

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
MAY 17, 2021**

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 May 17, 2021 with the following members present: Chris Erickson, Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Linda Leising, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, Kim Scoville, and Nate Stineman. Gary Smidt was 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 17, 2021 was published in one newspaper of general circulation in each of the six counties making up ESU #11 during the week of May 3, 2021 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 Kim Scoville, seconded by Mary Oman, to excuse the absence of Gary Smidt. 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Board President, Richard Phillips, acknowledged visitors: Piper Zuehlsdorf, Occupational Therapist; Cari Sughroue, Behavior Mental Health Consultant; and Tristin Eddy, Resource Teacher.

Dr. Barnes reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the April 12, 2021 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Craig Philips, 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Linda Leising, seconded by Chris Erickson, to approve the ESUCC Master Service Agreement for 2021-22. 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

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Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Mary Oman, to approve the ESU #11 Advisory Committee's recommended Program of Exploratory & Basic Services for 2021-22. 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Machelles Havenridge, to request a contract from UNO for the redistricting of ESU #11 district boundary lines in 2021. 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the IXL, Odysseyware, and On To College with John Baylor purchases 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 Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, 1 absent.

Dr. Barnes discussed replacing five of the ESU #11 entrance doors. He has received a proposal from Tri-County Glass and is contacting Platte Valley Glass for their proposal. Dr. Barnes will report this information at the June board meeting.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that NDE has begun to analyze the survey data that has been received for the Nebraska Health Education Standards. Between March and April, NDE received 2,580 emails and 9,490 survey responses regarding the Health Standards. During the May board meeting, NDE wanted to clarify the following: the standards were not written nor funded by activists; the State Board of Education is not approving any specific sexual education curriculum or materials; explicit or graphic materials or images are not being considered by the State Board or the NDE; and the Critical Race Theory was not used to develop the standards. Types of changes discussed for draft #2 of these standards included: developmental appropriateness; structural changes; removal or additions of strands, topics, words, phrases, etcetera ; and rewording topics, words, or phrases that might be confusing or misunderstood. Draft #2 will hopefully be available to the public mid-to-late summer and a second public input survey will be available at that time. Kate also reported that the Staff Development Department is working on three action plans to support the Continuous Improvement Process that include: the Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards; the new Accountability, Accreditation, and Approval Standards that will replace Rule 10; and Virtual Professional Development.

Lona Nelson-Milks, Special Education Director, reported that SPED staff assignments have been determined and shared with the districts for next year. She mentioned that the Maintenance of Effort Compliance Standard Report is due at the end of the week so she continues to help districts complete that report. This report looks at the spending levels of local and state dollars on special education expenses. Districts are required to spend at least one dollar more from the previous Target Level. There are

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Exceptions that districts can apply for to help lower the Target Level. Each Exception has specific criteria to meet before NDE can approve it. Next, Lona reported that IDEA Grant applications are open so she will be helping Superintendents complete the grant application. Lona has also submitted the Promoting Engagement and Knowledge (PEaK) Project. All of the ESU 11 districts participate in the consortium, and the funds are used for a portion of Project Managers' salaries and benefits and assist with professional development opportunities for district staff.

Janelle Jack, Gifted Education Coordinator, reported that the Rural School Project with the Nebraska Prairie Museum is completed. The program ran from April 30th through May 15th, and nine classes attended with a total of 148 students. The students dipped candles, made butter, wrote with dip pens and ink, and played with old-fashioned toys. Janelle was thankful for her assistant, Destinee Steinke, who was vital in the success of the experience. The Gifted Department is busy preparing for the Summer Honors Program beginning on June 14th through June 25th. Janelle has been working diligently to fill the Science Instructor position. All 105 students are registered, using Camp Doc, which has made the registration process much more effective. Janelle also reported that the Gifted Department's three continuous improvement action plans include MTSS, Differentiation, and HAL activities.

Jody Bauer, Technology/Curriculum Consultant, shared information about upcoming workshops for teachers in June. The following workshops will be offered from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and free of charge: Creating Strong Video Content; Tech Tools to Power Up Instruction; and Designing Balanced Lessons.

Dr. Barnes, Unit Administrator, updated the Board on the building and grounds and reported that the window sashes are installed and work well. He reported that the policy committee has reviewed the new board policies and should be ready to approve at the June board meeting. Dr. Barnes shared comments from the 2020 ESU 11 Survey and appreciates the feedback from the districts.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on June 21, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Board President, Richard Phillips, declared the meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary