



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, July 18, 2024

Table with 4 columns: Category (PRESENT, EXCUSED, STAFF), Name, State/Role, and Position. Lists attendees like Ernise Singleton (Louisiana Commissioner, Chair) and staff like Cherise Imai (Executive Director, Secretary).

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

- 1. Commission Chair, Ernise Singleton (LA) called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM ET.

ITEM 2 – ROLL CALL

- 2. Roll call was conducted by Executive Director (ED) Cherise Imai. A quorum was established.

ITEM 3 – APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- 3. Chair Singleton approved the agenda with consensus from the Members. No motion was necessary.

ITEM 4 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- 4. Chair Singleton approved the minutes from the meeting on June 20, 2024, with consensus from the Members. No motion was necessary.

ITEM 5 – ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 5. Chair Singleton announced the departure of Training Chair and Texas Commissioner Shelly Ramos and stated this would be her last meeting with the EXCOM. New Hampshire Commissioner Kathleen Murphy agreed to step in as the Training Committee Chair through the end of the year and would attend the next meeting.

ITEM 6 – OLD BUSINESS

- 6. 2024 Annual Business Meeting (ABM)– Training and Operations Associate Lindsey Dablow announced the registration and landing page for the 2024 ABM had been released through Constant Contact on July 1, 2024, and the webpage was posted on mic3.net.

7. The Wisconsin Commissioner requested a cost estimate to hire a private shuttle for transportation between the airport and hotel at the ABM. Ms. Dablow completed a cost analysis after receiving quotes from multiple shuttle companies in Albuquerque, New Mexico. She compared the provided quotes with the costs of ridesharing taken from 2023 ABM reimbursements and determined that hiring a private shuttle company would not save costs. The findings of the cost analysis would be reported to the Wisconsin Commissioner.
8. Operations Coordinator Allie Thomas reported twenty-two Compact Commissioners, two Ex-officio Representatives, six School Liaisons, and Consultant Lorna Festa had registered for the ABM to date. The weekly hotel reservation report indicated that the two Ex-officio Representatives, Ms. Festa, and fifteen of the registered Commissioners had reserved their hotel rooms. Members were advised to register for the meeting and reserve their hotel rooms as soon as possible to meet the September 13, 2024, deadline for the room block, and were encouraged to contact Ms. Thomas if assistance was needed with their registration or hotel reservation.
9. **EMS Staffing: Organizational Assessment** – ED Imai reported Educational Management Solutions (EMS) had completed the first phase of the Staff Assessment, which included conducting individual interviews with the national office staff and assessing an evaluation through Working Genius. The Working Genius results would be reviewed by the national office separately. The next phase was to conduct a Market Assessment. EMS had contacted two commissions that were similar to MIC3; both were associated with former General Counsel associate Rick Masters and had previously been affiliates of the Counsel of State Governments alongside MIC3. The Commissioner Survey and cover letter were approved by the national office and provided for the Members to review. The deadline to provide comments or additional survey questions to EMS was July 18, 2024, by close of business. The survey would be sent to the full Commission on July 19, 2024, once all additions were approved.

ITEM 7 – NEW BUSINESS

10. **Virginia Request: Chronic Absenteeism and State Reporting Related to the Compact** – ED Imai introduced a request from the Virginia Commissioner with a question regarding *Rules SEC. 5.105 – Absence as Related to Deployment Activities*. A member of the Virginia State Council inquired about chronic absenteeism and whether it was an issue for school districts when granting a student's leave request under the Compact. Under the current Compact Rules, an LEA superintendent or head of school may provide a maximum number of additional excused absence days or deny a request for leave if a student had already accumulated too many absences. ED Imai asked the Members whether chronic absenteeism was an issue for granting absences to military-connected children in their states.
11. Chair Singleton stated Louisiana had a state policy that allowed up to five days of additional excused absence for parental deployment reasons. Commissioner Ramos shared that Texas had a similar policy with five days being the maximum allowance. The allowed five days are incorporated into the student's total number when calculating chronic absenteeism using both excused and non-excused absences. ED Imai asked if the districts had flags for military deployment in their attendance systems. Chair Singleton responded that it would depend on the district, and Commissioner Chad Delbridge (WY) stated his system had a notes section to input excused reasons such as parental deployment so that he, as the principal and attendance officer, can present them when asked.
12. Commissioner Laura Anastasio (CT) stated Connecticut legislation mandates leave must be given to a military-connected child for deployment activities regardless of how many absences the child had accrued by the time of request. She added that it was becoming a problem for school districts in Connecticut because most of the students that requested those excused days were already considered

chronically absent. The school districts are punished for having chronically absent children but cannot do anything about it because the legislation requires the excused absences be granted.

13. Vice Chair and Minnesota Commissioner Daron Korte stated Minnesota has a provision that grants the LEA or head of school the discretion to deny excused absence requests based on the total of absences a student had already used. Minnesota does not have a state-wide School Board so decisions like that are left to be handled by the LEAs. ED Imai thanked the Members for their comments and suggested gaining feedback from the rest of the Commissioners.

14. **2025 Blue Star Families Survey** – ED Imai reported 2022 was the last time a question regarding the Compact was included in the Blue Star Families (BSF) survey. BSF is planning on releasing their 2025 survey at the end of the year and ED Imai will meet with them in August to discuss questions regarding the Compact.

ITEM 8 – REPORTS

15. **Executive Director** – ED Imai reported the national office is working with Accounting to complete the fiscal year (FY) closing procedures for FY24. Ms. Dablow reported the national office attended the Military Connected School Administrator Summit in Nashville, Tennessee on July 11, 2024, and was accepted to present Compact trainings at the Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC) Global Training Summit in Washington, D.C. at the end of the month.

16. **Vice Chair** – Vice Chair Korte reported four of the six Ex-officio Representatives met on July 11, 2024, for the first time since January. The previous meeting was cancelled due to attendance issues. The representatives discussed the proposal for hosting a panel at the 2024 ABM regarding their affiliations and how the Ex-officios can best support the Compact. The Ex-officio panel at the 2023 ABM received positive feedback and Vice Chair Korte offered to be the moderator again.

17. **Communications & Outreach** – Commissioner Delbridge reported the Communications & Outreach Committee met on July 10, 2024, where Brooke Huntington was introduced as the new Indiana Commissioner and Committee member. Four of the six State Spotlight videos highlighting the best practices on implementing the Compact were recorded and approved by the Committee. Ms. Thomas provided a summary of the total collateral orders for FY24 and social media analytics for the first half of the year.

18. **Compliance** – Commissioner Bullard reported the Compliance Committee met on July 9, 2024, and reviewed the FY24 final state compliance issues. At the time of the meeting, eleven states had not submitted records of having held a State Council meeting in 2024, and five of states had not submitted their End-of-Year (EOY) Reports. The dues for California and New Mexico were received and the California Commissioner submitted his Code of Conduct (CoC) and Conflict of Interest (CoI) forms to close their cases.

19. Commissioner Bullard reported the New Jersey Commissioner had not provided documents for a State Council meeting or submitted an EOY Report, and the Commission had not received their FY24 dues payment by the June 30, 2024, deadline. The Compliance Committee would discuss New Jersey's state compliance at their next meeting in September if the required documentation or dues were not received by then.

20. The Compliance Committee approved the Compliance Escalation Process document that outlines the escalation levels for compliance issues. The Committee also approved the public

comments graphic that illustrates the steps required for a member of the public to make comments or testify at the ABM.

21. **Rules** – Ms. Dablow reported the Rules Committee met on June 27, 2024, and discussed the proposed amendment and legal advisory for *Rules, SEC. 5.104 – Placement Flexibility*. The Committee approved the legal advisory that General Counsel provided to define the scope of placement flexibility. Legal advisory 01-2024 Scope of SEC 5.104 Placement Flexibility was posted to mic3.net on the Advisory Opinions page and released to the Commission through Constant Contact.

22. The Rules Committee approved to post the proposed amendment to *SEC. 5.104 – Placement Flexibility* for thirty days to receive feedback from the Commission. The proposed rule amendment was released through Constant Contact and posted on mic3.net with the deadline of August 8, 2024, for final comment. The members were encouraged to submit feedback for the proposed amendment.

23. **Training** – Commissioner Ramos reported the Training Committee met on June 18, 2024, to approve the scripts for the New Commissioner and Ex-officio Course videos. The national office and Training Committee members were recording the videos. The goal was to have them all completed and edited by the next Training meeting to be approved for beta testing.

24. **Leadership Nomination** – Commissioner Anastasio reported the Leadership Nomination Committee approved the Election Guide and leadership applications. The Election Guide was uploaded to the 2024 ABM page on mic3.net and would be released to the Commission through Constant Contact.

25. **USDOD Representative** – US Department of Defense (DOD) Representative Dianna Ganote voiced her surprise to hear School Liaisons had registered to attend the 2024 ABM since it was during a holiday week where federal employees were not permitted to work. She believed only the national headquarters liaisons would be able to attend the meeting. She was excited that the dates chosen for the 2025 ABM in Indianapolis, Indiana were better for the School Liaisons to attend but expressed that October is a difficult month for School Liaisons to travel and to keep that in mind for future dates.

26. Ms. Ganote reported she would be attending the MCEC Global Training Summit in July and would host two sessions: one focused on special education and the other focused on results from Phase Two of the Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO) report. The final report has been completed and would be released to the Commission once it has been made available. Ms. Ganote announced the Congressional Report, Section 579, was related to the Compact and would be using the Penn State Study and other research to support and express the Commission's viewpoint. The Commission would be able to view the report once it has been approved by Congress.

27. Ms. Ganote announced the four videos filmed by School Liaisons had been completed and were ready to be shared. Members watched the video about the Commission that featured Compact Commissioners and School Liaisons. The other three videos were linked in the meeting chat for the Members to view individually.

ITEM 9 – OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

28. **Next Meeting: Thursday, August 15, 2024** – ED Imai reminded the members of the next meeting date.



ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT

29. **With no further business to conduct, Chair Singleton called for a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Delbridge motioned to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Anastasio. The motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 PM ET.