

**MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING  
MAY 15, 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 May 15, 2023 with the following members present: Machelles Havenridge, Vickie Klein, Galen Kronhofman, George Probasco, Denis Reese, Kim Scoville, and Gary Smidt. Mary Oman, Richard Phillips, 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 15, 2023 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of May 1, 2023 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 George Probasco, seconded by Kim Scoville, to excuse the absence of Mary Oman, Richard Phillips, and Nate Stineman. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

No visitors were present.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the consent agenda items, including the minutes from the April 11, 2023 meeting and the financial reports and claims. Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Vickie Klein, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Denis Reese, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the Imagine Learning quote for 2023-24 as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Vickie Klein, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the ESU #11 Advisory Committee's recommended Program of Exploratory & Basic Services for 2023-24. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

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Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Kim Scoville, to approve the certified contract with Resource Teacher, Debbie Komenda for 2023-24 as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Motion made by Machelles Havenridge, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the certified contract with Resource Teacher, Terri Kevorkian for 2023-24 as presented. Vote as follows: Machelles Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; George Probasco, yes; Denis Reese, yes; Kim Scoville, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, 3 absent.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported that Stephanie Dannehl, High Ability Instructor, is working to find housing for two male SHP instructors. All other instructors have accommodations. This year's program will have 109 students participating and the following classes will be offered: Ag, Architecture, Art, Computer Science, Creative Writing, Drama, Film, Logic, Math, and Medical Science. Steph is in the process of identifying businesses that will be willing to provide job shadowing experiences for the medical science students. Evening activities have been planned with no activities scheduled on Tuesdays. A total of \$3500 in sponsorships has been raised, and the SHP Alumni has raised and donated \$10,000. This money will be used to help cover the cost of food and transportation. Next, Kate reported that Jody Bauer, Technology Curriculum Consultant, will be serving as the co-leader of her statewide TLT professional group (Teaching and Learning with Technology) next year. She will be in charge of organizing and facilitating statewide meetings and trainings for this group. She is already viewed by her peers as a leader and will do a terrific job. Last, Kate reported that she has been working on the ESU 11 Fall Conference that will occur on October 2. The theme is Laughing and Learning and Dave Weber is the keynote speaker. We currently have 66 breakout sessions.

Lona Nelson, Special Education Director, reported that staff assignments have been sent to superintendents and principals. The IDEA grant will open soon so Lona will be assisting superintendents as requested. Lona has been working with Axtell Community Schools and Mosaic. A lease agreement has been negotiated to use a portion of the Kindron building for educational services. The off-campus site will be referred to as Axtell North. ESU 11 will host a Mental Health Institute on May 24th and 25th. The schools participating are Holdrege, Loomis, and Wilcox-Hildreth. Lona and four other SPED staff will be attending the School Mental Health Conference on June 7th and 8th in Kearney. The Central Nebraska Youth First Conference was a success. Many thanks to those who worked diligently to organize it. Nebraska Public School Advantage was also in attendance and did an article on the conference. Last, Lona will be serving on the UNK Advisory Council for Teacher Education. The first meeting is on May 22nd.

Wade Gibson, Media/Technology Coordinator, reported that as the school year is winding down, summer technology projects are ramping up. In preparation for the installation of firewalls, they installed the new firewall at the ESU 11 office on May 5. This allows them to test the base configuration that will be used before deploying the rest of the firewalls, currently targeted for June 12-30. Wade also mentioned that in

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conjunction with the firewalls project, they are working to get FreeRadius servers installed and configured for each district to support eduroam, which is a world-wide initiative that allows staff and students to securely connect to wireless at thousands of locations. Wade also updated the Board on the status of E-Rate Category 2 projects in the area. Currently, four of the six applications have been approved for funding, with the remaining two expected soon. Those projects will also commence in June.

Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, updated the Board on the building and grounds and reported that we will forego the July ESU 11 board meeting as discussed. Mr. Poppert has been working to raise funds for the CSI Stem Labs. The money will be used to purchase new equipment for these labs. Thank you to the PCDC and PCCF for donating funds to this project. Mr. Poppert has been looking to purchase another unit vehicle to help cut mileage costs and reported his findings to the board. Last, Mr. Poppert mentioned that the ESU will be advertising for custodial staff this summer. Thank you to the Dahlins for their service over the past four years.

The next meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on June 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Board Vice President, Galen Kronhofman, declared the meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary