ARTICLE 10

EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS AND COMPACTS

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2022, section 127A.70, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. Establishment; membership. (a) A P-20 education partnership is established to create a seamless system of education that maximizes achievements of all students, from early childhood through elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education, while promoting the efficient use of financial and human resources. The partnership shall consist of major statewide educational groups or constituencies or noneducational statewide organizations with a stated interest in P-20 education. The initial membership of the partnership includes the members serving on the Minnesota P-16 Education Partnership and four legislators appointed as follows:

(1) one senator from the majority party and one senator from the minority party, appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and

(2) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house and one member appointed by the minority leader of the house of representatives.

(b) The chair of the P-16 education partnership must convene the first meeting of the P-20 partnership. Prospective members may be nominated by any partnership member and new members will be added with the approval of a two-thirds majority of the partnership.

The partnership will also seek input from nonmember organizations whose expertise can help inform the partnership's work.
Sec. 2. [127A.82] MILITARY INTERSTATE CHILDREN'S COMPACT STATE COUNCIL.

Subdivision 1. Establishment; membership. (a) A Military Interstate Children's Compact State Council is established to provide for the coordination among state agencies, local education agencies, and military installations concerning the state's participation in, and in compliance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children established in section 127A.85, otherwise known as the Military Interstate Children's Compact, and Interstate Commission activities.

(b) Council membership must include at least:

(1) the commissioner;

(2) a superintendent, appointed by the commissioner, of a school district or charter school with a high concentration of military children;

(3) a representative from a military installation appointed by the adjutant general;

(4) one member of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house;

(5) one member of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and

(6) other offices and stakeholder groups the council deems appropriate.

If the commissioner determines there is not a school district deemed to contain a high concentration of military children, the commissioner may appoint a superintendent from another school district to represent local education agencies on the council.

(c) The council must appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of section 127A.85.

(d) The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact must be appointed by the commissioner.

(c) Partnership members shall be represented by the chief executives, presidents, or other formally designated leaders of their respective organizations, or their designees. The partnership shall meet at least three times during each calendar year.

(d) The P-20 education partnership shall be the state council for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children under section 127A.85 with the commissioner or commissioner's designee serving as the compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact. When conducting business required under section 127A.85, the P-20 partnership shall include a representative from a military installation appointed by the adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard.

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(5) one member of the senate appointed by the Subcommittee on Committees of the Committee on Rules and Administration; and

(6) other offices and stakeholder groups the council deems appropriate.

If the commissioner determines there is not a school district deemed to contain a high concentration of military children, the commissioner may appoint a superintendent from another school district to represent local education agencies on the council.

(c) The council must appoint or designate a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of section 127A.85.

(d) The compact commissioner responsible for the administration and management of the state's participation in the compact must be appointed by the commissioner.
Sec. 8. [127A.84] INTRASTATE STUDENT TRANSFERS FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS.

(a) Notwithstanding section 127A.85, article III, and for the purposes of intrastate student transfers between Minnesota public schools, the provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children in section 127A.85 apply to minor dependent children of members of the active and activated reserve components of the uniformed services, including but not limited to members of the Minnesota Army National Guard and the Minnesota Air National Guard.

(b) This section does not apply to interstate transfers between Minnesota public schools and public or private schools in other states.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the words defined in section 127A.85, article II, have the same meanings.

Sec. 9. [127A.853] PURPLE STAR SCHOOL DESIGNATION.

Subdivision 1. Definition. For purposes of this section, "military-connected student" means a student who has an immediate family member, including a parent or sibling, who (1) is currently a member of the armed forces serving as either a reservist or on active duty in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard; (2) is currently a member of the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex officio members of the council, unless either is already a full voting member of the council.

(f) Members of the council serve without compensation or payment of expenses.

Subd. 2. Powers and duties; report. (a) The council may develop recommendations to the governor and the legislature designed to facilitate successful educational transitions for children of military families under the compact.

(b) The commissioner must schedule and hold a meeting of the council no less than once per state fiscal year.

(c) The council must produce meeting agendas that are made publicly available before each meeting and maintain meeting minutes that are made publicly available once they are approved by the council.

(d) By January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the council shall submit a report to the governor and the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees and divisions with jurisdiction over kindergarten through grade 12 education policy and finance and military affairs that summarizes the council's progress in meeting its goals and identifies the need for any draft legislation to facilitate successful educational transitions for children of military families.

Sec. 3. [127A.84] INTRASTATE STUDENT TRANSFERS FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS.

(a) Notwithstanding section 127A.85, article III, and for the purposes of intrastate student transfers between Minnesota local education agencies, the provisions of the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children in section 127A.85 apply to minor dependent children of members of the active and activated reserve components of the uniformed services, including but not limited to members of the Minnesota Army National Guard and the Minnesota Air National Guard.

(b) This section does not apply to interstate transfers between Minnesota local education agencies and public or private schools in other states.

(c) For the purposes of this section, the words defined in section 127A.85, article II, have the same meanings.

Subdivision 1. Definition. For purposes of this section, "military-connected student" means a student who has an immediate family member, including a parent or sibling, who (1) is currently a member of the armed forces serving as either a reservist or on active duty in the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard; (2) is currently a member of the military family education liaison designated herein shall be ex officio members of the council, unless either is already a full voting member of the council.
serving in the National Guard; (3) has recently retired from the armed forces; or (4) is the
dependent of a member of the armed forces who was killed in the line of duty.

Subd. 2. Purple Star School. (a) The commissioner of education may designate a school
as a Purple Star School if the school:

1. has a designated staff member serving as a military liaison whose duties include:
   identifying military-connected students enrolled at the school;
   serving as the point of contact between the school and military-connected students
   and families;
   determining appropriate school services available to military-connected students;
and
   assisting in coordinating school programs relevant to military-connected students;
2. maintains easily accessible information on the school website that includes resources
   for military-connected students and families, including information regarding:
   student relocation, student enrollment, student registration, and transfer of school
   records;
   academic planning, course offerings, and advanced classes available at the school;
   counseling and other support services available for military-connected students
   enrolled at the school; and
   the designated military liaison under clause (1);
3. offers a transition program led by students, where appropriate, that assists
   military-connected students in transitioning into the school;
4. offers professional development opportunities for staff members on issues related
   to military-connected students; and
5. offers at least one of the following:
   a resolution showing support for military-connected students and families;
   recognition of the Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month with relevant
   events hosted by the school; or
   a partnership with a local military installation that provides opportunities for active
   duty military members to volunteer at the school, speak at an assembly, or host a field trip;
6. (b) The commissioner must establish a process for schools to seek Purple Star School
   designation by July 1, 2026. The commissioner may award Purple Star School designations.
starting in the 2026-2027 school year, and on an ongoing basis as schools meet qualifications for the designation.