



**Ex-officio Meeting**  
**March 1, 2023**  
**11:00 AM – 12:00 PM ET**

PRESENT	Ernise Singleton	Louisiana Commissioner	Commission Vice Chair
	Dianna Ganote	Department of Defense	Ex-officio Rep.
	Amanda Woodyard	Military Child Education Coalition	Ex-officio Rep.
	Kyle Fairbairn	Military Impacted Schools Association	Ex-officio Rep.
	Caitlin Hamon	National Military Family Association	Ex-officio Rep.
	Davis Whitfield	National Federation of High School Assoc.	Ex-officio Rep.
STAFF	Cherise Imai	Executive Director	
	Lindsey Dablow	Training & Operations Associate	

---

**ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER**

1. Vice Chair Ernise Singleton (LA) called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM ET.

**ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL**

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

**ITEM 3 – AGENDA**

3. **The meeting agenda was accepted without amendments.**

**ITEM 4 – WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

4. The Ex-officio Representatives introduced themselves and provided background information related to their organizations.

**ITEM 5 – REPORTS**

5. **National Office** – Ms. Dablow reviewed the FY20-23 Activities document providing additional information regarding Commission trainings held in FY23. Ms. Dablow informed the Representatives Ms. Stephanie Ramsey, the Commission's Communication Associate, resigned to accept a position at the University of Kentucky with the college's communications team. Ms. Dablow reported the Communications Associate position would be filled before the end of March 2023 and there would be no delay in services.

6. **Executive Committee (EXCOM)** – Vice Chair Singleton reported the EXCOM met on Thursday, February 16, 2023. Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai updated the EXCOM on the Defense State Liaison Office (DSLO) initiative to update every state's statutes containing military definitions to include Space Force. The Commission has a legal advisory stating Space Force is included in the Compact statute because it is a division of the Air Force. Unfortunately, the language of the DSLO's proposed legislation does not differentiate the Compact statute from other statutes headquarters and leadership are working with the newly appointed Director of the DSLO to educate on the Commission's process and determine a way forward.

7. Vice Chair Singleton informed the Ex-officios the National Guard and Reserve Legislative Toolkit was distributed in the Commission's January 2023 newsletter. It is also available on the National Guard and Reserve page on mic3.net.

8. She reported ED Imai updated the EXCOM on the Citation Correction. Iowa's and Vermont's original statute language contained the correct citation so those states will not need to take any action. Alabama, Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Kentucky, Maine, Washington, Wisconsin, and Wyoming have submitted the change or are working with a representative from their respective legislatures to correct the citation in their statute language. The remaining states are either in discussion with their state councils to determine a way forward or they are a Priority Two or Three state and will not address the citation correction until next year.

9. Vice Chair Singleton concluded the report noting ED Imai informed the EXCOM of Virginia's General Assembly House Bill 1929 an external statute that references Virginia's Compact statute and seeks to extend the protections of the Compact to members of foreign services and federal civilian employees. However, the Compact statute specifically states federal civilian employees cannot be covered by the Compact. General counsel and headquarters are working the Virginia's General Assembly legal counsel and Department of Education representatives to address the issue.

## **ITEM 6 – NEW BUSINESS**

10. **2022 Annual Business Meeting (ABM) Post-Event Survey** – Vice Chair Singleton reviewed the 2022 ABM Post-Event Survey results. DoD Representative Dianna Ganote asked if the report would be distributed to the Commission and Ms. Dablow responded the information could be requested using the Commission's Open Records Request form. Ms. Dablow provided a link to the form in the chat box.

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

12. Vice Chair Singleton yielded the floor to Ms. Caitlin Hamon, NMFA. Ms. Hamon stated some families and School Liaisons (SL) had expressed concerns regarding the Department of Defense Education Activity (DoDEA) schools and implementation of the Compact within the schools. Ms. Hamon asked for assistance or guidance on how to strengthen the relationship with DoDEA schools and provide training on the Compact. Ms. Ganote acknowledged Ms. Hamon's comments and responded SLs are providing information and support related to the Compact 101 trainings offered by headquarters to the DoDEA schools within their areas. Ms. Ganote noted the headquarters School Liaison Program Managers are committed to informing DoDEA schools of the requirements under the Compact for military children. She stated it is a work in progress and would like to discuss next steps and ways to promote the Compact and bridge the gap. Ms. Hamon recognized the efforts of the SLs and explained she did not think this was only the responsibility of the SLs. She asked if leadership within DoDEA would consider issuing a directive to motivate the schools to work with the SLs or MIC3 to obtain training on the Compact. Ms. Ganote stated she would take the request back to her colleagues and obtain feedback on this topic for NMFA.

13. MISA Representative Kyle Fairbairn suggested coordinating a training with the DoDEA Superintendents or inviting them to the Commission's ABM to provide access to training on the Compact. He noted that the DoDEA superintendents would be welcome at any MISA sponsored trainings. Ms. Ganote thanked Mr. Fairbairn for the offer and would welcome discussing ideas to support the DoDEA Superintendents and possible trainings. Mr. Fairbairn stated he would discuss the offer with his DoDEA contacts as well.

- 14.** Ms. Hamon noted results from NMFA's Teen Survey would be provided in April 2023 during NMFA's State of the Military Family event. She reported NMFA is watching potential federal legislation related to universal Pre-K Outside the Continental United States (OCONUS), which would affect DoDEA schools, and Education Savings Accounts.
- 15.** Vice Chair Singleton recognized Mr. Whitfield from NFHS for his report. Mr. Whitfield stated Winter championships were taking place, and NFHS was working with state officials to address the rise in altercations at sporting events. Mr. Whitfield noted former and current service members are perfect for the role of officiating athletic events and would be welcome if they wished to become an official. He directed the Representatives to contact him or NFHS if they know a service member interested in officiating.
- 16.** Mr. Whitfield informed the Representatives NFHS had eight national campaigns underway ranging from "Play Perform Compete Together" addressing access and participation in high school sports and performing arts to "Bench Bad Behavior" aimed at addressing behavior of adult fans during sporting events. He noted NFHS continues to work with state athletic associations on Name, Image and Likeness issues and involvement of transgender individuals in athletics. Mr. Davis concluded his report stating no Compact-related issues were elevated to NFHS, but he continues to work with headquarters when issues arise.
- 17.** Ms. Ganote offered to disseminate information through the School Liaison network if Mr. Davis wanted to engage the military community and promote officiating to its members. Mr. Whitfield thanked Ms. Ganote and stated he would engage the Director of Officiating and provide a one-page document for the Representatives to provide to their membership.
- 18.** Vice Chair Singleton recognized Ms. Ganote. Ms. Ganote explained her role within the Military and Community Family Policy, specifically Child and Youth Programs and the task assigned to this area through the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). She stated an area of focus of the NDAA is a review of the Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and the services it provides to military families with special needs family members.
- 19.** Ms. Ganote noted a portion of the NDAA language addressed the Compact and that initiative was being overseen by the DSLO and she would share information with the Representatives as it became available. She continues to work with the DSLO office on updating the DoD Instruction which will assist the Commission. Ms. Ganote informed the Representatives Penn State is researching the literature and studies that have been conducted on military child education which is limited. Penn State is also looking at five priorities of DSLO and how states are implementing those initiatives. She stated the purpose of the study is to determine if DoD is using its resources and time effectively in this area.
- 20.** Ms. Ganote concluded her report stating she would continue to forward information through the National Office to keep Representatives and their organizations informed. She noted the partnership with OneOp, formerly Military Families Learning Network, to develop training for professionals, teachers, administrators, and family advocacy workers.
- 21.** Vice Chair Singleton recognized Mr. Kyle Fairbairn, MISA. Mr. Fairbairn recognized the ex-officio organizations, and the support MISA has received and thanked them for their continued efforts on behalf of military families. He then shared examples of issues superintendents are facing in public schools and noted how important it is to support public schools and the educators working within the public school system.
- 22.** Mr. Fairbairn updated the Representatives on MISA's spring meeting and agenda items. He discussed education-related areas that would impact military families because they are highly mobile,

like athletics and education standards. Vice Chair Singleton thanked Mr. Fairbairn for his report. Ms. Hamon asked if MISA is supporting the introduction of legislation to fully fund Impact Aid and Mr. Fairbairn confirmed it would and provided additional information related to Impact Aid.

**23.** Vice Chair Singleton recognized Ms. Amanda Woodyard, MCEC. Ms. Woodyard stated MCEC's Education Services is preparing a landscape analysis to determine where schools are and what their primary needs are. She discussed post-COVID school needs, especially those related to teachers and student health and wellness needs. She concluded her report with an update on the Purple Star School Award Program.

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

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

#### **ITEM 9 – ADJOURNMENT**

**25.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:58 AM ET.