

MINUTES

STATE COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

April 12, 2013

10:00 a.m.

Charles Barnum School, Groton

Members present: Bob Ross, Nicholas Fischer, Valerie Nelson, Laura Anastasio, Louis Tallarita
Non-voting members present: Miranda Chapman

1. The minutes from the meeting on December 2, 2011 were approved.

Vote: in favor—5 (Laura Anastasio, Valerie Nelson, Louis Tallarita, Bob Ross, Nicholas Fischer); opposed—0.

2. Update on the Interstate Commission

- The Commission held its fifth annual meeting in Charleston, S.C. 44 States plus the District of Columbia have joined the Interstate Compact.
- The Commission voted on one changes to the rules—Kindergarten enrollment, Rule 3.102(b) was amended to include the phrase, “[i]n the case of a Kindergarten student, the student must have been enrolled and attended class in the sending state in order to assure continued attendance in Kindergarten in the receiving state.” This amendment is intended to provide further clarification on the meaning of “enrollment.”
- Valerie Nelson noted that because families pre-register for Kindergarten in the spring, this new rule may impact Connecticut families moving out of state before the actual start of school.
- The Commission discussed the problem of how to get the National Guard in the states more involved with the Compact and with the State Councils. Bob Ross suggested contacts for the National Guard.

3. Proposed legislation to amend Connecticut’s Compact language (Section 10-15f of the C.G.S.)

- The Veteran’s Affairs Committee has proposed a change to the Compact language under Article V. E., which permits students to be granted excused absences to visit with a parent prior to deployment. The legislation would grant ten days of excused absences with additional days at the discretion of the LEA. A suggested change to this bill would be to allow “up to ten days.”

4. Discussion on the collection of data to determine which students come from military families.

5. The MIC3 website has be changed to make it more user friendly. Resources are available for districts and for families.