

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
MAY 11, 2020**

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 and via Zoom on May 11, 2020 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, and Gary Smidt. Chris Erickson and Nate Stineman were absent.

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 May 11, 2020 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of May 4, 2020 and broadcast over radio stations KUVR and KRVN. 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 Linda Leising, seconded by Mary Oman, to excuse the absences of Chris Erickson and Nate Stineman. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Nate Stineman arrived via Zoom at 7:04 p.m.

Dr. Barnes reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the April 13, 2020 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Chris Erickson arrived via Zoom at 7:12 p.m.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Craig Philips, to amend Lesa Clifford's 2020-21 teaching contract from .80 FTE to 1.00 FTE. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary

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Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Galen Kronhofman, to approve the ESUCC Master Service Agreement for 2020-21. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, no. Motion carried 9 yes, 1 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Craig Philips, to approve the ESU #11 Advisory Committee's recommended Program of Exploratory & Basic Services for 2020-21. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Chris Erickson, seconded by Mary Oman, to accept the resignation of Resource Teacher, Katelynn Butler, effective at the end of the 2019-20 contract year. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machel Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that many adjustments have been made to testing and learning this past quarter. NDE has waived the following requirements for schools: NSCAS statewide testing in grades 3-8 for ELA, Math, and Science; AQuESTT classification and designation for schools and districts for 2020-21; and Spring data collection in grades K-3 for the Reading Improvement Act. Regarding the Reading Improvement Act, schools must still *"Make available a summer reading program each summer for any student who has been enrolled in grade one or higher and is identified as continuing to have a reading deficiency at the conclusion of the school year preceding such summer reading program."* In the fall, all students in grades K-3 need to be assessed for a reading deficiency within 30 days of the first day of school. NDE will need to determine if this reading assessment needs to be waived or altered in the fall. NDE has recently put out guidance regarding what schools need to consider when they are finally allowed to open their doors to students. This guidance is very extensive and specifies regulations regarding cleaning of restrooms, classrooms, buses, etc. Kate and Jody Bauer, Technology/Curriculum Consultant, finished PLCs last week and the last meeting focused on having teachers reflect on what worked well and what they would do differently to prepare for the next round of COVID. This generated lots of good discussion. Kate and Jody provided numerous free professional development opportunities to teachers that will help them become more effective in a remote environment.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Special Education Director, reported that the Promoting Engagement and Knowledge Project is due on May 15th. These funds are used to support districts in their required Targeted Improvement Plan for Special Education. All 13 of the districts participate in the consortium. Lona continues to navigate how special education

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services are being delivered and answering questions for districts. The monthly Wisdom Wednesday Zoom meeting will be held on May 13th with the focus on Progress Monitoring and Reporting, Extended School Year Services, and Compensatory Education Services. Lona mentioned that the Maintenance of Effort Compliance Standards report is due on May 15th and she has been assisting some of the superintendents on completing this report and submitting to NDE. Last, staff assignments have been determined for the 2020-2021 school year. Districts and staff will be notified.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that on April 17th more than 70 students and teachers participated via Zoom for the Battle of the Books. Connections were made with both of the book authors as well as two games of KaHoot played. When the shirts finally arrived, sacks were delivered to over 100 students for Battle of the Books and Invention Convention. Janelle said it was a lot of driving but so great to see all of the students. The Gifted Department is beginning to work on Battle of the Books for the 2020-21 year and have started to design a few kits for the students to use this summer and throughout the school year. Finally, to help with the sting of canceling Summer Honors this year, a t-shirt was designed for the students to purchase if they chose to. It's a way for the students to be recognized for being selected into the 2020 Summer Honors Program.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board the recent E-Rate application filing. Nine category-1 applications for telecommunications circuits were completed totaling savings in excess of \$40,000 for the 2020-2021 school year. Wade mentioned that networking equipment for the new Wilcox building project was ordered and arrived without delay. The equipment is configured and ready for installation once the building project is ready. Wade also reported that three E-Rate category-2 projects that ESU 11 assisted with all received funding commitments over the weekend. Other upcoming projects include a point-to-point wireless system for Elwood and four new firewalls for southwest region districts. Wade noted that Tech Talk Tuesday Zoom sessions have been continuing weekly and there is a Mosyle workday scheduled for May 27th.

Jody Bauer, Technology/Curriculum Consultant, reported that during the PLCs she shared resources with teachers that consisted of websites, tech tools, tutorials, and social emotional learning to help with remote learning for K-12 teachers. As teachers look toward the future and the possibility of increased remote learning, the Staff Development department thought it would be helpful to provide some professional development resources focusing on remote teaching. Several teachers are willing to learn how they can help their students during this time and have appreciated the resources shared.

Dr. Barnes, Unit Administrator, updated the Board on the building and grounds as well as mentioned keeping the July Board Meeting on the calendar. He also reported on the ESU 11 COVID-19 Protocol and plans to continue the remote working options through the end of May. At the end of the month he will decide if anything needs to be changed or updated.

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The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on June 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Board President, Richard Phillips, declared the meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary