

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2023**

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 January 16, 2023 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Galen Kronhofman, Mary Oman, Craig Philips, Richard Phillips, George Probasco, Kim Scoville, and Nate Stineman.

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 January 16, 2023 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of January 2, 2023 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 Galen Kronhofman, seconded Kim Scoville, to appoint Vickie Klein, District 3, and Gary Smidt, District 5, to the ESU 11 Board. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent. New board members Vickie Klein, George Probasco, and Gary Smidt then signed the ESU 11 Board Oath of Office. All ESU 11 board members signed the Code of Ethics.

The next item on the agenda called for the election of officers to serve a one-year term of office on the Board. The offices to be filled were President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Craig Philips, to keep the President, Vice President, and Secretary officers the same in 2023 as they were in 2022: Richard Phillips, President; Galen Kronhofman, Vice President; Mary Oman, Secretary. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Mary Oman, to appoint Amanda Helms as Board Treasurer from February 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Board Members discussed standing committees and President Phillips assigned committee members as follows: Budget Committee – Galen Kronhofman, George

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Probasco, Mabelle Havenridge (Chair); Policy Committee – Mary Oman, Nate Stineman, Gary Smidt (Chair); Contract Negotiations Committee – Vickie Klein, Craig Philips, Kim Scoville (Chair). Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Gary Smidt, to appoint Kim Scoville as Chair of Contract Negotiations Committee due to Craig Philips moving out of District 2 in February.

Board President, Richard Phillips, asked the board members if they had any questions on the regular board meeting minutes from December 19, 2022. No questions were brought forward. Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, reviewed the General Fund Financial Report from December 2022 and the General Fund Claims for Payment. Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Mabelle Havenridge, seconded by Galen Kronhofman, to designate KSB School Law as the ESU 11 legal counsel. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Mary Oman, seconded by Nate Stineman, to approve the designated banks and accounts as presented, and to authorize ESU 11 Administrator, John Poppert, and the ESU 11 Treasurer, Amanda Helms, as signers for all Non-General Fund accounts. Further, to have ESU 11 Board Chairperson Richard Phillips, Secretary Mary Oman, alternate board member Vickie Klein, and Administrator John Poppert (alternate), as authorized signers for General Fund checks from Bruning Bank. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Motion made by Mabelle Havenridge, seconded by George Probasco, to approve the Newspapers of Record as presented. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Craig Philips, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 10 yes, 0 no, 0 absent.

Mr. Poppert reviewed and discussed ESU 11's Strategic Plan that the Leadership Team has been working on for several months. He asked the Board to review the plan and offer their input prior to the February board meeting.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that NDE has announced the following change to the statewide assessment system based on the Nebraska State Board of Education's motion that was adopted at the monthly meeting on Friday, January 6, 2023: "The 2022-23 school year assessment administration for NSCAS Growth in grades 3 through 8 will be unchanged for the 2023-24 school year with MAP Growth being

provided by the Department at no cost to school districts and with NSCAS Growth being required only as the spring summative assessment.” That means NSCAS Growth will be optional for fall and winter of 2023, but will still be required for spring 2024. NDE will also provide the option for districts to use MAP Growth K-10 free of charge for the 2023-2024 school year. Grades K-2 and 9-10 are part of a negotiated agreement for in-kind services in exchange for use of test items. Next, Kate reported that she is currently teaching a graduate class called “Interventions that Work.” Ten educators are in this class. She has also submitted three graduate course proposals to Hastings College for the following summer graduate classes: *From Worrier to Warrior: Taking Control of Your Brain*, *Generation Alpha: The Mini Millennials*, and *Blended Learning: Station Rotation*. Staff Development hosted a meeting with the Principals and shared some options that are available to help them address the current teacher shortage. Last, Kate reported that she will be working with ESUs 9 and 10 as they host the 7th Annual CTE Collaboration Day for Career Tech educators. Approximately 100 people are registered.

Jody Bauer, Technology Curriculum Consultant, reported that she continues to visit districts and provide Digital Citizenship lessons to students. In November, Jody provided a Blended Learning Workshop utilizing Station Rotation in the classroom. Station Rotation is a Blended Learning model that allows teachers to facilitate differentiated small group instruction, prioritize student agency, and integrate technology. Last, Jody reported on a new technology called ChatGPT. This is an artificial intelligence technology that specializes in generating original responses to questions in real-time through dialogue. There has been some concern that ChatGPT may interfere with students’ authentic writing. For example, having the program write essay papers for students or research papers on a specific topic. Jody mentioned that ChatGPT and other emerging technologies will continue to challenge us to evolve and improve the way we educate our students.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported that the firewalls, which were ordered before the break, have all been delivered ahead of schedule. The intent is still to install these in June, which leaves ample time between now and then to test and refine configurations ahead of deployment. Wade also gave the Board a brief overview of the E-Rate funding program, which has the annual filing window opening Wednesday, January 18. He mentioned that in addition to filing E-Rate applications for transport circuits, they are working with six districts on Category 2 applications for internal connections as well. Wade noted that the ESU 11 annual survey was sent out on Monday, January 9, and will conclude on Sunday, January 22. So far roughly 430 responses have been received. Last, Wade reported that they will be hosting a Librarian/Media Specialist meeting on February 2.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that ESU 11 hosted an ESU-Wide Speech and Language Pathologists meeting on January 13. The group discussed what an SLP’s role is in the MTSS process. The meeting had a great turn out and was requested to become quarterly meetings. Indicator 8 (parent survey) and Indicator 13 (Transition – Post Secondary) have been sent to districts to complete. Lona will be scheduling time with each district’s high school special education teacher to complete Indicator 13. Lona reported she will be helping the two districts that were monitored this

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year in creating a Corrective Action Plan to be submitted to NDE. Lona also mentioned that on February 3, the ESU is hosting a 504 Training for the districts. On February 9 and 10, Lona will be attending the NASES Legislative Conference; ESU 9, 11, and 15 have a joint meeting with Senator Murman.

Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, updated the Board on legislative bills and the ESU building and grounds. As for the March Board Meeting, Mr. Poppert would like to keep the meeting as scheduled on March 20. Mr. Poppert also reminded the board of the KSB Hot Topics Presentation on February 8 for ESU 11-Wide board members.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on February 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. Richard Phillips, Board President, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary