

West Virginia End of Year Summary (FY 2023)

State Council Membership Roster:

Compact Commissioner

Mr. Phillip Cantrell, West Virginia National Guard

Chief State School Officer

Mr. David Roach, State Superintendent, West Virginia Department of Education

Military Family Education Liaison

Mr. Robert Mellace, Coordinator, West Virginia Department of Education

State Council Members

- Mr. Phillip Cantrell, West Virginia National Guard
- Mr. David Roach, State Superintendent, West Virginia Department of Education
- Mr. Ryan Saxe, Superintendent, Cabell County Schools
- Mr. Ryan Weld, West Virginia Senate
- Mr. Bill Anderson, West Virginia House of Delegates
- Mr. Edward Diaz, Cabinet Secretary of the West Virginia Department of Veterans Assistance
- CPT Brittany Watson, State Family Programs Director, West Virginia National Guard
- Mr. Robert Mellace, Coordinator, West Virginia Department of Education

Military/DOD Representative:

Mr. Chris Hendrix, NRMA Regional School Liaison

The FY 2022 meeting of the State Council occurred on 1/17/2023 and included the following participants:

Phillip Cantrell (State Council Member)

David Roach (State Council Member)

Brittany Watson (State Council Member)

Ryan Saxe (State Council Member)– via TEAMS

Chris Hendrix (DOD Representative)– via TEAMS

Robert Mellace (State Council Member)

Electa Crowder (not a State Council Member)

Identify and/or confirm at least two points of contact for the member state:

Compact Commissioner

Phillip R. Cantrell

State Director West Virginia Mountaineer Challenge Program

Intergovernmental and External Affairs Liaison

WVNG Adjutant General Office

Joint Force Headquarters-WV

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AND

Military Family Education Liaison

Mr. Robert P. Mellace III

West Virginia Department of Education

Office of Educator Development and Support Services

Coordinator and Military Family Education Liaison

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Summary of accomplishments, activities and presentations from this year:

An in-person meeting was held on 1/17/2023 with a few virtual attendees via Microsoft Teams. State Commissioner Mr. Phillip Cantrell participated, providing information about the Compact at the meeting. State Superintendent of Schools, Mr. David Roach, participated voicing support for efforts to assist military-connected students. A meeting agenda and PowerPoint presentation is now available for review on the WVDE's MIC3 website at <https://wvde.us/certification/military-partnerships-common->

[ground/military-interstate-childrens-compact-commission-mic3/](https://wvde.us/commonground/purplestaraward/#tab-275236dbfd540a3ebc7). Meeting minutes may be requested by e-mail.

West Virginia specific MIC3 Professional Development was included as part of required trainings for schools applying to become Purple Star Award recipients. This year the number of Purple Star Schools increased from 200 to 270. The number of Purple Star Districts rose from 9 to 14. The training is made available for free on the Military Family Point of Contact Training section of the Purple Star Award's website at <https://wvde.us/commonground/purplestaraward/#tab-275236dbfd540a3ebc7>. While the WVDE has annually sent an e-mail message with information about MIC3 in the State Superintendent's updates to County Superintendents during fiscal years 2015 – 2022, in place of this year's e-mail County Superintendents were engaged directly on the supports of MIC3 and the West Virginia Common Ground Partnership at an in-person meeting of the West Virginia Association of School Administrators in Bridgeport, WV on October 21, 2022.

Information about MIC3 is included on the [Common Ground Partnership's website](#) and has become an integral part of the group's activities. This year, the Common Ground Partnership promoted the Speaker Series, Spirit Week (including Purple Up Day), the Purple Star Award, Military Signing Week, Care Packages for Educators at Elementary Schools focused on assisting military-connected children experiencing deployments (which include a brochure for MIC3), and the ASVAB mentor request system. All these strategies have led to educators, students and military families becoming better informed about supportive resources. The West Virginia Board of Education celebrated April as the Month of the Military Child with Common Ground Partners during their April 12, 2023, meeting. To learn more about MIC3 related activities in West Virginia, please contact Mr. Robert P. Mellace III at rmellace@k12.wv.us.