

State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Annual Meeting

Nebraska Department of Education
State Office Building, 6th floor, State Board Meeting Room
301 Centennial Mall South
Lincoln, Nebraska

September 9, 2019
1:30 p.m.

Minutes

The Nebraska State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children held its annual meeting on September 9, 2019. Publicized notice of the meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the Internet, which gave the date, time and location of the meeting.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education and Council Commissioner of the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. The following members were present: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Commissioner of Education; Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent, Bellevue Public Schools; Nicole Barrett, representative for Senator Mike Groene; and Sara Hulac, Military Family Liaison and Legal Counsel. Col. Alan Dayton, Commander, U.S.A.F. 55th Wing Mission Support Group, Offutt Air Force Base, was absent, but Lt. Colonel Andrew Stewart, U.S.A.F., 55th Wing Mission Support Group Deputy Commander, Offutt Air Force Base was present as Col. Dayton's designee.

Brian Halstead announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

Dr. Rippe reported that the Bellevue Public Schools has not heard of any issues this past year. The transfer of students from a military family into and out of the Bellevue Public School system is running smoothly thanks in large part to his staff and their dedication to serving the military families.

Lt. Col. Andrew Stewart, Offutt Air Force Base, reported that Col. Dayton could not be here today because he was called to assist with hurricane activity in Florida. Lt. Col. Stewart himself is new to the State of Nebraska and this past summer and he and his wife were impressed with the smooth transition of enrolling their children in an area Nebraska school.

Commissioner Blomstedt stated that in the 5 ½ years he has been Commissioner, he has not been aware of any problems with transitioning military children into schools in the State of Nebraska. He commended the area schools in their efforts to make the transition as effortless as possible for military families.

Brian Halstead, Compact Commissioner, stated that he is beginning his 4th year of serving as Compact Commissioner and no issues have arisen in the past year, and only one instance has occurred during his service as Compact Commissioner that was satisfactorily resolved at the school level.

Sara Hulac stated that this past year she is not aware of any issues.

Nicole Barrett, Policy Research Analyst, indicated that Senator Mike Groene's office did not receive any indication of issues pertaining to the Compact this past year.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (NONE)

3. APPROVAL OF 2018 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

Motion by Sara Hulac, second by Dr. Rippe: To approve the minutes of the September 12, 2018, State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children meeting.

Voting Yes: Blomstedt, Halstead, Rippe, and Hulac

Absent: Col. Alan Dayton

The motion passed.

4. APPROVAL OF DELEGATION OF VOTING AUTHORITY TO SCOTT SUMMERS, NDE GENERAL COUNSEL, AT THE 2019 ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING FOR THE MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT COMMISSION IN COLORADO SPRINGS, CO IN OCTOBER 2019.

Brian Halstead indicated that he has a schedule conflict and cannot attend the 2019 Annual Business meeting in Colorado Springs, CO October 22-24, 2019. Compact Commission bylaws indicate that an official Delegation of Authority to another person should be made for another individual to attend on his behalf. Mr. Halstead recommends Scott Summers, NDE General Counsel.

Motion by Dr. Rippe, second by Sara Hulac: To approve the delegation of Scott Summers to participate and vote at the 2019 Annual Business meeting for the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission.

Voting Yes: Blomstedt, Halstead, Rippe and Hulac

Absent: Col. Alan Dayton

The motion passed.

5. REPORTS BY MEMBERS ON ACTIVITY OR ISSUES

Mr. Halstead reported that he attended the National Annual Meeting of the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) last October in Cleveland, Ohio.

6. DISCUSSION OF NEBRASKA'S PARTICIPATION IN AND COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTERSTATE COMPACT ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

No Council member had any concerns or issues to report.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Brian Halstead adjourned the meeting at 1:39 p.m.

*Support Materials for this meeting are available for inspection in the NDE's Legal Services Office