

Kansas Military Children Education Council (KMCEC) Annual Meeting

Held virtually on Thursday, February 29, 2024

Members participating:

- X Ashley Parsons School Liaison Officer, Fort Leavenworth
- X Sandy Johnson..... School Liaison Officer, Fort Riley
- X Greg Martin School Liaison Officer, McConnell AFB
- X Keith Mispagel..... Superintendent USD 207, Fort Leavenworth
- X Heather Bohaty..... Superintendent USD 260, Derby
- X Dale Brungardt..... MIC3 Commissioner, KSDE School Finance Director

Absent:

- Col. Duane L. Mosier Garrison Commander, Ft. Leavenworth
- LTG (Ret) Perry L. Wiggins Governors Military Council
- Senator Jeff Longbine Legislative Appointee, Emporia
- Reginald Eggleston Superintendent USD 475, Geary County – Ft. Riley

Membership met in a virtual meeting conducted on the Teams platform.

KMCEC Meeting Summary

February 29, 2024 @ 13:00

MIC3 Business:

1. 1 of 4 Compacts adopted by all 50 states (KS was 1st; 4/9/2008)
2. Annual Business Meeting Briefs and Documents on National website
Link: [2023 Annual Business Meeting - MIC3](#) Richmond, VA - Nov 8-9, 2023
Both Keith Mispagel and Dale Brungardt attended the ABM.
Executive Committee Elections:
 - Chair, Ernise Singleton, Louisiana
 - Vice-Chair, Daron Korte, Minnesota
 - Treasurer, Greg Lynch, Washington

Next year, the ABM will meet in Albuquerque NM on Oct. 16-17, 2024. The finance committee will determine if there are adequate cash reserves to meet goals and may decide to discontinue the face to face ABM in the future and meet virtually.
3. Kansas Dues for 2024-25 = \$11,487
\$11,487 for 2023-24.
The MIC3 finance committee may increase the dues per student for the coming year. KSDE has authority to pay annual dues as a withdrawal from the state general fund. KSA 72-60c01. Legislative approval is not needed each year.
4. Kansas had no student issues reported to National Office in FY23 and thus far in FY24.
 - a. Kansas Commissioner was made aware of a state level concern regarding student credits near the end of a semester – resolved by the receiving and sending schools. Bottom line, in Kansas we really do put the student first.

5. April is Month of Military Child
 - a. Governor Kelly Proclamation
 - b. April 17th is Purple Up!
 - c. For additional information: [Month of the Military Child - MIC3](#)

KSDE has requested an official Proclamation for the Month of the Military Child from the Governor's office. We have requested an in-person signing of the proclamation with the Governor. (A proclamation signing ceremony did occur on March 27th. Students, Parents, and Superintendents attended the ceremony in the Governor's Office)

School Districts shared their plans for April and how they planned to celebrate their military-connected students and parents.

Other Considerations:

1. Purple Star School Application update:

Last year (Feb 2023), the KMCEC Purple Star Committee amended the criteria on the Purple Star application. The revised application will be posted soon on the KSDE Military Families homepage for future applicants.

Promoting Purple Star Schools to increase awareness to support needs of military families:

Discussed ways to increase the number of Purple Star Schools. How do we share information to help other schools learn about Purple Star program. Schools may currently have many activities that support military-connected students, and we could help them with their application.

Suggestions: Superintendents at Purple Star Schools can offer to do a presentation about the program at meetings of the Kansas School Superintendents Association and the Council of Superintendents. Get on the agenda in the fall at the start of the school year. Applications accepted between October – February 1.

Greg Martin (SLO at McConnell AFB, Wichita) stated he had a couple private schools interested. Private schools may apply. All members agreed that a school's Purple Star status is becoming a question that military families ask when deciding to move to a new community.