

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Installation Child, & Youth Services (CYS) Schools Council Meeting (SCM) Minutes, 24 January, 2017.

1. The Schools Council Meeting convened at 1000 on 24 Jan 17, led by Mr. Nicholas Johnsen, Director of FMWR, at the Community Events Center, Fort Hood, Texas.

2. Attendees:

COL Fox, Todd	Garrison Commander
CSM Leija, Antonio	Garrison Command Sergeant Major
Johnsen, Nicholas R.	Director, FMWR
Curtis, Sheila R.	Chief, Child Youth & School Services
Martinez, Regina	Parent & Outreach Services Administrator
Davenport, Elizabeth	School Liaison Officer
Hall, Christine	School Liaison Officer
Salinas, Angelica	Acting School Liaison Officer
McIntire, Elizabeth	Parent & Outreach Services Admin Assistant
Hughes, Tomy	KOS Specialist/Usher
Lesene, Letitia	Acting YSAC Administrator
Samide, Chelsey	Outreach Services Assistant Director/Usher
Dr. Stewart, Desmontes	Deputy Superintendent, Killeen ISD
Lumar, Shannon	Director of Guidance, Killeen ISD
Wilkerson, Angenet	Director of Community Relations, Killeen ISD
Smith, Burt	Assistant Superintendent Salado ISD
Dr. Moger, Scott	Assistant Superintendent, Temple ISD
Dr. Chapman, William	Superintendent, Jarrell ISD
Schneider, Keith	Special Programs Director, Jarrell ISD
Haggerty, Phil	Assistant Superintendent, Belton ISD
Streater-Moore, Leona	Exceptional Family Member Program
Stamper, Peggy	Education Services Specialist
Engen, Mike	Education Services Officer
Glennon, Judy	Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC)
Aguayo, Michelle	CRDAMC Behavioral Health
Flowers, Dawana	Military Family Life Counselor (MFLC)
Rodriguez, Debra	STARRY
Quander, Melonie	CYS Advisor/ Senior Spouse
Perry, Mary Ann	Senior Spouse
Scott, Johnny	Parent
III Corps	Representatives (2 service members)
Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center	Representatives (3 service members)
2/5 Cav.	Representative
1 ABCT, 1CD	Representative
2ABCT 1CD	Representative
2/227 th ARN 1ACB Air Cav. 1CD	Representative
1 st Calvary Division	Representative

582 nd MLC 1 st Med. Brigade	Representative
36 th EN BDE	Representative
85 th CA BDE	Representatives (2 service members)
89 th MP BDE	Representatives (2 service members)
115 th BSB	Representative
120 th IN Brigade	Representatives (2 service members)

3. The meeting progressed as follows:

a. Welcome and Statements of Purpose. Mr. Johnsen welcomed everyone to the first Schools Council Meeting (SCM) of 2017. He then turned the floor over to COL Fox, who thanked everyone for taking the time to attend the meeting. COL Fox took a moment to recognize the many different units that were in attendance. Mr. Johnsen shared that the purpose of the SCM is to identify educational related concerns and transitional issues of military-connected students and to promote a quality educational environment for all students. Throughout the process, the School Liaison Officers (SLOs) compile concerns, suggestions and positive educational experiences, which are addressed at regularly scheduled working group meetings. Submissions should be made on the Community Input Forms and submitted to appointed unit representatives. The submission will be sent from the company level representative, through the battalion and brigade representatives, to the SLOs. Mr. Johnsen asked the school districts to introduce themselves. Mr. Johnsen explained that after the 2016 Education Summit, working groups were established. The working group members are a collaboration of various subject matter experts.

b. Schools Council Working Groups. Mr. Johnsen stated that the School Liaison Officers will provide an overview of the working groups' progress.

(1) **Special Education.** Ms. Christine Hall, facilitator, shared the four issues that the group is currently working on. The issues included: transparency in special education, districts helping with transition, inclusion for special education students, a voucher assistance program, and adapting after Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) and Individualized Education Program (IEP) has ended. Ms. Hall stated that the group has completed the issue of transparency in special education. She shared the following title, scope and recommendation.

Issue: Transparency in Special Education

Title: Special Education – Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Scope: Parents want to be informed of their rights and roles in the Special Education Process.

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Recommendation: Develop a one-page FAQ offering basic questions, answers and resources for parents of students in Special Education. Questions derived from common questions asked to school districts/EFMP/SLO. One page FAQ complete.

Ms. Hall stated that the FAQ and Special Needs Flowchart is currently pending approval.

(2) Information Awareness/Parent Education/Professional Development.

Ms. Elizabeth Davenport, facilitator, shared the group's working issues, which included transition concerns with course credit; school nutrition concerns; access to class work, homework, and upcoming events; and access to information. The group completed all issues and established the following title, scope and recommendations.

Issue: Transition Concerns with Course Credit.

Title: Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission (MIC3) Awareness

Scope: Lack of MIC3 knowledge may cause students undue hardships trying to meet graduation requirements.

Recommendation: School Liaison Officers will distribute MIC3 information to school districts and meet with counselors, registrars and athletic directors at least twice per year to ensure awareness of the program. Create a video vignette to be used as a media campaign for awareness. Informational video complete.

Issue: School Nutrition Concern

Title: School Nutrition Guidelines Awareness

Scope: Some parents are unaware of school nutrition guidelines and where to locate the information.

Recommendation: Refer parents to their respective school district nutrition link. Create a video vignette to be used as media campaign for awareness. Informational video complete.

Issue: Access to class work, homework, upcoming events, and other information.

Title: Streamline Instructional Focus and Academic Requirements

Scope: Parents are unable to effectively assist their students in preparation for tests, projects, and general academics.

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Recommendation: Create a video vignette to be used as media campaign for awareness. Informational video complete.

Ms. Davenport shared that the video has been posted on the CYS Facebook page, www.facebook/hood.cys.

(3) **Student Success.** Ms. Elizabeth Davenport, facilitator, shared the group's three issues, which included awareness of special programs and services for career and college readiness; increasing the literacy rate for students; and transportation for students in afterschool activities. Ms. Davenport stated that the first two issues have been completed by the group. These issues led to the following title, scope and recommendations.

Issue: Awareness of Special Programs and Services.

Title: Student Success: Expanding awareness of special programs and services.

Scope: Parents and students are not aware of, or are not taking advantage of, available programs such as applications, websites, and reminders.

Recommendation: School districts will provide a link to a calendar with important dates. Develop a flow chart, which will serve as a hotlink on websites, and a handout for parents and students. Flow chart completed, pending approval.

Issue: Increasing the Literacy Rate for Students

Title: Student Success: Challenge to Increase Literacy

Scope: Student reading levels impact their ability to succeed in all areas of school to include behavior.

Recommendation: Create a resource page showing all available school-related resources on Fort Hood, including tutor.com, Khan Academy, school activities, CYS programs and other national programs. Create a video vignette to be used as a media campaign for awareness. Create a hashtag for 30 day reading challenge #FortHood3Rs.

Ms. Davenport shared that the reading challenge will kick off on 1 April 2017, in conjunction with Month of the Military Child, at Casey Memorial Library. COL Fox asked if the Adopt-A-School program will be assisting the schools with the reading challenge. Ms. Davenport replied that the units will be assisting, adding that one unit is helping to create the video, which will promote the program. COL Fox encouraged the school districts to get involved in the reading challenge. COL Fox stated that the issue of

literacy is greater than just the Fort Hood area and everyone should get involved with this initiative.

(4) **Higher Education**. The higher education group had five issues, which included tuition assistance, leadership support of Soldier transition preparation, transferability of GI Bill benefits, education partnerships 2+2+2, and programs such as substance abuse and other counseling services accepting interns. The group completed the first issue regarding tuition assistance and was able to form the following Title, Scope and Recommendation.

Issue: Tuition Assistance

Title: Higher Education: Tuition Assistance Eligibility

Scope: Current policy limits Soldiers to tuition assistance eligibility only after completing one year of active service post-Advance Individual Training (AIT).

Recommendation: Rescind the requirement for Soldiers to serve one year of active service post-AIT completion to be eligible for TA, which will provide more new Soldiers the opportunity to pursue higher education and work toward professional and personal self-development.

c. Open Forum.

(1) **Education Services**: Mr. Mike Engen shared that Education Services has received book donations which will allow Education Services to give Soldiers a book to take home and read to their children. Mr. Engen stated that they are working on creating a new briefing for Squad Leaders. There will be a college fair with 65 colleges and universities on 11 April 2017 from 1100-1700 and on 12 April 2017 from 0900-1400. High school juniors and seniors are welcome to attend. Mr. Engen was asked if students already in college could attend, which he confirmed. Ms. Peggy Stamper invited attendees to check out the Education Services Facebook page for additional information.

(2) **School Liaison Office** Ms. Christine Hall shared that on 26 January 2017, the SLOs will be hosting a quarterly FRIENDS event at Bronco Youth Center. On 1 March 2017 the SLO will host a Homeschool Workshop. The 2nd Annual JROTC Skills Meet will be held 4 March 2017 at Abrams Physical Fitness Center. The Schools Council Working Groups will meet on 8 February 2017 for Special Education and Information Awareness/Parent Education/Professional Development, and on 14 February 2017 for the Student Success and Higher Education. The Fort Hood Area Education Summit will be held 23 February 2017 at Club Hood. Ms. Hall shared that if anyone has any issues regarding education to contact the SLOs and they are more than happy to assist.

(3) KISD Programs: COL Fox asked Ms. Angenet Wilkerson, KISD Director of Community Relations, to speak about the new program in KISD called IMPACT. Ms. Wilkerson shared that IMPACT stands for Influence, Motivate, Prepare, Affirm, Challenge and Transform. The program allows community members to go into the schools and mentor four to five students, which become an impact team. The goal for IMPACT is to change the course for the students and to help the community. The program started with just males, at first, and has now expanded to include females who want to be involved in IMPACT. The question was asked who selects the students. Ms. Wilkerson responded that if students, teachers, etc. see a student who may need support, they can submit their name. Ms. Wilkerson shared that KISD is currently seeking volunteers for IMPACT and if anyone would like to volunteer or if there are additional questions, she can be reached at 254-336-1707. She stated that mentors can apply online and will be required to complete trainings to become a mentor.

(4) Military Child Education Coalition (MCEC): Ms. Judy Glennon stated she was excited about the reading campaign and stated that MCEC will be involved in some capacity. Ms. Glennon shared that MCEC has a program called Tell Me a Story, which works with young children through third grade. During the Tell Me a Story session, a book is read to the children, followed by a discussion and activity about the book. The Families get to take the book and materials home.

4. Closing: Mr. Johnsen shared that the Fort Hood Area Education Summit will be held on 23 February 2017, beginning at 0830 at Club Hood. He thanked everyone for attending the meeting and reminded the Adopt-A-School members to sign in so they get credit for the meeting. COL Fox thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

5. Next SCM will be held 11 April 2017, 1000-1200 at the Community Events Center.

6. Minutes prepared by Elizabeth McIntire, CYS Parent & Outreach Services Branch Administrative Support Assistant.



SHEILA R. CURTIS
Chief
Child, & Youth Services