

## MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Installation Child & Youth Services (CYS) Partners in Education Process Action Team (PIEPAT) Meeting Minutes, 06 December 2018

1. The Partners in Education Process Action Team (PIEPAT) meeting convened at 1330, led by MG Felix G. Gedney, at the Community Events Center, Fort Hood, Texas.

2. Attendees:

MG Gedney, Felix G.	Deputy Commander Support, III Corps
COL Perry, Jr., Henry C.	Garrison Commander
Lee, Geun	III Corps Chaplain
Johnsen, Nicholas R.	Director, FMWR
Curtis, Sheila R.	Chief, Child & Youth Services
Martinez, Regina	Parent & Outreach Services Administrator
Hill, Ashley	Youth & School Age Care Administrator
Bleakley-Sias, Kim	Child Development Services Administrator
Davenport, Elizabeth	School Liaison Officer
Jones, Terri	School Liaison Officer
Salinas, Angelica	School Liaison Officer
Miller, Summer	CYS Special Needs Program Manager/Working Group Member
Copeland, Sandra	CYS Training Branch Admin. Assistant/Usher
Mcintire, Elizabeth	Parent & Outreach Services Admin. Assistant
Brown, Brenda	SKIES <i>Unlimited</i> , Instructional Program Manager/Usher
Dr. Craft, John	Superintendent, Killeen ISD
Wilkerson, Angenette	Community Relations, Killeen ISD/Working Group Member
Dr. Rascoe, Chane	Superintendent, Lampasas ISD
Parks, Christine	Chief, Communications and Community Relations Central Administrative Offices, TISD
Dr. Novotny, Michael	Superintendent, Salado ISD
Aguayo, Michelle	CRDAMC Behavioral Health/Working Group Member
Glendening, Sharon	Military Student Transition Consultant
Luciano, Christine	DPW Environmental
Strickling, Bernice	Training Specialist/Working Group Member
Ashley, Heather	PAO
Rodriguez, Abby	State Coordinator, Texas Education Agency
Ady, Tina	Deputy Chancellor, Central Texas College
Ballantyne, John	Military Child Education Coalition
Lovesmith, Deanna	Assistant Superintendent, Belton ISD
Edmond, Sharon	Military Family Life Counselor
Stamper, Peggy	Education Services Division
Williams, Beverly	Systems Navigator, EFMP/Working Group Member
White, Kenneth	Social Services Assistant, ACS

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Dr. Kincannon, Susan	Superintendent, Belton ISD
Dr. Chapmen, Bill	Superintendent, Jarrell ISD
Hale, Chastie	Guidance Counselor, Education Services Division
Pennington, Carlton	MSTC, Copperas Cove ISD
Dr. Burns, Joe	Superintendent, Copperas Cove ISD
Garcia, Raul	Dean, Central Texas College
3/227 <sup>th</sup> AHB	Representative
303 <sup>rd</sup> MI BN	Representative (2 service members)
120 IN BDE MFTB HHC	Representative
15 <sup>th</sup> MI BN	Representative
69 <sup>th</sup> ADA BDE	Representative
III Corp	Representative
3 <sup>rd</sup> CR	Representative (2 service members)
11 <sup>th</sup> Signal BDE	Representative (2 service members)
CRDAMC	Representative
3ABCT, 1CD	Representative
48 <sup>th</sup> Chemical BDE	Representative
36 <sup>th</sup> Engineers BDE	Representative (3 service members)
2ABCT, 1CD	Representative (2 service members)
89 <sup>th</sup> MP BDE	Representative
1 <sup>st</sup> Medical BDE	Representative
502n OCAS	Representative

3. The meeting progressed as follows:

Welcome and Statements of Purpose: The meeting opened with the Fort Hood Garrison Commander, COL Henry C. Perry, Jr., introducing Fort Hood Deputy Commanding General, MG Felix G. Gedney, who gave opening remarks and welcomed attendees to the meeting. COL Perry introduced Chaplain Lee to conduct the invocation. COL Perry also shared opening remarks and discussed the importance of our partnerships with area school districts who support our military students and Families.

Mr. Nicholas Johnsen, Director FMWR, gave a recap of the Schools Council Meeting (SCM) held 29 OCT 18. He also shared the Partners in Education Process Chart, highlighting the process used among the SCM, issues submitted, the Working Groups, and the PIE PAT.

a. Superintendent Updates: Superintendents and representatives from the surrounding districts of Killeen ISD, Lampasas ISD, Temple ISD, Salado ISD, Jarrell ISD, Copperas Cove ISD, and Belton ISD introduced themselves. COL Perry asked each district, "Why is the relationship with Fort Hood important for your schools and how has this process impacted your district and students?"

(1) **Temple ISD (TISD):** Ms. Christine Parks shared that TISD has about 95 students that are military-connected. Ms. Parks stated that the relationship with Fort Hood

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allows the district to stay informed and be deliberate with their approach in enrolling military-connected children into TISD.

(2) **Copperas Cove ISD (CCISD):** Dr. Joe Burns shared that CCISD's relationship with Fort Hood is important due to three things. One way is the access to deep and broad talents whether it's the soldier or the spouse. The second way is that Fort Hood provides a resource rich environment. The third way is the exceptional relationship with the Adopt-A-School Program. The CCISD has about 1,788 military-connected students.

(3) **Belton ISD (BISD):** Dr. Susan Kincannon shared that 950 students in the district are military-connected. The district has seen a rise in military-connected students over the last few years. She stated that BISD has a priority to meet every student's academic, social, and emotional needs. In making these needs a priority, the district has created various programs. Dr. Kincannon shared the phenomenal job the Adopt-A-School program is doing in the district.

(4) **Jarrell ISD (JISD):** Dr. Bill Chapman shared that JISD has 61 military-connected students. The relationship with Fort Hood has opened the district's eyes to the opportunities and resources for JISD students.

(5) **Lampasas ISD (LISD):** Dr. Chane Rascoe shared that the meetings allow him to know what is available for the district. The LISD has 300 military-connected children. The most vital part of the partnership with Fort Hood is the district's relationships with the CYA School Liaison Officers.

(6) **Killeen ISD (KISD):** Dr. John Craft shared that KISD is the 25<sup>th</sup> largest district in the state. About 18,000 students in KISD are military-connected. The KISD is the heaviest impacted district in the nation. Dr. Craft stated he does not take the relationship with Fort Hood for granted as it is an amazing and successful partnership. The KISD has eight active schools located on Fort Hood. Dr. Craft shared that the meetings are a gateway to understanding the issues within the district and how to fix them. He expressed his gratitude for the Adopt-A-School program and the Soldier's willingness to help.

(7) **Salado ISD (SISD):** Dr. Michael Novotny shared that SISD has 171 military-connected students. Dr. Novotny stated they are thankful for their relationship with Fort Hood and the Adopt-A-School program. He shared that SISD has stopped taking inter-district transfers, however SISD does accept military-connected children transfers. He expressed his appreciation to the CYA SLOs and Fort Hood leadership.

b. Schools Council Working Groups.

(1) **Special Education:** Ms. Angela Kirkpatrick introduced the members of the group and discussed the progress the group has made. The group developed the following Title, Scope and Recommendation:

Title: Post-Secondary Transitions for Eligible Special Education Students in Texas

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**Scope:** There is a perceived need for information on transition in preparing students eligible for special education for post-secondary readiness. In Texas, the Admission, Review, and Dismissal (ARD) committee must have a transition discussion by the child's 14<sup>th</sup> birthday. By improving information being disseminated, it positively impacts the success of all youth.

**Recommendation:** Disseminate information to parents regarding post-secondary resources through the already existing CYS School Liaison Office, frequently asked question sheets and the Student Success Resource Flowchart.

(2) **Student Success:** Dr. Deanna Lovesmith introduced the members of the group and discussed the progress the group has made. The group developed the following Title's, Scopes and Recommendations :

Issue 1 Title: Communication of School Events

**Scope:** Military Families seek to be actively involved in their children's school events. They often experience scheduling challenges due to mission and deployment. These challenges would be eased with advanced communication of events, allowing Families more time to plan to attend. Additionally, multiple ways of communication would increase the awareness of events for Families.

**Recommendation:** Communication will be a continued priority for local campuses. School calendars will be updated as early as possible, to include any event that parents might participate in (PTO school programs, grade level ceremonies, etc.). Schools will also utilize multiple methods of communication, including websites, social media, email communication and school marquees. Districts will use resource personnel, such as communication departments, campus principals, military resource support and parent involvement coordinators to support campus communication. The CYS SLOs will continue to streamline communication with easier access to multiple district resources.

Issue 2 Title: Military Expertise in School Safety Preparedness

**Scope:** Schools are responsible for developing plans to ensure safety preparedness. As schools develop safety plans, they are using multiple resources including local law enforcement, school personnel, parents and students. Military personnel, including local Soldiers, have skills and knowledge which could enhance these safety plans.

**Recommendation:** School Safety is a priority for local school districts. Districts will reach out to military-connected personnel (such as parents serving in the military, retired military and Adopt-A-School units) to invite them to participate in safety preparedness discussions. The CYS SLO's will continue to serve as a liaison to school districts, to connect them with military-connected personnel willing to serve on these safety preparedness committees. Child & Youth Services will also work with other military departments to provide additional resources they offer to school districts to support safety initiatives.

(3) **Higher Education:** 1LT Adriana Montoya shared the group's members. The group was able to develop the following Title's, Scopes and Recommendations.

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Issue 1 Title: Lack of Soldier Awareness of Education Resources and Benefits

Scope: Soldiers are not getting information down to the lowest level about all educational opportunities, benefits and resources available to them, so are significantly less likely to take advantage of such resources, limiting their pursuits of higher education and personal development.

Recommendation: Appoint Unit Education NCO's on additional duty orders. Education Services will maintain communication with these unit representatives and provide regular education updates.

Issue 2 Title: Soldiers Need Help with Go Army Education (GAE) when the Education Center is closed.

Scope: While Soldiers can access GoArmyEd 24/7, and they may submit help desk tickets for assistance, they must wait for such assistance. Addition of a full-time, real-time chat function to GoArmyEd would be beneficial.

Recommendation: GoArmyEd is contracted software and changes can only be made as part of regular updates. This issue must be forwarded to Headquarters, Army Continuing Education Division (ACED), under the Adjutant General Directorate, U.S. Army Human Resources Command.

Issue 3 Title: Day-time Classes On-post

Scope: Soldiers would like to have the option of attending day-time class's on-post.

Recommendation: Central Texas College offers day-time classes and is located just outside the gate. Offering day-time classes at the Soldier Development Center would be hindered by the limited amount of classroom space not already in use. Colleges must enroll a minimal number of students in order to conduct a class. Given the challenges involved in Soldiers being free to attend day-time classes, it is likely classes would be cancelled due to low enrollment.

c. Texas Education Agency (TEA): Ms. Abby Rodriguez, Site Coordinator for Military Students at Texas Education Agency (TEA). Ms. Rodriguez presented information on priorities for military students regarding the Military Student Identifier, Data and Demographics in Texas and the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (MIC3). COL Koeppen, 36th Engineer Battalion Commander, shared his own experiences working with the SLO in New York and the MIC3 prior to transitioning to Fort Hood. This sparked a discussion regarding the MIC3 and an upcoming training in Killeen at Central Texas College.

d. Adopt-A-School (AAS): Ms. Angelica Salinas, CYS SLO, shared information and an update on the AAS program. Ms. Christine Luciano, Dept. of Public Works (DPW) Environmental Program, shared information on the Youth Environmental Ambassadors (YEA!) Program. Ms. Salinas shared the break-down of sponsoring units, per school district, and the volunteer hours invested from August, September and October 2018. She strongly

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encouraged Commanders to stay involved with this program within their units and ensure stability and continuity. Ms. Luciano shared the implementation of several recycling competitions and identified the school districts involved. She encouraged each district to take the information back to their schools for increased involvement in these activities. Ms. Luciano shared a news story video from KWTX News about the YEA! Program and how to involve students in recycling.

4. Closing Remarks: Closing out the meeting, COL Perry emphasized the importance of the partnerships between the school districts, Fort Hood and the area communities. He thanked the school district Superintendents, Representatives, Commanders, Soldiers and all attendees for sharing the afternoon and giving their time to invest in this partnership. COL Perry also encouraged attendees to make plans to attend the upcoming Education Summit on 08 FEB 19. The meeting was adjourned.

5. Minutes prepared by Liz McIntire, CYS Parent & Outreach Services Administrative Assistant.



SHEILA R. CURTIS  
Chief  
Child & Youth Services