



## **NORTH CAROLINA MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Quality of Life (QOL) Committee Meeting, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter, April 25, 2018  
Wells Fargo Building 150 Fayetteville Street Raleigh, NC**

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Kirk Warner, Chairman  
Tony Stimatz  
Patricia Harris  
Julie Daniels (by phone)  
Bill Hatcher (by phone)

### ADDITIONAL ATTENDEES

Doug Taggart, Military Liaison DPI  
Jamie Livengood, Wayne Cty Schools  
Valerie Nasser, Craven Cty Schools  
Dr. Meghan Doyle, Superintendent Craven Cty  
Will Best, Department of Commerce  
Ron Massey, City of Jacksonville (by phone)  
Kelly Jackson, DMVA

### MEMBERS ABSENT

Matthew Scott  
Sonny Roberts

### OPENING REMARKS: CHAIRMAN KIRK WARNER

Chairman Warner called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Chairman Warner welcomed everyone to the Quality of Life meeting. He conducted a roll call of the attendees.

### CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Warner asked a motion to approve the minutes from the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter meeting of the committee on Feb 13, 2018. Tony Stimatz made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Patricia Harris and passed by unanimous vote with no discussion.

### CHILDREN'S CRISIS STABILIZATION UNIT STATUS: KIRK WARNER

Chairman Warner said that he had great news on this matter. We have been working on the Child Crisis Stabilization Unit for a long time. We have had a difficult time getting grants because of different issues. The good news is that it has been approved. We wrote to Senator Meredith to request support for this effort. We clearly have a need for this type of facility, particularly for the adolescents ages 12-17 in the Fort Bragg area. Kirk Warner talked to John Biggers, Administrative Director of Clinical Services/Sleep Center at Cape Fear Valley Behavioral Health Care this morning, and spoke with Senate Meredith the day before. An adolescent inpatient psychiatric unit, 10-bed unit, has all but been approved at the Betsy Johnson Hospital in Dunn, NC. The cost is \$5,000,000 because of some remediation and construction. They currently have \$4,000,000 through Cape Fear Valley Health System (CFVHS) which they received from the Dorothea Dix fund. The CFVHS has a management agreement with the Betsy Johnson Hospital for that 10-bed unit. The CFVHS has allocated the \$4,000,000 in total to this adolescent inpatient psychiatric unit at Betsy Johnson Hospital. The unit should be operational by the year 2020. The State Department of Mental Health has tentatively approved this. They are moving forward with this project and looking to see how they can receive the remaining \$1,000,000. There is no certificate of need required. All they will need is the license and that should not be a problem. CFVHS has psychologist and psychiatrist that live in the Betsy Johnson Hospital area that will staff this unit. This unit is for

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Ages 12-17. There are rules that you can't mix patients that are ages 11 and younger with patients ages 12 and older. Doug Taggart asked if having the unit in Dunn will qualify for a Rural area? Kirk Warner said that he thought that having the facility in Dunn could be considered as a Rural location and that we needed to consider that matter. So, the State of NC may be able to support this unit with a \$1,000,000 Grant if the location is considered Rural. This is great news. Dr. John Lesica, Womack Medical Center is very happy about this development because they have 20 patients per month that could use this inpatient facility. The Certificate of Need was waived by the General Assembly so all that is needed is a License. This is great for NC and certainly for the families at Fort Bragg. I think we need to take this to the Executive Steering Group and work with the Legislature. We need to find out who facilitates that Rural grant to see if we qualify for the grant.

CRAVEN COUNTY K-12 MILITARY CHILD REPORT: DR. MEGHAN DOYLE, SUPERINTENDENT:

Dr. Doyle presented on ReStart or ReDesign. There are good benefits of ReStart for all the schools in NC but most important for our schools that service military children. Dr. Doyle is a military child. Her father was a Marine and then became a teacher. Her mother worked for the Department of the Navy and then a school secretary. So, I have a desire to service military children.

Why RESTART? After No Child Left Behind, we had 4 options given to schools that were low performing and one of them was ReStart.

Legislation:

- NCGS 115C-105.37B: Reform of continually low-performing schools
- Option #2: ReStart Model: State Board of Education would authorize the local board of education to operate the school with the same exemptions from statutes and rules as a charter school authorized under Article 14A of this Chapter, or under the management of an educational management organization that has been selected through a rigorous review process. A school operated under this subdivision remains under the control of the local board of education, and employees assigned to the school are employees of the local school administrative unit with the protections provided by Part 3 of Article 22 of this Chapter.

They are still a public school but considered a ReStart school. A different management model which is mainly how they can spend the funding.

Doug Taggart said that Charter schools were started to allow for innovation. So, with this they received some flexibility that Public schools do not have. Dr. Doyle said, that is an issue with Public schools that they don't had the opportunity for innovation. With ReStart, they have been allowed to see what is possible for our schools and especially those that need assistance.

The state has 3 State funding types. There is local funding, which is general and they receive a pot of funds from the County Commissioner. They can spend that based on how we budgeted those funds. The second is NC State funding, which is approximately 75-80% of the total funding depending on the school district. Third you have federal funding, which is the Title I dollars. There are 3 mechanisms for State funding. They are the Positions, Months of Employment and Dollar Allotments. You must spend those dollars for those purposes. If you don't spend those dollars for those purposes the funds can be

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reverted. This can create a lot of management issues. This is a huge challenge.

**North Carolina Public School Funding:**

- Positions
  - Teachers
  - Principals
- Months of Employment
  - Assistant Principals
  - Career and Technical Education Teachers
- Dollar Allotments
  - Central Office Administration
  - Non-Instructional Support
  - Summer Reading Camps
  - Mentor
  - Disadvantaged Students Supplemental Funding (DSSF)
  - Teacher Assistants
  - Staff Development
  - Behavioral Support
  - Low Wealth Supplemental Funding
  - Literacy Coaches
  - Limited English Proficient
  - HS Learn and Earn
  - Transportation
  - Classroom Instructional Supplies
  - EC Special Program Funds
  - At-Risk Student Services
  - Improving Student Accountability
  - School Connectivity

**North Carolina Allotment Policy Manual:**

This document sets forth every rule for how we can spend every dollar of state funds. The Superintendent, Finance Officer and Principals need to know this information. A concern is with the Assistant Principals. There is not enough funding to fund the number of Assistant Principals needed. We must re-purpose dollars. So, then we use funding from our local dollars or the re-purposing of At-Risk dollars.

- 2016-2017 Allotment Policy Manual is most recent version
- 160 Page document that changes based on North Carolina General Statute
- Months of Employment Allotment
  - Assistant Principals: page 64
  - One month of employment per 98.53 allotted ADM rounded to the nearest whole month. The total months are then multiplied by the LEA's average monthly salary (based on prior year 6<sup>th</sup> pay period plus LI) plus benefits.

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- EXAMPLE: New Bern High School
  - ADM (Average Daily Membership) 1715
  - $1715/98.53 = 17.40$  months of employment
    - 1 12-Month Assistant Principal
    - 5.4 Month remain
  - Actual Allotment = 45 months of employment (1 12 Month, 3 11- Month)
  - 27.6 Months paid with local funds or with the flexibility of other state funds.

A concern is with the Assistant Principals. There is not enough funding to support the number of Assistant Principals needed. So, we re-purpose dollars. So, then we use funding from our local dollars or the re-purposing of At-Risk dollars. We currently have 4 Assistant Principals at New Bern High School. This is an example of how this is a challenge for educators. The great part of ReStart is that the funding that funding comes in one lump sum and the Principal can decide how that funding will be spent. That is very powerful and helpful for that Principal.

#### ReStart or ReDESIGN

Top 3 Soft Skills Employees Need:

Taken from: Why Soft Skills Matter And The Top 3 You Need by Jan Bruce in Forbes Magazine (March 2017)

1. Problem Solving
2. Emotion Control
3. Purpose

#### ReStart or ReDESIGN: Transformation

The challenge for our schools. There is a gap between School Improvement and Technology. The rate of change for this gap is increasing through the years. The speed of School Improvement is much more linear than what Technology is doing. This is not just for Public Education but for all Education systems. We all have the same challenges.

Craven Count Schools Historical Enrollment: Graph. We have seen a dip in enrollment due to our birth rate and the draw-down of a couple of significant units at Air Station, Cherry Point. That draw-down is going to change with the new unit that will be coming and based at Cherry Point.

#### Schools "Kill" Creativity? Video on TED.com

Do School Kill creativity by Sir Ken Robinson. He is an educator from Great Britain who says that we have done a lot with Standardized testing to train children how to be professors and that is a very narrow job field. We are only training them to be academics. Academics is not the predominate job in NC.

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**Restart School Flexibility Options:**

- Evaluations not governed by the state
- Licensure requirements
- Leave
- School Improvement Planning
- Read to Achieve
- Teacher certification
- School Day
- Teacher compensation
- Class size
- Promotion and Retention
- School Calendar

The NC Status for public schools is about a 1 ½ inches thick and the charter school are a pamphlet. There are some significant areas of flexibility with ReStart. The biggest is with the school calendar. We will be adding time during the summer to help with the summer learning loss. We can choose a new teacher evaluation system. Licensure requirements, 50 % licensed and 50% not licensed. This can fit the needs of the school better. We also use the funding for Professional Development for the teachers. The teachers in NC have had little to no professional development in many years.

**Roger Bell New Tech Academy: New Tech Network (Cherry Point)**

The model for this school will be a problem and project learning model. This model will create problem solvers. Our students need that skill. They will be the first New Tech Academy in NC. This will cost us about \$100,000 in professional development and coaching for our teachers in the first year. This will come from the flexibility of the ReStart funding. I am getting a lot of questions on why can't we do this for all elementary school and all school in the district? These children deserve to go to a middle school that is New Tech and a high school is New Tech. We need to fix this problem.

**Oak Road Academy: Marzano Academies**

The model for this school will be leadership development. To be leaders and understand what it means to be a leader. Also, to go to college. This community population is under represented in college. They want the American Dream for their children. This will be the first Marzano Academy in NC and the second in the nation. Mr. Bob Marzano will give professional development to our teachers. Similar investments for strategic professional development and coaching of our teachers. The flexibility of the funding is huge.

I have 23 % of my students who are military connected and I have another group of students who are very transient because of their economic situation. My students need us to be the best we can be each day. We can't do that until we have true flexibility that we need to be able to provide the professional development to grow the teachers who are going to grow our students. Any work that this committee can do to add more flexibility to our work, I am on board to help with those efforts. I think the General Assembly wants to provide a lot of choices to NC students. Dr. Doyle said that there is a group of Superintendents that get together to work on innovation within the parameter that they are

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given. That team is called The Innovation Projects (TIP). A lot of ReStart has come out of the 25 Superintendents that are a member of TIP. I will bring that request to that group to see what we can develop such as a white paper. Another request is that we slow the General Assembly down on making small changes that become very large issues and spend a lot of time on those matters. Tony Stimatz said that the NCMAC has grant funding that may be able to help with some of these issues under the NCMAC goals, Help the Community to Improve. Doug Taggart said that we may want TIP to make a presentation to this group. Dr. Doyle said that she is on the TIP board or the Executive Director. Tony Stimatz asked what happens when the school succeeds? Do they have to go back to the old model? Dr. Doyle said that they have done a lot of work with their community and there would be an uprising. The students, parents, and community members all very invested in this process. Tony Stimatz asked what does the law state and Dr. Doyle said that there is some gray area. We have ReStart status forever. Tony Stimatz said that maybe we need to fail all of schools and go into ReStart. Then we can circumvent the law. Dr. Doyle said that this is not good for the children. Valerie Nasser said that at the Military Impacted Superintendents meeting we asked why is it a penalty and not a choice. Dr. Doyle said that some of the changes they are making can be done at every school but the biggest change is the professional development. Doug Taggart asked Dr. Doyle what are the top 3 flexibility items in ReStart.

Dr. Doyle said that the Top 3 are Professional Development for teachers, Calendar Flexibility and Licensure for Teachers. Doug Taggart asked what Calendar Flexibility means to her. Dr. Doyle said that we want more instructional days. Doug Taggart said that there is a start date, end date and minimum number of instructional hours. Which one of those would you like to see changed? Dr. Doyle said the start and end date. Dr. Doyle said that she appreciated the time to speak to this group.

MILITARY IMPACTED SUPERINTENDENTS MEETING: JAMIE LIVENGOOD AND VALERIE NASSER

This meeting was a great meeting with a lot of good ideas shared by the Superintendents or their representative that attended. There were 11 school systems invited and 8 school systems attend. There were 5 Superintendents and 3 designees.

Doug Taggart;

Grouped this information into 3 categories:

State Level Priorities:

Issues solvable by the General Assembly

Issues solvable by the agency action DPI

LEA level priorities (General input across the school systems)

Military Family priorities and this information was given by Rollie Sampson, Moore County School System.

The Military Impacted Funding idea did not seem to be realistic to the leadership at Department of Public Instruction (DPI). DPI wants to make sure that the formula included a weigh for military communities was a part of the funding formula for schools and is working on that effort. The DPI leadership is very supportive of a State initiative to focus to support military connected students. Doug Taggart received an item that has been submitted as part of the budget for DPI. This is going to cover 1 additional Regional Military Counselor Cumberland and 1 additional Regional Military Counselor Onslow

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County. The Calendar Flexibility is also in there to allow school calendar flexibility in the Local Education Agency (LEA) with the highest military connected population to allow increased school years to benefit the transient military population. Currently Craven and Wayne County are not included in the Counselor increase. Also, to provide a resource at the state level to support schools which means having someone at the state level, a full-time employee who supports the military connected students and provides professional educations.

Best Practices that we received from the meeting.

Tarheel Challenge Academy funding. This was added by Chloe Gossage after conversations that she has had.

Valerie Nasser and Jamie Livengood discussed the information at the Military Impacted Superintendents Meeting

Major Topics Discussed:

Military Child Education Act  
Military Impacted School Fund  
MIC3/Interstate Compact  
Remote Registration  
Calendar Flexibility  
School Zone Flexibility

Jamie Livengood said that we are seeing legislation introduced in DC reference Impact Aid on a National Level. Impact Aid is reimbursing dollars that we receive in our districts for the lost tax revenue dollars where our Installations are housed. Last year the state of NC received approximately \$14 Million in Impact Aid for the state. If this legislation that is currently being introduced is passed, then we would no longer receive those dollars for our education system. This legislation would recommend that the dollars are put into an education saving account that would follow the military child. There is a lot of information on this topic that we receive on a weekly basis. The non-profit groups that work in advocacy for military families are against this legislation proposal. This is a very hot topic and from an advocacy standpoint, and talking to our contingency in DC, this is not a good thing for NC. Valerie Nasser said that as it trickles down to the state level, if the impact aid does go away, the military impacted communities will need some other source of funding for public school from the military students. We think that the NCMAC needs to be aware of this topic. Valerie Nasser said that the items that we can work on immediately are Remote Registration, Calendar Flexibility, and School Zone Flexibility. The School Zone Flexibility is when there is a ReStart school or if a family moves in and they want to live in base housing but choose not to go to the school on base, they can have some choice as to what school they select in that district. I think that we are moving in that direction as we have schools like the Marzano Academy and New Tech Academy that are student specific. We may need to have a policy that states that our military families have School Zone Flexibility. This is law in GA, parts of LA and AL.

Doug Taggart commented on the following topics:

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- Military impacted school funds – The State Superintendent would like a military weighed formula of some type in school funding allotment.
- MIC3 Training on the Interstate Compact: This would be the responsibility of the new hire for DPI.
- Remote Registration: This is supported by the Superintendent's office. This Bill has been drafted but not introduced yet.
- Calendar Flexibility:

Jamie Livengood said that some of our military installations are small in nature compared to Cumberland or Onslow County systems. When we are talking about doing the right things for military children, we need to consider all our military installations and look at these items through the Military Lens.

Valarie Nasser talked about the Military Friendly Schools as a state program. This is a program in OH, VA, and AR. This award/recognition can be put on the School Report Card for the families to see when they are looking at schools as they Permanent Change of Station (PCS). Kirk Warner said that he would like to see this put into a report format with a couple of power point slides. This could include the military child identifier update. Kirk Warner also said that we need to determine how we package Dr. Doyle's presentation but he thinks that is a stand-alone presentation. That presentation may need to be presented at the Aug NCMAC. Kirk Warner said that he will request time for a presentation on the Superintendents Meeting information. It could be 10-15 minutes. The presentation needs to information the NCMAC that these items are what we need to have on our radar moving forward. These are the topics that are occurring and here are potential solutions that we can support or drive. Doug Taggart said that he received information from MCEC and one slide from that may need to be included. He also received update information Defense Manpower Data Center. This information is from October 2017. Military Connected Children ages 5-18; Active Duty 44,141; Guard and Reserve 18,057. This information is from the DEERS enrollment information.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION (DPI): DOUG TAGGART

Doug Taggart presented for DPI an update from the department.

- Troops to Teachers. He is revising his grant proposal and then will resubmit the paperwork. This will be for a 5-year Grant.
- Military Child Identifier update. Will need to review new numbers and update at next meeting
- American Council of Education Meeting Follow-up. No new information.
- State Funding for Schools – discussed need to create weighting factor for military schools. This is being considered by DPI leadership.
- Course waiver program – working on how to use "Power-School" software program to implement.

OTHER BUSINESS: KIRK WARNER

Senate Bill 761 update, dated April 24, 2018 Handout by Charles Gross. At the last NCMAC we discussed this topic and the last update we had received was from Feb, 2017. This committee is the Military Credit Advisory Council (MCAC). Please read the highlighted portion on page 2.



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Here is an excerpt from Page 2 of the handout “To date, 63 separate military occupation skill levels have been evaluated by faculty panels. Based on these evaluations, faculty member evaluators have recommended the awarding of 3851 lower and upper level semester credit hours.” This is great information. They continue to meet and have updates on their progress. Next steps: UNC and NCCC SB 761 implementation project managers will be working with UNC System office IT personnel to move credit decisions made by faculty members into the UNC Equivalency Finder transfer tool, so that they may be easily accessed and understood by veteran students and those who support them. Anticipated initiation time for this project phase is summer 2018. This information will also be shared with the Economic Development Affairs committee.

Reserve Component Council meets quarterly and is led by MG Greg Lusk, Adjutant General for the North Carolina National Guard. This is attended by all services and they discuss issues that pertain to them. Doug Taggart said that a challenge for him is advertising to Reserve units for Troops to Teacher information. This could be a good avenue to share information.

Army Futures Command (AFC): Army Futures command location narrowed. Raleigh is one of the finalist for the AFC locations. We will continue to monitor this information.

Tony Stimatz talked about Literature search data collection on Quality of Life issues at the Command level. Are their surveys being completed at bases about these issues that we can use the information from the surveys? Should there be plan to gather that data? How can we use this data to best direct our efforts? Kirk Warner said that about 1 year ago we reached out to the Commanders Council about this topic and they took it as a Command Climate Survey. We have been trying to find out the National data that is out there and what other surveys are being done by installation management. We need to re-visit this topic. Doug Taggart said that Gold Star Families does a survey for QOL. Valerie Nasser said that Penn State has a clearinghouse that does literature reviews for military impacted communities. She will share this information to the QOL committee.

**NEW BUISNESS: KIRK WARNER**

Legislative Initiatives: The committees are being asked to submit any legislative ideas.

--Remote Registration - Policy Development

--Calendar Flexibility

--School Zone Policy - The School Zone Flexibility is when there is a ReStart school or if a family moves in and they want to live in base housing but choose not to go to the school on base, they can have some choice as to what school they select in that district.

--Funding for Remote Registration - IT system support in all 100 counties.

--Child Crisis Stabilization Unit Funding - follow up to ensure additional \$1M is provided.

Kirk Warner said that the Legislative Committee doesn't necessarily meet each quarter unless there is a tasker. Our taskers are this types of information.

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NCMAC agenda items planned from QOL

- Superintendents meeting – 10-15 minutes
- Dr. Doyle's presentation – Aug meeting

Tony Stimatz said that we need a battle plan on how we tackle education. We need the Commission members to be aware of this. The NCMAC does not have to develop the plan but we need to encourage the group that will develop the battle plan. We need to start with the Top 3 criteria that we heard from Dr. Doyle.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

No public comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Chairman Warner asked for a motion to adjourn. Bill Hatcher motioned to adjourn and Julie Daniels seconded the motion. Chairman Warner adjourned the meeting at 12:10 pm.