

MINUTES

STATE COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

May 3, 2018

9:30 a.m. (following the MSLC meeting)

Submarine Force Library and Museum

1 Crystal Lake Road, Groton

Members present: Valerie Nelson, Bob Ross, Jason Hartling, Laura Anastasio, Dr. Andrea Ackerman, Captain Whitescarver, Miranda Chapman.

1. Discussion, amendments, and approval of the minutes of the October 5, 2017 meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

2. Next MIC-3 Meeting in Cleveland, OH.

Ms. Anastasio announced that the next meeting will be in Cleveland. Likely the third week in October Wednesday and Thursday.

3. Student testing.

One topic on the radar for the MIC3 is repetitive testing. Many states have selected tests such as SBAC or PARC and the SAT or ACT for high school. However, different states have different testing periods, which may result in a student being tested twice. The other problem is when a student transfers into CT on the testing day, that student must take the test.

4. Chronic Absenteeism.

Many states have adopted chronic absenteeism as an indicator in their accountability plans, including CT. CT's definition is "absent 10% or more of the school year," which makes it about 18 days or more. With the CT statute requiring districts to grant 10 days per year for a military child to spend time with a deployed parent, a student can quickly reach 18 days, impacting the schools serving military families.

Discussion ensued. The superintendents of the military impacted districts plan to send a letter to the Commissioner to begin a discussion on how to address this problem.

5. Announcements.

17th Annual Volunteer Breakfast will be Thursday, May 31st at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. Ms. Chapman and Ms. Anastasio will be attending the Connecticut School Counselors Association's annual meeting to promote the Compact and distribute information.