

MINUTES

STATE COUNCIL ON EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

September 13, 2010

1:00 p.m.

Submarine Force Library and Museum

Members present: Valerie Nelson, Senator Andrew Maynard, Beth Gianacoplos, Bob Ross, Laura Anastasio

Non-voting members: Captain Marc Denno, Miranda Chapman,

1. The Council approve the minutes of the October 26, 2009 meeting.

VOTE on Minutes:

In favor—4 (Valerie Nelson, Beth Gianacoplos, Laura Anastasio and Bob Ross.)

Opposed—0

2. Update on the Interstate Commission

- The Commission has 35 states as members, and it now has its own office in Lexington, Kentucky with an Executive Director, Norman E. Arflack.
- The Commission also has launched its own website at www.mic3.net. Council members may wish to browse the website—there is an FAQ, contact information, a brochure and a presentation on the Compact and other information that might be helpful to parents and educators.
- The annual meeting will be in San Antonio this year.
- At the last annual meeting, the Commission adopted the proposed rules with some minor changes but did not adopt a rule concerning the collection of data from member states. This issue was referred back to the Rules Committee for further discussion.
- The Commission also created committees—the Executive Committee, the Rules Committee, the Finance Committee, the Compliance Committee (which would address states failing to comply with the Compact), and the Training, Education & Public Relations Committee.

3. Review and discussion of Interstate Commission's Adopted Rules

- Kindergarten entry—does not include rights to enter pre-kindergarten programs.
- Transfers during senior year could address issues pertaining to state-specific requirements (such as state history). However, students transferring before senior year would have to request a waiver, which could be denied.
- The rules discuss immunizations and permit a 30-day grace period to obtain immunizations, but it does not address physical examinations.

4. Physical Examination for Military Children: Legislative Proposal for Amending Section 10-206 of the Connecticut General Statutes

- The Council reviewed the statutory requirement that a health assessment be conducted by an APRN licensed by the State of Connecticut. This poses a problem for military families whose children are examined by APRNs at the Base's health clinic—such APRNs are licensed by other states. The Department of Education has provided a letter, asking districts to accept these health assessments. The Department will also seek a statutory change to carve out an exception for children from military families.

5. Items to discuss for annual business meeting of the Commission

- Whether pre-kindergarten entry might be included/addressed by the Commission.
- Physical examinations—what do other states require? Could the Commission address/discuss this issue as a possible barrier to enrollment?

6. Obstacles for Families Transitioning into Public Schools

- Another recent development concerning discrepancies within the Groton School District as to whether the child can be enrolled without a TB test. Attorney Anastasio will check with the Nursing Consultant with the Department of Education to verify the State's position on this matter. Valerie Nelson and Beth Gianacoplos will discuss the Groton Board's policy and directive to its nurses with the Groton Superintendent.