

MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
February 15, 2016

The Board of Educational Service Unit #11 of the State of Nebraska, hereinafter referred to as ESU #11, held its regular monthly meeting at the Office Building in Holdrege, Nebraska on February 15, 2016 with the following members present: Kevin Breece, Karen Duncan, David Fleischmann, Lorenda Forbes, Linda Leising, Susan Perry, Richard Phillips, and Kim Scoville. Craig Philips arrived at 5:31 p.m.

Notification was made of the Open Meetings Law.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU #11 would be held on February 15, 2016 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of February 1, 2016 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 Lorenda Forbes, seconded by Karen Duncan to excuse the absence of Gary Smidt. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on January 18, 2016 were approved once the corrections to the Contract Negotiations Committee have been made.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, presented the General Fund Financial Report for January 2016. Motion made by Lorenda Forbes, seconded by Linda Leising, that the General Fund Financial Report be accepted as presented. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Susan Perry, that the February 2016 claims for payment be approved in the amount of \$96,055.69 and the January 2016 expenses after the Board Meeting of \$216,608.85. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, reviewed the minutes from the February ESUCC Meeting.

Alex Wyatt, Technology Consultant, reviewed and discussed the ESU #11 Annual Survey and the Evaluation of Programs for the 2015-2016 school year. The participation rate was nearly the same as last year, and the progression rate can be viewed at data.esu11.org, in the Perceptual Data tab. Alex showed the participation breakdown and overall scores as well as pointed out the comments are available for ESU 11 Leadership Team Members. Paul Tedesco will take district-specific comments to superintendents for their review.

Paul Tedesco discussed with the Board the 2016-2017 ESU #11 contracts with member schools.

Motion made by Richard Phillips, seconded by Kevin Breece, to accept the copier bid contract for 2016 – 2020. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Karen Duncan, to approve the contract with Jennifer Schutz and Cassandra Himmelberg for Occupational Therapy services. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Karen Duncan, to accept with deep regret the resignation of Special Education Director, Caren Porter. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, no; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 1 no, 2 absent.

The Board Members discussed the NASB Annual Membership and whether the unit received adequate services for the cost of the membership. Paul Tedesco was asked to contact other service units for their stance on the NASB Membership. It was the consensus of the Board to table this item until the March 2016 Board Meeting.

Motion made by Karen Duncan, seconded by Linda Leising, to ratify the Certified Staff Contract and Conditions of Employment for 2016-2017. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, no; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Susan Perry, seconded by Lorenda Forbes, to approve the salary and benefits for the Directors and Coordinators 2016-2017 contract year. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, no; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Lorenda Forbes, seconded by Karen Duncan to approve the salary and benefits for the Classified Staff 2016-2017 contract year. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, no; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, yes; Lorenda Forbes, yes;

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Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, no; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 7 yes, 2 no, 1 absent.

Paul Tedesco recognized and thanked the Board Members for their dedicated service to the ESU.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that she had been in contact with The Belin-Blank Center from the University of Iowa to see what and how they chose classes for summer school. She learned that they developed many of their classes around the STEM concept with the arts and humanities to keep a balance between the two. They try to rotate their classes on a bi-summer basis, as many of the students are repeats. Janelle gave a list of classes the ESU would be offering for the summer of 2016, and also reported that 417 applications were received, as Monday was the last day for nominations. She also reported that only 11 quiz bowls remain this year, and the classroom activities were going well. Janelle will be attending and helping with the Nebraska Association for the Gifted Conference in Omaha next week as well as two other ESU 11 district teachers. She will also be attending the All Minds Matter Conference with speaker Temple Grandin.

Kate Hatch, Director of Staff Development, reported that February is the last month for meeting with the Professional Learning Community (PLC) groups. The teachers who attend these groups have collaboratively established essential learnings in the area of reading comprehension or their specific content area, and are working to create a lesson that focuses on the instruction of one of these essential learnings. These lessons will be posted to a common Web site so all PLC group members have access to the different lessons. Favorable feedback has been received this year, and discussions with district administration have been made for the focus of these groups next year. The current plan is to have elementary teachers and 7-12 math teachers focus on the newly revised math standards next year. Next, Kate informed that 7 districts would complete formal training in the Instructional Model that each district has selected. Next year, these districts will work to create and implement a common language of instruction and infuse that into their teacher evaluation tool. Since this is a state initiative, Kate has been working closely with the districts throughout this process. Eight of the districts have identified an instructional model and are in the process of training staff. Two districts have identified an instructional model and will begin training staff next year. Three districts have not identified an instructional model. Lastly, Kate shared that districts have completed the Statewide Writing test. Unfortunately, there were statewide complications again this year, which included Nebraska students being shut out of their online writing tests and losing access to online testing tools. As a result, NDE will be looking to move the Statewide Writing test in another direction for next year.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Transition Services Coordinator, informed the board that on January 26th ESU 9 and 11 hosted the Career, Search, and Investigate (CSI) Workshop on the Hastings CCC Campus. The focus was on the Skills and Technical Career Clusters. The students were allowed to choose four programs to tour and had the opportunity to eat on campus. Suggestions for future CSI Events were to tour a dorm room and have a panel of students to share information about college from their point of view. Lona reported that the Phelps County Career Fair committee met and scheduled the career Fair for April 6th at the Phelps County Ag Building. Students will be divided

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with some visiting with businesses at tables and others rotating through four sessions. All ESU 11 district schools are invited to the Career Fair. Next, Youth First Conference information was sent to schools; Lona is looking forward to registrations coming in. On March 7th the Google Form Training will be held for 7-12 grade resource teachers to learn how to create a form and use it to collect data for IEP goals. Last, Lona reported the Project Search meeting with VR and Holdrege Memorial Homes would be held Thursday morning to discuss partnering together to provide programs for ESU 11 students, to develop work related skills in hands on work experience opportunities at Holdrege Memorial Homes.

Jody Bauer, Technology Curriculum Consultant, reported to the board that the ESUCC NCSA BlendEd Pilot Project would be kicking off the first meeting in March in Kearney. Minden CL Jones will be the participating school in this project. The purpose of this meeting is to help establish a systems approach for supporting BlendEd. The seminar will be organized by the Highlander Institute, a global leader in BlendEd implementation. School leadership teams will walk away with a clearer understanding of BlendEd at a systems level and a rough draft of a two-year plan for implementation.

Jody also updated the board about traveling to schools and teaching digital citizenship to middle school students. She also mentioned that she offered training on copyright with 7th and 8th graders in Holdrege. Jody shared that she is currently working on software contracts and pricing for next year. Lastly, Jody will be having her third blended learning cohort meeting on March 2nd. This meeting will consist of teachers sharing their implementation of blended and also evaluating online tools to meet the needs for all students.

Alex Wyatt, Technology Consultant, updated the Board that new access points were ordered for Eustis-Farnam schools and are now installed and running. The new system is easily managed, has stronger radios, and is affordable for the technology department to get the access points out of the hallways and into each classroom so radio-blocking walls won't be an issue.

Paul Tedesco, Unit Administrator, discussed Learn 360 with the Board members. He also notified the Board that the ESU would be hosting the ESUCC Meeting on March 9th and 10th; and that advertisements have been placed in the Kearney Hub, Omaha World Herald, and on the Teach Nebraska Web site for the Special Education Director position.

Motion made by Kevin Breece, seconded by Craig Philips, to enter into executive session at 7:02 p.m. to discuss the evaluation of ESU 11 Administrator. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, no; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Karen Duncan, seconded by Richard Phillips, to exit executive session at 7:38 p.m. Vote as follows: Kevin Breece, yes; Karen Duncan, yes; David Fleischmann, no; Lorenda Forbes, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Susan Perry, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; and Kim Scoville, yes. Motion carried, 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

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The Administrator's evaluation was reviewed by the Board and was placed in Dr. Tedesco's employee file.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on March 21, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

David Fleischmann declared the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorenda Forbes, Board Secretary