

## **Meeting Minutes**

April 12, 2023 Utah State Council on Military Children

- I. Welcome and Introductions
  - Daniel Linford, Davis School District Superintendent
  - Heidi Bauerle, Academica West
  - Colonel Khalim Taha, Hill Air Force Base
  - Ammon Campbell, North Davis Preparatory Academy
  - Jon Oglesby, Utah High School Activities Association
  - Gary Williams, Dugway Proving Ground School Liaison
  - Brian Garrett, Deputy Director, Department of Veterans and Military Affairs
  - Colonel Fred Allen (ret.), US Association of the Army
  - Emily Harrison, Blue Star Families of Utah
  - Jennie Taylor, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army
  - Gary Harter, Director, Department of Veterans and Military Affairs
  - Audrey Blank, Waterford
  - Francesca Suarez, Davis School District Military Support Team
  - Capt. Benjamin Wheatly, US Army
  - Leslie Flynn, Hill Air Force Base School Liaison Officer
  - Ben Rasmussen, Utah MIC3 Commissioner
  - Sydnee Dickson, Utah State Superintendent of Public Education
  - Kirin McInnis, Legal Assistant, Utah State Board of Education

## II. Report on 2023 MIC3 ABM

 Ben Rasmussen reported to the group on the Annual Business Meeting held October 2022. At the meeting, issues related to the National Guard and Reserve compact for all 50 states were reviewed and a majority decided that these issues would be best handled by external legislation and not by the compact.





## III. Report on 2023 Utah Legislative Session

- State Superintendent Sydnee Dickson reported that the 2023 Utah State Legislative session passed Senate Bill 35 that supports the interstate compact on educator licensure. This new law means that if a military spouse is a licensed teacher in another state their license will be accepted in Utah, as long as the teacher meets Utah's basic requirements.
- IV. Purple Star Schools

Review of Applications for Third Cohort

- Ben Rasmussen reported that over 30 Purple Star School applications were submitted this year. Ben presented a spreadsheet that included recommendations for approval of 17schools. The majority of the schools were from Davis District, but there were also 3 Charter schools and 1 from Jordan District.
- V. Open Discussion on Military Impacted Student Issues
  - a) Any issues with school's following interstate compact requirements?
  - b) How can the state council help promote military student needs?
    - Discussion of Military Student Identifier
      - The committee discussed the quality of military student identifier data that is collected at the time that a student enrolls in a Utah public school. There are issues affecting the quality of the data; such as, capturing data if a student has a parent that is in the reserves or is a veteran, or if the student has a sibling in active duty. Also, the military identifier data is collected in a paper format, resulting in the possibility that some responses are left blank.
    - Waterford educational program materials were presented, including opportunities for eligible students to participate in Upstart, and programs supporting autism.





- Military recruiting teams are increasing outreach to schools, to support and encourage military families. Teams are also participating in several school events and increasing awareness about military careers and educational opportunities.
- Blue Star Schools are increasing their volunteer force and partnering with schools. An upcoming Dandelion Festival will be held April 29, 2023 at the Salt Lake City Gateway, from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. The 'Dandelion' was picked as a symbol that represents the adaptability and resiliency that children in military families have.

## VI. Adjournment



