

MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
December 14, 2015

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held its regular meeting at the Office Building in Holdrege, Nebraska on December 14, 2015 with the following members present: Karen Duncan, Kevin Breece, Susan Perry, Gary Smidt, Kim Scoville, Richard Phillips, and Linda Leising. David Fleischmann, Lorenda Forbes, and Craig Philips were absent.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on December 14, 2015 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of December 1, 2015 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN during that same week. The Public Notice also stated that a current agenda of items to be brought before the Board was available for public inspection in the office of ESU #11 and that reasonable accommodations for individuals with special needs who want to attend the meeting would be provided on request, if sufficient advance notice is given.

Motion made by Kevin Breece, seconded by Gary Smidt, to excuse the absence of David Fleischmann, Lorenda Forbes, and Craig Philips. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

The minutes of the regular meeting held on November 16, 2015 were approved as printed.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented the General Fund Financial Report for November 2015. Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Richard Phillips, that the General Fund Financial Report be accepted as presented. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Linda Leising, that the December 2015 General Fund claims for payment be approved for payment in the amount of \$158,524.15 and the November 2015 expenses after the Board Meeting of \$228,091.21. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

The following visitors were present: Alex Wyatt, Technology Consultant; Kate Hatch, Director of Staff Development; Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator; and Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Coordinator.

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Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, discussed that the District Board positions will be up for election in November 2016. Candidate Filing Forms were handed out during the meeting to the eligible Board Members.

Dr. Tedesco reviewed the minutes of the Superintendents Advisory Committee meeting held on December 7, 2015.

Dr. Tedesco reviewed the minutes from the November 18, 2015 ESUCC meeting.

The Board Policy of Article 3, Section 11, Pupil Transportation – Safe Pupil Transportation Plan was reviewed by the Board Members. It was the consensus of the Board to keep the policy with no changes made.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Kevin Breece, to recognize the ESU #11 Education Association as the exclusive bargaining agent for the ESU #11 non-supervisory certified staff for the 2017-2018 contract year. Vote as follows: Karen Duncan, yes; Kevin Breece, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Linda Leising, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Alex Wyatt, Technology Consultant, updated the Board on the projects the Technology Department is working on such as the Annual Evaluations, the ESU 11 Data site updates, and the e-Rate projects.

Kate Hatch, Director of Staff Development, reported to the Board the AQuESTT results that were released in the past month. A breakdown showed the following: 13.1% of schools were classified excellent, 41.86% were great, 37.43% were good, and 7.70% were designated as in need of improvement. Kate was happy to report that 8 out of our 13 schools were classified as great and the remaining 5 districts were classified as good. In December, Kate also started to meet with the Professional Learning Community groups. To date she has met with the kindergarten, first grade, and 7-12 English Language Arts groups. She has received favorable feedback. The teachers who attend these groups have collaboratively established essential learning in the area of reading comprehension, and are working to create a lesson that focuses on one of these essential learnings, and that will also address one of the new NeSA Reading test item types.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that the Gifted Department currently has 30 students and 54 activities for the Battle of the Books activity. The culminating activity will be held at ESU on April 1st. She also reported that the Invention Convention had been changed to March 2nd, and that it is getting more difficult to find a date that works for all schools involved. The Gifted Department has been hosting the Future Problem Solving Seminars at the ESU this year instead of Mt. Calvary because of the Internet issues they were experiencing and per the request of the teachers. Nine instructors will be returning for the Summer Honors Program (SHP), including Peg Tilgner who will be working with behavior and the brain. Janelle has contacted the University of Iowa's Belin-Blank Center to discuss "future" jobs and opportunities for SHP. The Gifted Department will not be changing any of the courses offered this year but are excited to keep up with what is in demand for our students.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Coordinator, reported that the Career, Search, and

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Investigate Workshop that was scheduled for November 11th has been rescheduled for January 26th due to inclement weather. Lona has held Transition Workshops for each grade level of our districts. Four of our district schools hosted NDE for file review monitoring. NDE focused on the area of transition so all files reviewed on-site were transition age students. Lona reported that the keynote speaker for the Youth First Conference in April has been secured. Her name is Ashley DeRamus who was born with Down Syndrome and has her own clothing line. Lona updated the Board on the Project Search. Phelps Memorial did not feel it was the right fit for their facility, but Lona is exploring contacting two other local businesses about developing partnerships with ESU #11 and VR.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, reported that he has been working on Supplemental Educational Services (SES) with the districts, the Annual Financial Report, and renewal of insurance.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on January 18, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Karen Duncan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorenda Forbes, Board Secretary