

Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission
Commission Meeting

Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2010

**Room 680, Truman State Office Building
Jefferson City, MO 6510
September 8, 2010**

Meeting Minutes

Members Attending: Dalton Wright, Chair; Jeff Bloemker; Representative Scott Largent; Senator Bill Stouffer; Kent Thomas; Bob Welling; Representative Terry L. Witte, Vice Chair; Larry Kay, Executive Director, MO Veterans Commission; and Katie Steele Danner, Department of Economic Development, Designee.

Others attending: Dr. Judene Blackburn, Superintendent, Waynesville School District; Cindy Hall, Senator McCaskill's Office; Melissa Quantock, Fort Leonard Wood Liaison; Dr. Annie Sobel, University of Missouri; and Sherry L. Anderson, Department of Economic Development, Boards and Commissions Liaison.

Guests: Dr. Maggie Anderson, Superintendent, Knob Noster Schools; Tony Bamvakais, MONG.TAG; Colonel Gary D. Gilmore, Chaplain, Chief, Spiritual & Emotional Resiliency, MIL NG MOARNG; Stanley K. Hall, Mayor, Knob Noster; John W. Hays, Knob Noster R-8 Schools; Marty Harrison, Knob Noster; Barbara Krause, Knob Noster; Captain Robin Markham, MONAG.TAG; Chi Anne McGrew, School Liaison Officer, Whiteman Air Force Base; Patty Sellers, Knob Noster; David B. Snodgrass, Office of the Army; and Colonel Charles A. Williams, Garrison Commander, Fort Leonard Wood.

Chair Wright opened the meeting and asked attendees to introduce themselves.

Chair Wright announced that the July 14th MMPEC Meeting minutes will be sent to members at a later date.

Commission Business Meeting-Old Business

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Ms. Danner announced the 2011 assessment for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children will be paid by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). A motion was made by Ms. Danner and seconded by Kent Thomas requesting that a memorandum of understanding be created between MMPEC and DESE regarding the assessment requirements as a based upon installations concerning the state's participation in, and compliance with, this compact and Interstate Commission activities.

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Military Personnel Suicide Prevention

Colonel Charles A. Williams, Garrison Commander, Fort Leonard Wood

Presented an overview of the Army's Health Promotion, Risk Reduction and Suicide Prevention 9HP/RR/SP) Report which is the result of a focused 15-month effort to better understand the high risk behavior and suicides in the Army. It represents the next phase in the Army's ongoing campaign to promote resiliency in a Force that has been engaged in persistent conflict for almost a decade. The Report describes the Army's approach to health promotion, risk reduction and suicide prevention to include a broad, holistic approach that focuses on high risk behaviors. It outlines a need to build resiliency, develop coping skills and promote help-seeking behavior. The Report is a candid assessment intended to inform and educate Army leaders at all levels on the importance of recognizing and reducing high risk behavior related to suicide and accidental deaths, while reducing the stigma associated with behavioral health and treatment.

Chapter 3, The Lost Art of Leadership in Garrison, provides a candid, introspective review of an increasing sub-population of Soldiers who engage in high risk behavior. This chapter provides statistics on crime, drug/alcohol use, recruiting waivers, separations, suicide attempts, etc. to illustrate a small sub-population of Soldiers who engage in high risk behavior. The Army will staff the Report's recommendations for senior Army leadership consideration through its HQDA Health Promotion Council with feedback from Army commands.

Col. Williams stated General David Quantock's (Commanding General-Fort Leonard Wood) priorities are:

- Training preparation for the fight
- Support for those in the fight
- Take care of families and improve the quality of life for our community

Col. Williams reiterated that the General had expressed that he, as the Commander owes his men the following:

- Establish a nurturing command climate
- Continue to improve the quality of life of our community – A Community of Excellence
- Set the example for ethical and moral conduct
- Set a climate that empowers

Col. Williams emphasized this is not "your dad's Army" and the philosophy is to build stronger warriors, leaders and families and forces – one person at a time, and it is important to be able to identify the high-risk soldier early in the training process. One of the important ways the United States military ensures that its men and women are prepared to fight and win wars is to provide quality support services including mental health service.

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Dr. Annie Sobel, University of Missouri, Adjunct Professor in Family & Community Medicine

Dr. Sobel presented information to the Commission about the study and research performed by Lincoln University and sponsored by the Leonard Wood Institute in cooperation with the U.S. Army Research Laboratory. One of the individual projects of the study was to develop a training tool for the identification of PTSD in Peers by Dr. Ablo Bah, PI, Fourth Year Suicide/PTDS Study.

An interactive DVD for education in the areas of suicide awareness, suicide prevention and the maintenance of mental health, and it is estimated that 2,000,000 + Army soldiers and civilian personnel have been trained using this video (Mandatory training February and March 2009).

The program was developed to facilitate the identification of behavioral symptoms associated with PTSD, and subsequent referral to a unit leader, chaplain or mental health professional can improve soldier mental health and readiness. The Army acknowledged a link between the war and suicide because long and multiple combat deployments can fracture personal relationships. Broken relationships are a leading cause of suicides.

Dr. Sobel announced that the University Extension System, with 400 extension sites, is working on a project that will be launched in the spring 2011. Missouri is taking the lead in increasing awareness of behavioral health, health, and family support needs of military personnel and military families. This project is the first of its kind that partners the community and the National Guard to create opportunities to mainstream military personnel to civilian life and examine the particular stressors faced by this population and their families and how it impacts society as a whole. The project purpose is to enhance quality of life for National Guard members, their families, and the communities in which they live and to establish and facilitate ongoing communication, involvement, support and recognition between National Guard families and the National Guard in a partnership that promotes the best in both.

Dr. Sobel outlined the Military Kids initiative, a partnership of Army Child and Youth Services, USDA National 4-H Headquarters and the University of Missouri Extension 4-H Program. Missouri partners include the Missouri National Guard, Army Reserve, Marine Corps and Reserves, Navy Reserves, American Legion Auxiliary, VFW Auxiliary, Boys and Girls Clubs, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Children are encouraged to join 4-H clubs and other organizations in their communities. Military Kids has resources for parents, schools and community organizations to foster resiliency in military children. There are children in every county of Missouri who have been affected by loved ones being deployed. There are military 4-H clubs at Fort Leonard Wood and Whiteman Air Force Base.

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Ms. Danner added 4-H clubs and Extension serve those children whose parents are serving in the National Guard and Reserve and live in communities with little or no military presence.

Colonel Gary D. Gilmore, Chaplain, Chief, Spiritual & Emotional Resiliency, Missouri National Guard

Chaplain Gilmore stated the use of the Guard and Reserve for overseas deployment has steadily increased and previous research on how deployments affect the National Guard (NG) on family and quality-of-life issues may not be relevant. Chaplain Gilmore stated that the NG is utilizing a holistic approach in supporting the citizen soldier that focuses on incorporating the family because without the family members standing by the National Guard member, a successful National Guard does not exist.

Chaplain Gilmore stated as the NG member psychologically prepares for deployment, he or she focuses on the mission and their unit. Bonding with their fellow service members is essential to unit cohesion, but this may create emotional distance within the marriage. When the NG member and spouse must repeatedly create emotional “distance”, they may gradually shut down their emotions. In his counseling experience as a NG Chaplain, he believes his role has become one of a gatekeeper as well as a spiritual leader. The emotions they may be experiencing during cycles of deployment are a normal reaction to an abnormal situation unique to the military, but they don’t have to go it alone and there many resources available to help the NG member.

Tony Bamvakais, MONG.TAG

Mr. Bamvakais stated that no topic is more important to General Danner than suicide prevention. He believes that every Guard and Family member is equally important and an extremely valuable asset to the NG organization and the organization must take the necessary steps to care for the greatest resource this nation has to offer: our people.

Mr. Bamvakais added that General Danner believes that early intervention is important and to help identify those wounds, the Missouri National Guard’s state chaplain’s office and the Family program are working on making sure they are accessible resources for all Guardsmen at every armory and throughout the state. Working alongside the state chaplain’s office, the Family program office and other resources, the NG is making a concerted effort to ensure Soldiers and Airmen receive training and education on the signs and symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder and depression.

Dr. Sobel stated that Missouri has taken the lead in identifying deficiencies in the traditional behavioral health and mental health treatment for veterans and military families and she announced that the University of Missouri School of Social Work is sponsoring a meeting, “Meeting the Needs of Veterans & Military Families: A Summit for Health & Human Service Professionals,” on November 12 in Columbia. The summit will discuss efforts to increase outreach services and support to the civilian spouses of military members and veterans, and

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identifying service integration to improve the deployment cycle, transition, and reintegration of service members and their families.

Col. Williams added the Pentagon has always been focused on the physical training but they now realize that the mental health of the Soldier is equally important. Col. Williams emphasized that TriWest Healthcare Alliance offers behavioral health programs for military families who find themselves living through stressful and difficult situations and may need an experienced professional to talk to, behavioral health counseling, medical treatment, or some additional support resources to help them through a challenging time.

Col. Williams stated he believes the success of the New York Fire Department program, post 9/11, is because it covers any provider without pre-approval for mental health services. The police and fire departments hired peer counselors who were retired firefighters and police officers to provide outreach and help de-stigmatize counseling, and to reassure members of the anonymity.

Advisory Members

Dr. Sobel announced that *The Wall That Heals*, a replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall, will be on display September 30 through October 3 in Blue Springs. Also, in Blue Springs on October 1, at the Mizzou Center, the University will be conducting programs throughout the day on *Internet Safety for Military Families*. The sessions will cover everything families need to know to be safe on-line, and about the threats to kids on-line and what some of the most important personal safety steps kids can do to keep themselves safe.

Melissa Quantock, Fort Leonard Wood Liaison, announced the 3rd Annual Gold Star Mothers Memorial Marathon, sponsored by the Military Police Corps, was a huge success with 2, 000 runners participating.

Katie Steele Danner, DED Designee, announced the Governor's Economic Development Conference is scheduled September 15-17 at the Hyatt Crown Center, Kansas City. The Opening Speaker for the Conference is Gary Forsee, president of the four-campus University of Missouri System and the Keynote Speaker is Alan Mulally, president and chief executive officer of Ford Motor Company.

Ms. Danner also announced the Department will be conducting six Regional Planning Forums (Governor's Initiative for Economic Growth) around the state beginning September 21 through September 24. The forums will be in Jefferson City, Kansas City, Kirksville, Poplar Bluff, Springfield and St. Louis. The participants of the forums are comprised of business, education, economic development, and labor leaders and will provide input and comment on key strategies and tactical plans for the state and their region.

2010 MMPEC Annual Report

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Chair Wright reminded the members of the December 31, 2010 deadline and requested that each group organization begin submitting their reports and pictures as soon as possible, preferably in early November. The members reviewed the 2009 MMPEC Annual Report to assist in the formulation of the 2010 Report.

Discussion began with the review of the 2009 Recommendations for Legislative Actions on page 21:

- 1) Put in the 2010 Report
- 2) Mission Essential:

Discussion-Chair Wright and Mr. Bloemker met with the leaders and the superintendent of Knob Noster schools to discuss the angst over House Bill 2332, the Mission Essential Personnel residency legislation. The members of the Knob Noster delegation were very concerned the legislation was portraying the Knob Noster schools as substandard especially to new people moving into the school district. They also expressed their shock that it was an issue within the Whiteman community and the Air Force leadership because it had not been formally addressed at their community council meetings. The members of the Knob Noster group suggested they would be reaching out to the new WAF Base Wing Commander and suggested the two school districts meet together to address the concerns of the Mission Essential Personnel school residency issue.

Mr. Bloemker stated that after meeting with the Knob Noster group, he contacted the Senate research staff for advice regarding the best way to address the mission essential issue and he distributed a copy of suggested legislative language.

A motion was made by Mr. Bloemker and seconded by Senator Barnitz to strike the following language and replace it with the following language to be considered as a legislative recommendation in the 2010 MMPEC Annual Report:

Strike

“2) Enact legislation which provides that when a residence waiver under Section 167.020 RSMo has been granted for a child or children of a military parent required to live on a military installation because deemed ‘mission essential,’ the State of Missouri Aid allocable for such child or children shall be paid to the school district where that child or those children are in actual attendance even though their physical residence is in another school district; 3) Amend Section 167.020 RSMo to provide that ‘good cause’ for a residence waiver shall include a circumstance where a military parent is deemed ‘mission essential’ and required to live on a military installation;”

Replace

The Commission recognizes the importance of minimizing school disruption for military children during transition and deployment. Therefore, the Commission

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supports the authority of the local school districts to determine the best education plan for all children, including children of military mission essential personnel, on a case-by-case basis. To that end, MMPEC supports the creation of an "enrollment option plan" under Sections 162.1040 to Section 162.1059 to allow for the flow of State foundation funding between participating school districts.

Mr. Welling stated he had spoken with the new Wing Commander and he had asked for Mr. Welling's assistance with this issue. Mr. Welling asked the MMPEC members to postpone approving a legislative recommendation on this issue until he has been able to meet with the General.

Senator Stouffer stated that in his estimation it will be extremely difficult and almost impossible to pass this type of legislation because you are trying to apply logic to an emotional issue. Representative Largent concurred with Senator Stouffer's statement and stated that it should remain a local school district issue and the state should not get involved.

Chair Wright stated MMPEC members, advisory members, the military communities, Congressman Ike Skelton and Senator Christopher Bond have worked tirelessly to BRAC proof our military installations and to create a military-friendly state. The dust-up that has been created within the Whiteman-Knob Noster area has not gone unnoticed by the Department of Defense and we all should be concerned about the State's image. He further stated that it is imperative that the new Wing Commander and Dr. Anderson be able to this issue on a path with a positive outcome because the alternative could be devastating to the local economy and to the State. Whiteman is a small Base covering only 10,000 acres and it could be easily moved to another state where they have laws that are more accommodating for military personnel and their families.

A motion was made by Senator Stouffer and seconded by Mr. Bloemker to table the motion and discuss it later. Motion carries.

2010 MMPEC Annual Report

The Commission continued with its review of MMPEC 2009 Annual Report-Legislative Recommendations to be considered for MMPEC 2010 Annual Report-Legislative Recommendations:

- (3) Table for further discussion
- (4) Leave in and propose a memorandum of understanding between DESE and MMPEC to fund the participation.
- (5) Put in the 2010 Report

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- (6) Put in the 2010 Report
- (7) Put in the 2010 Report with additional language stating seeking private funding sources to supplement the State's \$1.00 share.
- (8) Add to the 2010 Report: **Ms. Danner** recommended that MMPEC include in its 2010 MMPEC Legislative Recommendations language regarding the "Good Samaritan Law" and its application to rendering of emergency care or assistance with regard to a military incident. The Good Samaritan Act would be applicable to unorganized militia volunteers who are licensed by the State of Missouri as health care professionals.
- (9) Add to the 2010 Report: Extend the Military Relief Fund tax refund to sunset August 28, 2011.
- (10) Add to the 2010 Report: Increase access to quality, affordable childcare for military families.

Senator Stouffer requested that the Commission members take up the tabled motion. Mr. Bloemker requested the members allow him to withdraw the proposed language regarding "enrollment option plan" and consider the following new language:

The Commission recognizes the importance of minimizing school disruption for military children during transition and deployment. Therefore, the Commission supports the authority of the local school districts to determine the best education plan for all children, including children of military mission essential personnel, on a case-by-case basis. When such case warrants, MMPEC encourages the local school districts to establish an "enrollment option plan" under existing state law (Section 162.1040 to 162.1059) to allow for the flow of the State School Foundation funding between participating school districts.

A motion to include the new legislative language in the 2010 Report was approved.

Discussion continued about the 2010 Annual Report and its content. The consensus was as follows:

- Page 2: MMPEC Commission Members to the Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and to President Pro Tem of the Senate-**Update Information**
- Page 3: Table of Contents- **Update Information**
- Page 4: Introduction- **Update Information**
- Page 5: Membership- **Update Information**
- Page 6: Meetings- **Update Information**
Military Presence in Missouri- **Update Information (Roger Layman)**
- Page 7: National Guard- **Update Information**
Rosecrans- **Update Information**

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Page 8:	Fort Leonard Wood- Update Information
Page 9	Fort Leonard Wood Tech Park- Update Information (Joe Driskill)
Page 10	Whiteman Air Force Base- Update Information (Matt Miller)
Page 11	Missouri Veterans Commission- Update Information (General Kay)
Pages 12, 13, 14, 15, 16 & 17	“The Global Strike Command Headquarters”- Delete
Page 17	Department of Defense Impact in Missouri- Update Information (MERIC-Ms. Danner and Dr. Sobel)
Page 18	Federal Impact Aid to Missouri Schools- Update Information (Dr. Judene Blackburn)
Page 19	Interstate Compact of Educational Opportunities for Military Children- Keep
Page 21	Recommendations for Legislative Action- Update Information
Page 22	Recommendations for Other State Action- Update Information <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Appoint members to State Board of Education with military background- Continue Efforts (Ms. Danner)2. Continue effort with respect to encroachment of military posts and bases- Continue Efforts3. MSHSAA-Move to Legacy4. School District-children of Military Personnel and National Guard and Reserves- Continue Efforts (Ms. Danner and Dr. Blackburn)5. Encourage local school districts to join Military Children Coalition- Continue Efforts6. DESE Interactive Counseling Center-Continue Efforts7. Available resources for children struggling in schools-Continue Efforts8. Promotion of the Missouri “Troops to Teachers” program-Continue Efforts- List in Legacy-Add to MMPEC Website9. Access to MO Division of Workforce Development- Continue Efforts10. Memorandum of Agreement-Remove11. Power of 11 cents Campaign-Continue Efforts12. Suicide prevention push out to communities-Add (Dr. Sobel and LWI, Joe Driskill)
Page 23	Web Links- Update Information and Continue Efforts
Page 24	Other Online Resources- Update Information-Add Troops to Teachers

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Pages 25, 26 & 27 Commission Legacy- **Update Information**

Back Page Keep

New Business

Chair Wright welcomed Dr. Margaret Anderson, Superintendant of Knob Noster School District, Stanley K. Hall, Mayor of Knob Noster, John W. Hays, Knob Noster Schools, Marty Harrison, Knob Noster, Barbara Krause, Knob Noster, and Patty Sellers, Knob Noster, to the MMPEC meeting. Dr. Anderson was invited by Chair Wright to meet with MMPEC members to discuss her concerns and the Knob Noster community's concerns regarding the best education plan for children of military mission essential personnel.

Dr. Anderson read the following statement regarding MMPEC's support of the "Mission Essential Personnel" legislative proposal to change residential requirements and allow students of "Mission Essential Personnel" at Whiteman to attend other schools:

The legislation would take students away from the Knob Noster School District. The Knob Noster R-VIII School District is an outstanding district. The district has been Accredited with Distinction every year since Dr. Anderson has been there.

This year Knob Noster School District is one of few districts where no school is on the School Improvement list. Few districts can make that claim. In a recent copy of Ingram, Knob Noster ranks 14th in the List of the Top Area School Districts (ranked by Average ACT Scores). The class sizes are at or below State desirable levels. Over 70% of the Knob Noster students go on to college.

This district is proud of the instructional technology that integrated into all classrooms. Classrooms are equipped with Smart boards, elementary school students use PDAs and the High School has a one-to-one laptop program that is unique in the State. The Air Force is a high tech place and the Knob Noster school administrators and teachers want our students to experience that environment in the schools.

Last year we heard that this Open Enrollment proposal for students of military essential personnel does not mean that Knob Noster Schools are not good --- but the Knob Noster community doesn't see how it could be interpreted otherwise.

In Missouri, Open Enrollment is the penalty for districts that do not make Adequate Yearly Progress on State Assessments. Open Enrollment is an option for students who are not learning in their current schools --- that is not true of

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Knob Noster, but if MMPEC's legislation passes that is what people will believe.

Any organization is dependent on its reputation. So it is with our schools. For many years Knob Noster has provided an excellent education. But we have done it without much "hoopla." Maybe that was our mistake.

We have done what was expected --- provide an excellent education to our students. Our faculty gets to work, teaches students and puts families and students first. We hire teachers, counselors and administrators who have military experience or who are familiar with the challenges of military life. An officer from the Base serves on the School Board and provides input on matters impacting military families.

Your list of Top Ten Initiatives includes addressing the needs of students during school transitions and deployment. The list also includes employment for spouses. Knob Noster does those things deliberately and intentionally.

With over 60% of our students having some military connection, addressing those needs is our primary focus. However, when a situation arises that requires special treatment, we work with other schools to provide appropriate placement on an individual basis. In those situations Knob Noster pays tuition to the district providing the education.

Our reputation is very important to us and this proposal MMPEC is supporting is hurtful and harmful to our school district and community. It has caused discord between school districts and communities where none existed previously. In addition, it has implications for the whole state.

We ask that you reconsider your support of Open Enrollment this legislative session. We ask that you allow our school district to do what it has done very well for many years and serve the students of the Knob Noster community and Whiteman Air Force Base.

Thank you.

Chair Wright thanked Dr. Anderson and the Knob Noster coalition for taking the time to attend the MMPEC meeting and reiterated what he has stated before, that he has heard nothing but good things about the Knob Noster school district and the issue is not about the competency of the Knob Noster school district.

Jeff Bloemker-Overview of Secretary Gates (U.S. Department of Defense) Announcement on Efficiencies Initiative

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Mr. Bloemker presented information to the Commission from a report from The Rhoads Group, a Washington, D.C. lobbying firm. The report *The BRAC Issue Brief-Department of Defense Authority to Close or Realign Installations Outside of the BRAC Process* outlines how the next phase of military facility closings will be accomplished.

Mr. Bloemker read the Brief's opening statement, a quote from Secretary Gates:

I've also authorized each of the military departments to consider consolidation or closure of excess bases and other facilities where appropriate. This is obviously a politically fraught topic. Currently, Congress has placed legal constraints on DOD's ability to close installations. But hard is not impossible, and I hope Congress will work with us to reduce unnecessary costs in this part of the defense enterprise.

Secretary Gates announced on August 9th a series of efficiency moves, including plans to eliminate the U.S. Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) in Norfolk, Virginia; the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Networks and Information Integration; and, the Joint Staff's J-6 directorate for Command, Control, Communications, and Computers (C4) systems. Secretary Gates has requested the Services explore plans to consolidate or close other bases and facilities in order to save money.

Opponents of the JFCOM move have claimed that the move would violate base closure statutes. Both this debate and the prospect of future consolidation actions have caused many to ask, "What is the Department of Defense's scope of authority for execution action in closing or realigning bases outside the BRAC process?"

One component of the BRAC process allows proposed base closure and realignment actions to become law unless both the House and Senate affirmatively disapprove of the recommendations. Even in the absence of a legislatively approved BRAC process, however, the Secretary of Defense still has the authority to propose and implement base consolidation actions subject to the requirements of 10 U.S.C. § 2687. This statute creates requirements for any Executive Branch proposal to close or realign military installations.

The Secretary can close any military installation on which less than 300 civilian personnel are authorized to be employed without invoking the requirements of 10 U.S.C. § 2687. While many military installations do have 300 or more authorized civilian positions, this authority can be targeted at smaller sites or scattered sites in the same geographic area.

Mr. Bloemker emphasized Missouri has been protected from base closings because of Missouri's Fourth District Congressman Ike Skelton, Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, and if the political landscape changes in November, Whiteman Air Force Base may be in jeopardy.

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Mr. Wright added to Mr. Bloemker's comments and concerns regarding the statement issued by Defense Secretary Gates and Missouri's ongoing challenges to maintain and successfully grow the military installations we presently have --- Whiteman Air Force Base (WAFB) and Fort Leonard Wood (FLW), with WAFB being the most vulnerable because it is the most portable. If Missouri would lose WAFB, it would have a profound economic impact not only to the Knob Noster/Warrensburg area but the State of Missouri.

Mr. Thomas voiced his concern about how local negative press can have a bad economic outcome not for a local community but for the whole state and gave a historical account of concerns. He stated at MMPEC's first meeting, the closure of the 131st Air NG Tactical Fighter Wing and removal of the unit from Lambert Field in St. Louis had just been announced. Everyone acted surprised, but it did not make sense and Mr. Thomas asked then TAG, King Sidwell, for additional background information. At the following meeting, General Sidwell showed the Commission a letter he had received from the Department of Air Force. Enclosed with the letter was a copy of a letter from the Mayor of St. Louis indicating the city needed additional space at Lambert Field and asking the Air Force to move the unit and what was played in the press was Mayor Slay telling the Air Force to "get off my airport" because he needed the space for hub expansion for TWA and American Airlines.

Mr. Thomas added the NG Fighter Wing, which had a long history in Missouri (unit of Charles Lindbergh), had been slated to be moved out of the state in part because of Mayor Slay's letter. Senator Bond and Congressman Skelton actively pressed the Air Force to devise a solution to preserve the 131st (250 personnel), one of the most experienced and proven Air Guard units in the country.

Dr. Anderson stated that is not about the money, it is about the students and their families and balancing the distribution of the IMPACT Aid. Dr. Anderson further stated she did not have a solution to solving the impasse.

Mr. Wright suggested that Dr. Anderson and a couple of MMPEC members meet with Mark Van Zandt, DESE's General Counsel, to discuss the MMPEC proposal and request feedback from the Missouri State Board of Education. Tentative dates to meet with DESE are October 4th or October 5th.

Tabled Motion

Senator Stouffer requested that the Commission members take up the tabled motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Bloemker and seconded by Senator Stouffer, to strike the proposed language regarding "enrollment option plan" in Draft 1 and replace it with the following:

The Commission recognizes the importance of minimizing school disruption for military children during transition and deployment. Therefore, the Commission

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supports the authority of the local school districts to determine the best education plan for all children, including children of military mission essential personnel, on a case-by-case basis. When such case warrants, MMPEC encourages the local school districts to establish an “enrollment option plan” under existing state law (Section 162.1040 to 162.1059) to allow for the flow of the State School Foundation funding between participating school districts.

The motion carried.

A motion was made Mr. Bloemker and seconded by Senator Stouffer to include the approved legislative proposal in the 2010 MMPEC Annual Report-Recommendations for Legislative Action. The motion was seconded by Senator Stouffer. The motion was approved by a roll call vote (5-1).

Meeting Announcement

The next MMPEC meeting will be a conference call on October 6th at 8:00 a.m.

Adjourn

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Bloemker and seconded by Rep. Largent to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved. Chairman Dalton Wright called the September 8, 2010 meeting adjourned.

Minutes Approved:

Chairman Dalton Wright

Date