



**Ex-officio Meeting  
January 6, 2022  
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET**

PRESENT	Ernise Singleton Dianna Ganote Becky Porter Nicole Russell Kyle Fairbairn	Louisiana Commissioner Department of Defense Military Child Education Coalition National Military Family Association Military Impacted School Association	Commission Vice Chair Ex-officio Rep. Ex-officio Rep. Ex-officio Rep. Ex-officio Rep.
EXCUSED	Davis Whitfield	National Federation High School Associations	Ex-officio Rep.
STAFF	Lindsey Dablow Stephanie Ramsey	Training & Operations Assoc. Communications Associate	

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**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. The meeting was called to order at 11:01 AM ET by Vice Chair Ernise Singleton (LA).

**ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL**

2. Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow conducted roll call.

**ITEM 3 – WELCOME**

3. Vice Chair Singleton welcomed the Ex-officio Members and introduced herself. Each Representative present introduced themselves as this was the first meeting of the Ex-officio Representatives in 2022.

**ITEM 4 – REPORTS**

4. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – Vice Chair Singleton reported the newly elected EXCOM met in November and December. The Finance Committee informed the EXCOM that New Jersey has outstanding dues for Fiscal Year (FY) 21 however; more than 84% of the FY22 annual dues have been collected. Compliance reported an increase in member states, 86%, submitting End-Of-Year Reports and 91% of states holding at least one State Council meeting in FY21. The Vice Chair stated the next meeting of the EXCOM would be on January 20, 2022.

5. **National Office** – Ms. Dablow recognized the new Communications Associate Stephanie Ramsey and welcomed her to the Commission. She reported the Commission is in the final year of the 2020-2022 Strategic Plan. The EXCOM will begin working on the 2023-2025 Strategic Plan in April during the EXCOM Spring Retreat. Ms. Dablow reminded the Representatives Ex-officio feedback on the Strategic Plan is obtained during the Commission's Standing Committee meetings so watch for that on upcoming committee meeting agendas.

6. Ms. Dablow reported on Commissioner vacancies and appointments. The Compact Commissioner position is currently a vacant for the District of Columbia (D.C.). However, Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai is working with the Office of the Mayor to fill that position. She stated Indiana

and South Dakota recently appointed individuals to the position of Compact Commissioner and ED Imai has completed the onboarding process with them.

7. Ms. Dablow reviewed the Fiscal Year 2020-2022 Activities document with the Representatives. She highlighted those states that held State Council meetings with assistance from the National Office. She reported on recent trainings provided on the Compact to school districts and military associated organizations. Ms. Dablow concluded her report with additional information on the upcoming webinar series being facilitated by Ms. Ramsey.

## **ITEM 6 – OLD BUSINESS**

8. **Navy JAG EFMP Support Update** – Vice Chair Singleton yielded the floor to Dianna Ganote (DoD Rep.) for the update on the Navy JAG EFMP Support program. Due to short notice, Ms. Ganote asked to defer the update until the next Ex-Officio meeting and the Members agreed.

9. **Annual Business Meeting (ABM) Wrap-Up** – Vice Chair Singleton yielded the floor to Ms. Dablow to provide a summary of the ABM. Ms. Dablow explained under the current Strategic Plan the Finance Committee was tasked with performing an Operations Audit to determine health of the organization and highlight areas for improvement which was carried out by Riggs Enterprise. The findings were presented at ABM and would be reviewed by the Finance Committee and EXCOM in January to determine next steps.

10. The focus of the Compliance Committee this year will be annual reporting and administrative deadlines outlined in the Commission's guidance documents. Ms. Dablow reminded the Representatives that the Commission adopted three new policies during the ABM related to staff and staffing in-person meeting during the pandemic.

11. The Communications and Outreach Committee (C&O) meets in January and will be reviewing Purple Up! and Month of the Military Child materials so those can be released to the Commission and stakeholder groups early. The early release of materials was successful last year so the Committee wants to continue the practice. The National Office has selected April 20, 2022 as Purple Up! Day.

12. The Successful Compact Transitions Video Program was launched shortly before the start of the pandemic, so implementation was difficult. The C&O Committee wants to promote the program in 2022 with the purpose of documenting successful educational transitions under the Compact. Finally, the Commission toolkits were updated by C&O in 2021 and are available on mic3.net.

13. The Training Committee, under Vice Chair Singleton's leadership, developed the *Article VII – Graduation* video and debuted it at the 2021 ABM. Ms. Dablow stated, in 2022, the Training Committee will consider developing an online Learning Management System and creating additional resources for the Commission.

14. Ms. Dablow concluded her report stating extending coverage of the Compact to include families of the National Guard and Reserve continues to be a topic of discussion for the Commission. The motion that carried during the meeting was to table the discussion on that agenda item until the 2022 ABM.

15. **Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Forms** – Vice Chair Singleton reminded the Ex-officio Representatives to submit their Code of Conduct (CoC) and Conflict of Interest (CoI) forms by January 31, 2022. She noted those forms are on mic3.net and can be completed online. The Vice Chair stated if a Representative completed a CoC or CoI form for their organization then they can submit those in place of the Commission's form.

## ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

**16. Publication of the Ex-Officio Meeting Notes** – Vice Chair Singleton explained the meeting notes from the Ex-officio meetings have never been published because these meetings are for informational purposes only and to allow the Representatives to share what their organizations are doing. Since this is a Strategic Plan year and considering the important role the Ex-officio organizations play in helping spread information about the Compact Vice Chair Singleton asked if the Representatives would be opposed to publishing the meeting notes similar to how the Commission publishes the minutes of the Standing Committees.

**17.** There being no opposition to publishing the meeting notes of the Ex-officio meetings those will begin to be uploaded to mic3.net once approved by the Ex-officio Representatives.

**18. Ex-Officio Topic for Discussion: Initiatives or programs for 2022** – Vice Chair Singleton recognized each Representative and asked them to share any upcoming initiatives or programs their organization is working on.

**19.** Ms. Ganote stated the Headquarter School Liaisons of each branch of service held training prior to the Commission's ABM and have for the past two years. The training focuses on what the Compact is and how to interact with MIC3. Ms. Ganote noted the School Liaison program would be interested in participating in a webinar that includes the role and responsibilities of a School Liaison and their function as it relates to MIC3. Ms. Dablow confirmed that would a topic of interest to the Commission and she would have ED Imai connect with Ms. Ganote.

**20.** Ms. Ganote concluded her report informing the Members the School Liaisons have worked diligently throughout 2021 to increase awareness and presence of the School Liaison program through Military OneSource. She offered to provide the quarterly articles written for Military OneSource to MIC3 for distribution.

**21.** Vice Chair Singleton yielded the floor to Kyle Fairbairn of the Military Impacted Schools Association (MISA). Mr. Fairbairn explained MISA would be working this year to assist and support their umbrella organization, National Association Federally Impacted Schools (NAFIS), as they work to fill the Executive Director vacancy. He provided the Representatives with additional information regarding the organizational structure and how the singularity of NAFIS' purpose makes it an unusual organization.

**22.** Mr. Fairbairn reported NAFIS will meet to determine the amount of federal funds that will be requested to support the programs and services of the Impact Aid Program. He briefly talked about the construction programs in the DoD focused on rebuilding schools on federal property.

**23.** Vice Chair Singleton recognized Ms. Nicole Russell with the National Military Family Association (NMFA). She noted the second year of the Military Teen Experience Survey will be available on February 1, 2022. Data collection will continue through 2022. Ms. Russell will share the link to the survey with the Commission and Ex-officio groups for them to distribute to their stakeholders.

**24.** Ms. Russell informed the Representatives there are still slots available for the Free Special Education Curriculum sponsored by MISA. Ms. Russell thanked Mr. Fairbairn for MISA's support of the program. Ms. Russell will share the link to the program on NMFA's website so it can be distributed. She stated 62 scholarships have been awarded out of a possible 100. While this is a small data pool NMFA's research and insights team have analyzed those individuals who have already been accepted into the program.

- The average age of the applicants is 38 years old.
- 41% of applicants have two children in their households
- 24% of applicants identified as Servicemembers – Wounded, Ill, or Injured
- 43% of applicants identified as Navy and 33% as Army
- 38% of applicants identified their military rank as E5-E6
- 20% of applicants identified their household as having children with autism
- 60% of applicants awarded scholarships to the program identified their household as having children with multiple items on the student's IEP
- 80% of applicants were enrolled in an Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and 5% had no knowledge of the EFMP.
- Applicants identified the greatest satisfaction in terms of the EFMP lies within the Family Support Services

**25.** Ms. Russell noted NMFA's Operation Purple Camp will be held in 2022 both in person and virtually on Facebook Live. On February 15, 2022, applications for the camp will be available for those interested in attending the in-person camps. Applications for the virtual camp will be available in April 2022. She reminded the Representatives that Operation Purple Camp is offered at no cost to the attendees.

**26.** Ms. Russel stated NMFA also runs Operation Purple Family Retreats and Healing Adventure Camps. The Healing Adventure Camps are geared towards wounded, ill, or injured service members and their families. The Operation Purple Family Retreats are for those families wanting to reconnect following a service member's deployment. Currently the camps are planned for in person but that is subject to the status of the pandemic.

**27.** Ms. Russell concluded her report informing the Representatives that the National Parent Teacher Association contacted her requesting information on how to highlight military students within schools. Ms. Russell recommended the National PTA connect with Dr. Keith Mispagel, Superintendent, Fort Leavenworth School District 207, who participated in their webinar *Notes From the Backpack on Families in Transition – Lessons from the Military*.

**28.** Vice Chair Singleton thanked Ms. Russell for her report and yielded the floor to Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) Executive Director Becky Porter. Dr. Porter shared MCEC has focused the past year on restructuring the organization. In 2022, the focus will be on the internal structures of MCEC. MCEC will still be active and support programs like the Call for the Arts and Month of the Military Child.

**29.** Dr. Porter stated the National Training Seminar is being rebranded to the MCEC Global Summit which will be held in person in Washington, D.C. on July 18 – 20, 2022. A virtual component will be offered but MCEC is hopeful a majority of registrants will be able to attend in person. Dr. Porter concluded her report notifying the Representatives that MCEC has hired a new Communications Director Lisa Witte and offered to connect her with every organization's Communication Department to foster collaboration. Vice Chair Singleton thanked Dr. Porter for her report.

## **ITEM 8 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**30. Items for the Executive Committee** – There being no further comment Vice Chair Singleton thanked the Representatives for their time and collaboration.

## **ITEM 9 – ADJOURNMENT**

31. The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM ET.

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