**DRAFT**

**Virginia Council for the Interstate Compact on
Educational Opportunity for Military Children**

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

10:30 a.m.

Jefferson Conference Room, James Monroe Building

101 N. 14th Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Minutes

The following Council members were in attendance: Dr. James F. Lane, Mrs. Dorothy McAuliffe, Delegate Robert Thomas, Senator Mamie Locke, Dr. Dede Bailer, and Mr. Brad Williams.

Council members Virginia Secretary of Defense and Veterans Affairs Mr. Carlos Hopkins, CAPT Joey Frantzen, and Dr. Aaron Spence were not present.

***Call to Order and Opening Remarks***

Dr. Lane called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and welcomed Council members, presenters, and guests.

***Approval of the May 8, 2019, Meeting Minutes***

Dr. Lane asked for a motion to approve the May 8,2019, minutes. Mr. Williams noted that one correction was needed and asked that the word “encourage” be changed to “discourage” to better reflect Ms. Bevel’s statement made during the open discussion. Mr. Williams made motion to approve the minutes and Mrs. McAuliffe seconded this. All other members voted approval of minutes with this change.

***George Mason University Online Training Module Overview***

Dr. Lane then introduced Dr. Jennifer Drake-Patrick, Assistant Professor, Literacy, George Mason University (GMU), College of Education and Human Development. Dr. Drake-Patrick presented an overview of the recently developed online training module designed to educate school personnel and college students on the unique needs of military-connected students, their families, and supports available to assist them. She explained to the Council that the module will be housed online on the Training and Technical Assistance Center (TTAC) site <https://ttaconline.org/> and also shared how module completion demographics would be tracked.

Dr. Lane thanked Dr. Drake-Patrick for her time and presentation.

***Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Military Student and Families Update***

Mr. Dunham began his presentation on the VDOE Military Student and Families Update by introducing the Council to Mrs. Tammy Edwards, newly appointed Langley Air Force Base School Liaison Officer. Mr. Dunham then provided the Council with an overview of his Compact related interactions with military parents and schools. Mr. Dunham concluded his presentation by highlighting other initiatives and partnerships with other state agencies around the statewide military signing day, Project Search Expansion on Naval Air Station Oceana and Fort Belvoir and work with the Governor’s suicide prevention work-group for Veterans, service members and their families.

Dr. Lane thanked Mr. Dunham and asked if there were any questions from the Council. None were asked.

***Purple Star Awards***

Dr. Lane then asked the Council to vote to approve Virginia Purple Star designated schools. He read the list of 103 schools and then asked for a motion to approve the schools. Dr. Bailer made a motion to approval the list of schools and Senator Locke seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

Dr. Lane asked if the Council had any questions or comments. Mrs. McAuliffe emphasized the need to spread the word so other school districts would realize the importance of the award and apply. Dr. Dede Bailer then wished to hold a discussion about a change in the awards application timeline. She wished to move up the application submittal so award distributed occurred in April rather than October. Dr. Lane asked Mr. Dunham if he had any comment on that. Mr. Dunham provided an overview of the dynamics and duration involved in the review and awarding of the awards. Following these comments, Dr. Lane shared that the change could be possible but that we need to investigate the timing. Mrs. McAuliffe voiced that the October date offers the benefit of having more than one month per year to highlight the needs of military connected students. Mr. Dunham added that he felt that the spring timing could be problematic on school personnel given the greater workloads during that time of year when classes scheduling and testing is underway. Dr. Lane suggested he and Mr. Dunham would meet and discuss this consideration for a change and provide the Council an opportunity to vote on this at the next Council meeting. Mr. Williams wished to recognize that the large numbers of schools reflect that awareness of the designation is growing and that is a testament to the hard work of Mr. Dunham and others. Dr. Bailer also wished to express appreciation for the program.

***Public Comment***

Dr. Lane opened the floor for members of the public to address the Council. No members of the public stepped forward.

***Open Discussion for the Council***

Dr. Lane opened the floor for Council members to discuss or present concerns for consideration of Council during this or future meetings. Mr. Williams expressed his desire for VDOE to considering creating a policy for awarding credit for CTE credentials that mirrors those used when awarding verified credits. Currently the practice involves the allowance of using substitute tests when awarding verified credits. Dr. Lane indicated that he will review the current policy and return to Council on the finding and, if needed, possible solutions. Ms. McAuliffe then asked if any School Liaison Officer had any concerns or issues that would require possible legislation. No concerns or issues were voiced. Dr. Lane added that should any issues present themselves, he other Council members are willing assist in making those known. The Council decided to meet in December. Mrs. McAuliffe asked if the module would be available for Council to review when it made available to others. Mr. Dunham confirmed that it would.

***Closed Session***

Dr. Lane then moved to convene into a closed session and Delegate Thomas seconded this motion.

Dr. Lane made a motion that the Council adopt a resolution certifying that to the best of each member's knowledge: (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting in which this certification resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered by the Virginia Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brad Williams.

WHEREAS, the Virginia Council on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (“Virginia Council”) has this day adjourned into Closed Session in accordance with the *Virginia Freedom of Information Act*: and

 WHEREAS, the *Virginia Freedom of Information Act* provides for certification that such Closed Session was conducted in conformity with the law.

 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Virginia Council hereby certify that to the best of each member’s knowledge:

(i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting in which this certification resolution applies, and

 (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed, or considered by the Virginia Council. The Virginia Council being polled; the vote was as follows:

Mrs. Dorothy McAuliffe, yes

Delegate Robert Thomas, yes

Senator Mamie Locke, yes

Dr. Dede Bailer, yes

Mr. Brad Williams, yes

***Closing Remarks***

Dr. Lane adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.