

# State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

## **Annual Meeting**

Thursday, August 11, 2022 1:30 p.m.

Participants and Guests use Zoom Link for remote participation:  
<https://educationne.zoom.us/j/97852374587>

### **Minutes**

The Nebraska State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children held its annual meeting on August 11, 2022. Publicized notice of the meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website on the Internet, which gave the date and time of the meeting.

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Brian Halstead, Deputy Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education and Council Commissioner of the State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. The following members were present via ZOOM: Brian Halstead, Council Commissioner; Juan Román, Military Family Liaison and NDE General Counsel; Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent, Bellevue Public Schools; Nikki Nader, Deputy Director for Installation Support, 55th Mission Support Group, 55 MSG/DD, Offutt Air Force Base serving as Col. Cooley's designee. Both Commissioner Blomstedt and Senator Walz were absent at the meeting.

Phil O'Donnell, Military Affairs Liaison, Commission on Military and Veterans Affairs, Alexandria Evers, Government Relations Officer, Nebraska National Guard, as well as Liane Yanikoy, School Liaison Program Manager, Offutt Air Force Base located in Sarpy County, Nebraska, were also in attendance.

#### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

No public comments were offered.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

Motion by Dr. Rippe, second by Nikki Nader: To approve the minutes of the August 11, 2021, State Council on Educational Opportunity for Military Children meeting.

Voting Yes: Halstead, Rippe, and Nader  
Abstain: Román  
Absent: Blomstedt

The motion passed.

**4. APPOINT JUAN ROMÁN, NDE GENERAL COUNSEL, AS THE MILITARY FAMILY EDUCATION LIAISON PURSUANT TO NEB.REV.STAT. 79-2204**

Motion by Compact Commissioner Halstead, second by Dr. Rippe: To appoint Juan Román, NDE General Counsel, as the Military Family Education Liaison pursuant to Neb.Rev.Stat. 79-2204.

Voting Yes: Halstead, Rippe, and Nader  
Abstain: Román  
Absent: Blomstedt

The motion passed.

**5. REPORTS BY MEMBERS ON ACTIVITY OR ISSUES**

**Brian Halstead, Compact Commissioner** and Deputy Commissioner of Nebraska Department of Education, stated that he has received no requests for services under the Compact. School districts are working diligently, and Compact is not utilized.

**Dr. Jeff Rippe, Superintendent, Bellevue Public Schools**, reported that the Bellevue Public Schools has not heard of any MIC3 issues this past year. Dr. Rippe expressed his appreciation of everyone's efforts and is looking forward to another great year.

**Nikki Nader, Deputy Director for Installation Support, 55th Mission Support Group, 55 MSG/DD**, stated that they have no issues to report. Ms. Nader resonances Dr. Rippe's appreciation of Nebraska being very accommodating and military friendly, and the Offutt Air Force base is very cognizant of same.

**Phillip O'Donnell, Military Affairs Liaison, State of Nebraska Commission on Military and Veteran Affairs**, personally thanked the Council members for their service to the State of Nebraska. This Council may seem like a small matter, but it really is important to the military communities.

There being no further business to come before the Council, Compact Commissioner Halstead adjourned the meeting at 1:43 p.m.

**\*Support Materials for this meeting are available for inspection in the NDE's Legal Services Office**