

MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
November 16, 2020

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 located at 412 West 14th Avenue in Holdrege, Nebraska and via Zoom on November 16, 2020 with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Linda Leising, Craig Philips, and Richard Phillips. Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Mary Oman, Kim Scoville, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman attended via Zoom.

Notification was made of the open meetings law. The open meeting laws were on display throughout the Board Meeting.

Public Notice that the regular monthly meeting of the Board of ESU 11 would be held on November 16, 2020 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU 11 during the week of November 2, 2020, 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.

Audio issues via Zoom occurred during the meeting for Nate Stineman so his votes could not be recorded and he signed off.

Board President, Richard Phillips, asked the board members if they had any questions on the regular board meeting minutes from October 19, 2020. No questions were brought forward. Dr. Greg Barnes, Unit Administrator, reviewed the General Fund Financial Report from October 2020 and the General Fund Claims for Payment. Motion made by Craig Philips, seconded by Chris Erickson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; 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 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the purchase of Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce Bucks for all staff. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; 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 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Mary Oman, to approve the replacement of the north side 3-sash and 2-sash windows as well as the 2 and 3-sash

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windows in Dr. Barnes office. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; Machelle Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Linda Leising, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Phillips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Wade Gibson, Media Technology Coordinator, reported to the Board regarding a recent LAN Managers Meeting held on October 28. They saw a large in-person attendance with good discussion throughout the day and were able to connect with Security Mentor to learn about their cybersecurity awareness training. Wade mentioned that a Media Monday Zoom session was held on November 16; they were joined by Denise Harders with Central Plains Library System and learned about different book repair techniques. Holdrege Public Schools recently hired Nathan Hudson as a Technology Support Specialist. He started two weeks ago and has been a great addition to the team. Wade has also been working with Holdrege and 20/20 Technologies to wrap up some fiber-optic wiring projects. Wade reported that a number of schools have recently been reaching out for assistance with setting up Zoom accounts for their staff so they can be prepared if a shift to remote learning is needed again.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that PLCs are completed and went well and now she is focusing on larger workshop opportunities and conferences. To date, all scheduled professional development has been able to go on as planned, with the exception of the Connect the Dots Career Exploration Day. The Staff Development Department is working to continue to provide professional development opportunities that are needed by teachers. They would rather work in face-to-face settings, but know that is not always possible so Jody Bauer and Kate offer the opportunity for teachers to connect to workshops virtually. The CTE Collaboration Day with ESUs 9, 10, and 11 will be held on January 19, and in a couple of weeks they will determine if the current DHMs allow for the conference to be held face-to-face. If they are unable to do so, they are prepared to have the conference virtually. Kate is in the process of securing a keynote speaker for the 2021 Fall Conference. She will be recommending a speaker to the Advisory Committee next week. If we are not able to have the Fall Conference in person, we plan to offer a morning keynote/workshop with each school connecting virtually. Each school would determine the schedule for their staff in the afternoon as ESU 11 would not offer 60 virtual breakout sessions. Staff Development is also conducting monthly principal meetings that provide an opportunity for principals to learn about initiatives coming from NDE as well as collaborate with their peers regarding COVID procedures and challenges.

Jody Bauer, Technology Curriculum Consultant, reported that she's been creating and sharing online digital citizenship lessons for schools. She shares the lessons in a Google folder so teachers can access them anytime for grades 3-8. Jody has also been creating virtual professional development for teachers called "PD To Go". In the past she usually has 2-3 Blended Learning workshops to help teachers implement different models into their classroom. Since teachers don't have as many opportunities to be out of their classroom, "PD To Go" has provided professional development for teachers to access on their own time. Jody has put together sessions that help support blended and online learning. The first session topics were: Community of Inquiry for Blended and Online Learning, Setting Up Your Technology Toolbox, and Blended vs. Online Learning. She plans to send out a session of topics each month.

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Dr. Barnes, Unit Administrator, informed the board that the Educators Health Alliance (EHA) health and dental rates would increase 3% for the 2021-2022 year. He welcomed back five of our Board Members and thanked them for serving another 4-year term. Dr. Barnes informed the Board that we will provide Zoom as an option for the December Board Meeting. In 2021, we are allowed to offer six meetings via Zoom, but no more according to statute. Last, Dr. Barnes reported that the comparability study for certificated staff is nearly finished and he plans to share and review with the Board in December.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Chris Erickson, to enter Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss and review the Administrator contract and the evaluation process and goals. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; 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 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Board President, Richard Phillips, restated the reason for Executive Session is to discuss the Administrator contract and the evaluation process and goals.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Craig Philips, to exit Executive Session at 6:07 p.m. Vote as follows: Chris Erickson, yes; 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 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Board President, Richard Phillips, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on December 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary