

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
APRIL 11, 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 April 11, 2023 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Vickie Klein, Mary Oman, Richard Phillips, George Probasco, Denis Reese, Gary Smidt, and Nate Stineman. Galen Kronhofman and Kim Scoville 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 April 11, 2023 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of April 3, 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 Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Vickie Klein, to excuse the absences of Galen Kronhofman and Kim Scoville. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

No visitors were present.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the March 20, 2023 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Denis Reese, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by Vickie Klein, to approve the resignations of Piper Zuehlsdorf, Occupational Therapist, and Fawn Hamling, School Nurse at the end of the 2022-23 school year. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Mary Oman, to approve a certified contract to Logann Collin, Behavior Mental Health Consultant, for the 2023-24 school year. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

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Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Denis Reese, to declare the three Oculus Quest Pro sets as excess equipment in order to sell. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Nate Stineman, seconded by Denis Reese, to approve the 2023-2025 ESUCC Office Lease Agreement as presented. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Motion made by Mary Oman, seconded by Gary Smidt, to accept the IXL quote for the 2023-24 school year as presented. Vote as follows: Machel Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Mary Oman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Gary Smidt, yes; and Nate Stineman, yes. Motion carried 8 yes, 0 no, 2 absent.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that the Maintenance of Effort Compliance Standard report opened on March 30th and will close on May 15th. If districts have exceptions, they submit information to NDE for review and approval, which would lower the Targeted levels. A district can access its IDEA (federal dollars) if it meets MOE. Lona has been working with the Axtell Community School to help plan for next year as it takes over the educational programming for students who reside at Mosaic. She mentioned that ESU 11 will host an ESU-Wide Special Education meeting on April 19th. The following topics will be discussed: The Purpose of an IEP, IEP goal writing, Bringing Student Voice to the Table, review of trend data that NDE has gathered related to special education indicators, and the Targeted Improvement Plan. Last, Lona reported that the Business Tours through the Transition Department were held in Alma and Minden areas this spring.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that she and Jody Bauer have been meeting with the administrative teams from all ESU 11 districts to determine professional development plans for next year. To date, they have met with 9 of the 13 school districts. Kate reported that the Quiz Bowl regular season has come to an end. In the High School division, Southern Valley and Holdrege qualified for the state quiz bowl on April 26th. Stephanie Dannehl, HAL Instructor, has now shifted her focus to Summer Honors. She is currently working to acquire housing for all SHP instructors. In an effort to reduce travel expenses, the instructors have worked to coordinate flights into Omaha. This way the ESU will reduce car rental expenses and designate one ESU 11 staff member to pick up all instructors at the airport. Next, Kate noted the 2023-2024 Carl Perkins grant is currently open. Unofficially, we have received approximately \$3,700 less than last year. The ESU 11 Perkins Consortium was also below the state goal in four areas: Proficiency in Reading, Math and Science and Participation in Work-Based Learning. As a consortium, action plans will need to be written for each of these areas in order to address these lower performing areas. Last, Kate informed the board that ESU 11 will have its Continuous Improvement visit next year. Melissa Wheelock, ESU 10 Administrator, will be the external team leader. The ESU 11 Leadership Team has been working to update department action plans and collect evidence to support our process. Wade Gibson had the opportunity to be a member of ESU 5's external visitation team a few weeks ago, and the knowledge he gained from this experience will help us to better prepare for our visit.

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Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported that the annual E-Rate filing window closed on March 28th. More than \$113,000 in savings were applied for on behalf of ESU 11 school districts this year. Wade also mentioned that he will be presenting at the Holdrege Rotary meeting on April 20th, which supports the agency improvement goal toward marketing of ESU 11. Next, he discussed the upcoming State and Local Cybersecurity grant program through the State of Nebraska. ESU 11 is partnering with other ESUs to submit an application for grant funding to help bolster cybersecurity defenses in the area. Last, Wade reported that ESU 11 will host a Mosyle workday to help districts prepare their devices for the upcoming year.

Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, gave a brief legislative update as well as reported on the building and grounds. He also noted that Dr. Maher has been chosen as the next Commissioner of Education. Mr. Poppert reported on the recent ESUCC meetings and that discussions centered around how to improve professional development experiences for all attendees. The last Superintendent Advisory meeting is scheduled for April 25th, with reports from NCSA, NIAC (State Patrol), and the Planning Region Team.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on May 15, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Richard Phillips declared the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary