



PENNSYLVANIA STATE COUNCIL MINUTES
Tuesday, July 18, 2022

PRESENT

Carrie Anderson Division Chief of Planning & Professional Development, Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE)
Stuart Knade, Esq. Representative of the School Boards Association
Amy Lena Director, Bureau of School Support, PDE, Secretary's Designee
Luis Partida Legislative Aide
Zachary Stritzinger Assistant Counsel, Office of the Governor
Drew Turinski Deputy Garrison Commander, Carlisle Barracks, USDOD Military Representative
Rep. Joe Webster Legislative Representative, House Minority Leader

NOT PRESENT

Sen. Tracy Pennycuick Legislative Rep for the Speaker of the House
Catherine Sweeney Superintendent, Pocono Mountain School District

GENERAL ATTENDEES

Chris Hendrix School Liaison, Navy Region, Mid-Atlantic
Cherise Imai Executive Director, MIC3
Dena Janghardi Military OneSource State Consultant
Jacqueline Schultz Outreach Services Director & School Liaison Officer, Carlisle Barracks, PA
Dr. Stefanie Shook School Liaison Officer, Carlisle Barracks, PA

VACANT COUNCIL POSITIONS

Governor's Executive Branch Appointee
Legislative Rep for the Minority Leader of the House
School Liaison, NSA Mechanicsburg-Philadelphia, PA

ITEM 1 – DEPARTMENT WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER

MIC3 Pennsylvania Compact Commissioner Barbara Clemmer called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM ET. She welcomed members and attendees to the meeting.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

Commissioner Clemmer conducted the roll call. A quorum was confirmed.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 3, 2022

Ms. Amy Lena motioned to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stuart Knade. The motion carried.

ITEM 4 - APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Knade motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Ms. Lena. The motion carried.

ITEM 5 – PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (PDE) UPDATES

Commissioner Clemmer reported she assisted with 13 cases this past year. Topic included: excused absences for the student to spend time with the member before deployment and the National Guard and Reserve on GI bills. She stated updates were made to the PDE website to include information on the compact, state assessment, school liaisons, and a new email address.

Commissioner Clemmer reviewed recent bills:

- HB 1094 Advanced Enrollment (adopted)
- SB 263 Educational Opportunity Accounts for Military Families
- SB 209 Guard and Reserve (did not pass)

ITEM 6 – SCHOOL LIAISON UPDATES

Mr. Chris Hendrix reported a new school liaison would be assigned to NSA Mechanicsburg and cover NWS Earle as well. They requested a separate, second position to cover NSA Earle which would be based in Philadelphia. Both requests were in the process of approval, and they will know within the next few weeks. He will cover both areas remotely until the new person was hired and trained.

Ms. Jacqueline Schultz reported they support the Army War College and international students. They assist around 400-425 dependents, in-processing them, and transitioning them into the community.

Dr. Stefanie Shook stated she was a military spouse, and her husband retired in June. She spent 13 years as a teacher/educator and spent 5 years in a military district overseeing Department of Defense Education Activity grants. Her area was Cumberland, Mechanicsburg, south Middletown, and private schools. Her primary focus was international fellows and Army War College students.

ITEM 7 – NATIONAL OFFICE UPDATES

Ms. Cherise Imai reported the commission was working on a new online learning portal which would be released in the fall, as well as training in American sign language. She highlighted Pennsylvania's efforts to support military kids, especially the high engagement of Commissioner Clemmer to address compact cases swiftly as they arose, virtual attendance at committee meetings, and the Annual Business Meeting in October.

ITEM 8 – MILITARY ONE SOURCE

Ms. Dena Janghardi provided an overview of Military One Source and noted a recent School Liaison article was released.

ITEM 9 – OPEN DISCUSSION

Purple Star Schools – Ms. Amy Lena encouraged members to share information with stakeholders. She noted the Department has green and blue star schools. Awardees will be recognized annually in December - this year on December 11th in Hershey. Award requirements: need to have an informational website, students leading initiatives, and professional development. Schools will receive a Purple Star to display on the school campus.

Rep. Joe Webster asked for clarification on the award and if eligibility required a minimum number of military-connected students. Ms. Lena replied it was open to all schools, regardless of military impact. The first-year focus was schools surrounding the bases, as they were already supporting and familiar with working with military families, however, she encouraged smaller schools to apply for the award as well.

ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Knade motioned to adjourn the meeting. Rep. Stuart seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Clemmer adjourned the meeting at 1:55 PM ET.