Haley Young | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Bankey | <input type="checkbox"/> Tim Freeman |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Callie Haas | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jared Shank | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michelle Lewis | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Perkins |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Marzec | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Durell | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pete LuPiba | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Trina Pauley |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chad Wyen | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jason Scragg | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roberson Hill | <input type="checkbox"/> Vernon Sykes |

Guests:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry McDermott | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Libby Nickoli | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cassie Bauchman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Janice Wycoff | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brian Brown | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kendall Bauchman |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jonathan Burras | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Darren Hamilton | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Klaus | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amy Cox | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayme Legron | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Hoover | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Judy Golden | | |

Call to Order:

- Introductions
 - The meeting commenced at 1:03 p.m. Members and guests introduced themselves.
- Welcome:
 - Ashley Twedt introduced military-connected youth of Bellville Elementary, who recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
 - Presentation of MIC3 coin to Kendell Bauchman.
 - Pete LuPiba provided opening remarks, including thanking Clear Fork Valley Local Schools for hosting the meeting.
- Approval of Agenda:
 - A motion to approve the agenda was put forward by Michelle Lewis and seconded by Ashley Twedt. The motion passed.
- Review of Minutes:
 - A motion to approve the minutes from the August meeting was put forward by Christine Young and seconded by Ashley Twedt. The motion passed.

Old Business

- Military Family Appreciation Month and Veterans Day 2023 Review:
 - Christine Young created a document that assists school boards to acknowledge staff members that are military connected.
 - Tammy Puff and Pete LuPiba celebrated Veterans Day with Edgewood City and Clear Fork Valley Local Schools.
 - Clear Fork Local Schools will be honoring military-connected staff at its December board meeting.
 - The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce sent out an [EdConnection article](#) informing stakeholders across the state how the agency supports

veterans, service members, and their families through the Compact, Troops to Teachers, and the Ohio Military Veterans Educator Program.

- Jason Durell participated in events with his reserve unit and encourages schools to connect with local units in their area.
- [State MIC3 and Purple Star Google Site](#) Update
 - The Google site has been updated to include recordings of the second annual National Convening of Purple Star Schools.
- National MIC3 Dues
 - Dues have been paid to National MIC3. Every other year the responsibility of paying dues alternates between ODEW and ODVS.
- OhioCares Initiative
 - Adreana Tartt provided an overview of [OhioCares](#) and the connection with MIC3/Purple Star.
- Monthly MIC3 Training
 - [Compact 101 training](#) offered monthly by the national MIC3 Office. [Virtual training](#) is now being offered.
- Ohio MIC3 Strategic Plan
 - Chad and H. Young are working on building a timeline to create a new plan using the previous plan as a template.

Reports

- Tammy Puff, Office of the Honorable Mike DeWine
 - Tammy Puff presented those in attendance with Purple Stars to thank the council and those in attendance that serve and support military connected students.
 - Tammy Puff, Pete LuPiba, and Chip Merkle are visiting Purple Star schools each month.
- Trina Pauley and Lt. Col. Hill, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base
 - Shatila Smith has joined the School Liaison Office.

- Lt. Col. Hill announced he will PCS in July. A new military representative will be appointed then.
 - Schools near the base were invited to attend suicide prevention training and a panel on mental health resources on December 14, 2023.
- Jason Scragg, Department of Education and Workforce
 - Presented data on military-connected students in Ohio from the 2022-2023 school year.
 - Updated the council on 2024 Purple Star School applications.
 - Provided information about [Student Wellness and Success Funds](#) and how they can support military-connected students.
- Chris Picha, Department of Veterans Services
 - The [Ohio Veterans Hall of Fame](#) inducted 20 new members in November. Nominations for next year are open through July 2024.
- Chip Merkle, Ohio National Guard Youth Program
 - [Ohio Military Kids](#) successfully held summer and fall camps this year. Planning is underway for next year.
 - Three Purple Star Roundtables were held in August. This included an online meeting and two in-person meetings in Mad River and Massillon.
- Courtney Tyree, U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion
 - No report.
- Jared Shank, Ohio Department of Higher Education
 - Five new colleges and universities earned the [Collegiate Purple Star](#) Award this November.
- MIC3 Annual Business Meeting
 - Several members of the council discussed this year's MIC3 Annual Business meeting. Team Ohio was well represented at the meeting with six members attending.

New Business:

- Webinars – Town Halls – Round Tables
 - Chip Merkle will help plan upcoming professional development scheduled for February to March 2024.
- Annual Spirit Week
 - Spirit Week for the Month of the Military Child is scheduled for April 15-19, 2024.
 - April 15, 2024 will be Purple Up Day and the Purple Star class of 2024 will be announced.
- Purple Star Schools and Collegiate Purple Star Collaboration
 - Christine Young discussed how Anthony Wayne Local Schools partners with Bowling Green State University.
 - The Collegiate Purple Star program encourages institutions of higher education to connect with Purple Star schools in their area. A list of K-12 military family liaisons has been shared with the Ohio Veterans Education Council to encourage collaboration.
- Month of the Military Child Toolkit
 - State council is developing an Ohio MOMC toolkit that will be shared on the Google site.
- Annual PreK12-MIL Conference for Team Ohio
 - Chip Merkle and Pete LuPiba are starting to plan a 2024 statewide Purple Star conference.
- 2023 Convening of Purple Star Schools
 - The event was held online on Oct. 26, 2023. Ohio led the event by leading 14 of the 20 sessions. Recordings of the event are on the MIC3 Google site. Proposing changing the date next year to a release day when more educators would be able to attend.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was motioned by Chip Merkle and seconded by Jenn Davis. The council adjourned at 3:02 p.m.

The council will meet next on March 20, 2024 at Anthony Wayne Local Schools.