

**COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, August 5, 2020**

PRESENT	Brian Henry	Missouri Commissioner	Chair
	Steven Bullard	Kentucky Commissioner	
	Felicia Gonzales	Nevada Commissioner	
	Will Hardin	Georgia Commissioner	
	Pete LuPiba	Ohio Commissioner	
	Shelly Ramos	Texas Commissioner	
	Davis Whitfield	National Federation of High School Assns	Ex-Officio
STAFF	Cherise Imai	Executive Director	Secretary
	Lindsey Dablow	Training and Operations Associate	
EXCUSED	Darcy Benway	Illinois Commissioner	
	Chris Cmiel	West Virginia Commissioner	
	Keith Owen	Colorado Commissioner	
	Tony Trongone	New Jersey Commissioner	

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 2:12 PM ET by Brian Henry, Missouri Commissioner and Committee Chair, and roll call was taken by Cherise Imai, Executive Director.

**ITEM 2 – AGENDA AND MINUTES**

2. The agenda was motioned for approval by Commissioner William Hardin (GA) and seconded by Commissioner Steven Bullard (KY). Motion carried.

3. The minutes from May 6, 2020 was motioned for approval by Commissioner Bullard, seconded by Commissioner Felicia Gonzales (NV). Motion carried.

**ITEM 3 – JULY 1, 2020 MEETING RECAP**

4. The July meeting, 2020 did not have quorum, therefore there are no minutes for the committee's approval. Chair Henry stated due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the fact that most schools ended the school year remotely, members agreed to postpone the summer launch for new *Successful Compact Transitions Program* to the upcoming Annual Business Meeting on October instead. The committee directed staff to modify the timelines to the following:

- a) **Oct 1-2, 2020:** ABM launch
- b) **June 1, 2021:** Submittal deadline to State Commissioners
- c) **June 15, 2021:** Submittal deadline to the National Office

5. The committee determined this timeline alteration would allow commissioners to share information with their respective state councils and stakeholders and allow the committee to obtain submittals for the 2021 Annual Business Meeting.

6. Lastly, due to the ongoing pandemic and state challenges, the committee tabled the Ambassador Program discussion tabled to year 2-3 of the strategic plan.

#### ITEM 4 – REPORTS

7. **Executive Committee** – Chair Henry provided an Executive Committee (EXCOM) update from the most recent meeting. He stated the Compliance Committee continues to track commissioner vacancies and state council meetings. He added there were two non-compliant states at this time and Compliance is considering options. The National Guard and Reserve Task Force released a survey of the Commission and is compiling the information for their recommendation at the Annual Business Meeting in October. He reminded members the deadline to submit a survey was July 17<sup>th</sup>.

8. Chair Henry reported staff continues to work on the logistics and planning for the Annual Business which will be held in a virtual format this year.

9. **Strategic Plan Progress** – Chair Henry reported the committee is on track for Year 1, with the approval the Communication Plan and the new video program. As stated earlier, the committee moved discussion on the Ambassador Program to Year 2. ED Imai commended the committee for their work, and she looked forward to next year's projects such as "utilizing state education conferences to promote the compact" and collecting data on "how member states educate stakeholders on the compact" which will help identify or develop new resources.

#### ITEM 5 – OLD BUSINESS

10. **PSA: Successful Compact Transitions Videos Program** – In preparation for the ABM, the committee reviewed the presentation slides and finalized the documents for inclusion in the Docket Book which will be released in September.

11. Commissioner Pete LuPiba (OH) asked if one video or multiple videos would be selected by the committee for viewing. ED Imai replied the committee had agreed the new program was not a contest – rather it was an opportunity for states to share the successful compact cases they encountered or assisted with. She added the committee wanted all videos that met the criteria and content approval would be shared, and the approved documents were drafted to meet this intent. The committee concurred with this explanation.

12. Commissioner LuPiba stated he would use the videos throughout the year and post on his social media.

13. **Website Transition to New WordPress Platform Progress** – ED Imai reported staff is working with the vendor, Epic Technologies, on the website transfer which will be launched at the ABM. Once completed, staff will be trained on WordPress and capabilities. She reminded members the new site will be mobile friendly and a benefit for stakeholders.

#### ITEM 6 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. **Items for Executive Committee** – No comments were presented.

15. **Impact of the Pandemic** – Chair Henry stated the pandemic and opening of schools is a dominating focus for many commissioners at the moment, however he was hoping for the best during these trying times. While his district has worked over the past month to meet reopening guidelines, the biggest concern at the moment is Fall sports and activities. Ex-officio member Mr. Davis Whitfield from the National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) noted several states moved the Fall season to Spring, and his organization is tracking the changes.

16. Commissioner Gonzales expressed appreciation for Mr. Whitfield and NFHS for disseminating useful guidance and considerations in this area. She noted the challenges to follow social distancing while maintaining sports and fine arts programs in schools. She noted the summer passed quickly and school is opening in a few weeks.

17. Regarding the postponement of sports seasons, Mr. Whitfield stated NFHS received reports some families have moved and may be trying to participate in sports seasons in both another state and their home state. He noted while this may not be reflective of military families, it is against the rules to play two seasons in the same sport. He added NFHS conducted a study on aerosol transmission, such as with musical instruments and singing, which will be released later this year. Chair Henry thanked Mr. Whitfield for his comments.

#### ITEM 7 – ADJOURNMENT

18. **Adjournment** – With no further business to conduct, Chair Henry adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM ET.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Cherise Imai  
Secretary