

State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
October 30, 2023 · 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. · Teleconference via Zoom Webinar

Agenda

1. Call to order
2. Public comment. The State Advisory Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will hear comment from the public pertaining to topics related to any agenda items. Members of the public must register prior to the start of the meeting if they wish to address the council. Individuals are limited to three minutes each. An individual may provide written and verbal comments to the council, in which case notification must be provided by the individual to sheri.messer@tea.texas.gov by 12:00 p.m. on October 30, 2023. The request must contain your name, the organization you are representing or if you are speaking as a private citizen, and your direct phone number.
3. School liaison panel: the role of the school liaison
4. Council member and staff reports
 - a. Action Item: Council member term length
5. 2024 council priorities
6. Upcoming events
7. Adjourn

Attendance

Member	Role
Dr. Jimmy Bowser Texas Education Agency (TEA)	Highly Mobile State Coordinator, TEA
Dr. John Craft Superintendent, Northside ISD, San Antonio	Superintendent representative of a school district with a high concentration of military children
Lina De La Cruz Registrar, Denton ISD	Parent Representative
Simone Wendlandt-Hendricks School Liaison Officer, Fort Bliss	Military Representative, Army
CAPT John Mark McLean Naval Air Station Fort Worth	Military Representative, Navy
Kristin Donaldson for Col. Damon Dalby Goodfellow Air Force Base, San Angelo	Military Representative, Air Force
Shelly Ramos Senior Director, Curriculum Standards and Student Support, TEA	Texas Commissioner Designee Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission
Dr. Burnie Roper Superintendent, Lackland ISD, San Antonio	Superintendent Representative, Military School District
Kathy Smith Assistant Veterans County Services Officer	Chair of Senate Committee on Education, Designee
Lani Webster School Counselor, San Angelo ISD	School Counselor Representative
Suri Garcia for Madison Yandell Budget and Policy Advisor	Office of the Governor of Texas, Governor Greg Abbot Designee

1. Call to Order

Sheri Messer, TEA, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. Public Comment

- There were no public comment registrations.

3. School Liaison Panel: the role of the school liaison

- Mrs. Messer introduced the panelist of school liaisons.
 - o Joe Holder, Corpus Christi Naval Air Station
 - o Simone Wendlandt-Hendricks, Fort Bliss
 - o Kristin Donaldson, Goodfellow Air Force Base
 - o Terry Jones, Fort Cavazos
 - o Nita Ford-Hightower, JBSA Fort Sam Houston
- Ms. Hendricks gave an overview of the role of the school liaison. The panelists explained how they support military connected-students and families, school districts, and installations. The panelists explained the supports and programs they use in their work and services they provide to parents and educators. They also described some of the challenges they encounter in their work and challenges students encounter as they transition to new schools.

4. Staff Reports

- Ms. Ramos gave general information about the upcoming Military Interstate Childrens Compact Commission (MIC3) 2023 Annual Business Meeting and explained that she would provide a debrief of the meeting at the January 22, 2024, State Advisory Council meeting.
- Mrs. Messer shared a social media post that was posted on October 20, 2023, to share information about the State Advisory Council.
- Mrs. Messer presented data from the Military Compact district trainings that TEA has conducted since July 2023. The report showed that the trainings had reached approximately 750 educators across Texas.
- Mrs. Messer presented information about council member term lengths collected from other Texas state advisory councils. Ms. Ramos explained that certain positions on the council are designated by other offices or are tied to an individual's job responsibilities. Individuals in those positions serve until there is a change in post or they step down. Ms. Ramos suggested that for positions on the council that are not designated, the council may wish to consider an appropriate term length. She presented for consideration varying length terms for these council positions.
 - o Dr. Craft made a motion that the membership for certain positions not appointed would serve two-year terms with the option to extend one year. Terms would be staggered so each year that term are to end, only up to one half of the membership for non-appointed positions would be new.

- Dr. Roper seconded the motion.
 - The motion carried unanimously.
- Dr. Bowser presented an update on relevant new legislation, Purple Star Campus designations, and the military student identifier (MSI).
- Ms. Ramos presented on the implementation of new legislation, Senate Bill 1008, relating to establishing residency for purposes of admission into public schools.
- The floor was open to council members to share any state advisory council-related announcements, topics, or issues. No council members shared.

5. 2024 Council Priorities

- Mrs. Messer initiated a conversation about the priorities the council would like to direct attention to for the upcoming year, 2024. The council determined that parents, registrars, and school principals could be better informed about the Military Compact. Mrs. Messer will provide additional information about these priorities at the January meeting.

6. Upcoming Events

- Ms. Messer gave an overview of upcoming events.
- Mrs. Messer adjourned the meeting at 2:40 p.m.