

MINUTES OF THE ESU #11 BOARD MEETING
November 18, 2024

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 on November 18, 2024 with the following members present: Mabelle Havenridge, Vickie Klein, Galen Kronhofman, Richard Phillips, George Probasco, and Gary Smidt. Mary Oman, Denis Reese, Kim Scoville, and Nate Stineman were absent.

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 18, 2024 was published in newspapers of general circulation in the counties making up ESU 11 during the week of November 4, 2024, 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 Vickie Klein, seconded by George Probasco, to excuse the absences of Mary Oman, Denis Reese, Kim Scoville, and Nate Stineman. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Board President, Richard Phillips, asked the board members if they had any questions on the regular board meeting minutes from October 21, 2024. No questions were brought forward. Mr. John Poppert, Unit Administrator, reviewed the General Fund Financial Report from October 2024 and the General Fund Claims for Payment. Motion made by Galen Kronhofman, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Motion made by George Probasco, seconded by Gary Smidt, to approve the purchase of Holdrege Area Chamber of Commerce Bucks for all staff. Vote as follows: Mabelle Havenridge, yes; Vickie Klein, yes; Galen Kronhofman, yes; Richard Phillips, yes; George Probasco, yes; and Gary Smidt, yes. Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no, 4 absent.

Mr. Poppert reviewed the ALICAP safety report with the Board and discussed the few property updates that were suggested.

Richard Phillips shared the administrator evaluation results with board members and had a brief discussion.

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 18, 2024

PAGE 2

Lona Nelson, Director of Special Education, updated the Board that all the districts' SPEDFRS reports that the ESU completes were submitted before the due date of October 31. Lona reported that Nebraska continues to be over the one percent federally identified participation rate for the Alternate Assessment. NDE developed new documents to support teams in making appropriate decisions regarding eligibility for the Alternate Assessment. Each district must submit the "District Projection for 1.0 Percent Participation" document to NDE by December 4. The Non-Proportionate Shares Report is due on December 15. This report identifies what, if any, portion of the district's IDEA dollars can be used to provide special education services to non-public students who qualify for special education services. Last, Lona mentioned that the early childhood numbers continue to grow.

Kate Hatch, Staff Development Director, reported on behalf of the HAL Program that Stephanie Dannehl has been conducting numerous enrichment activities in the schools. This month her activities use Arduino kits and Tinker CAD to help the students learn about electricity by building circuits. Kate also mentioned that the Summer Honors Program raised approximately \$8,000 during the Give to Grow fundraiser. Next, Kate reported that Jody Bauer has been visiting various schools and helping them learn more about Artificial Intelligence and how it can be used to help teachers save time with tasks such as constructing emails, writing lesson objectives in student friendly language, and performing other clerical tasks. She also has been helping teachers with digital citizenship lessons as well as helped coordinate the Digital Citizenship Symposium for our region. Next, Kate reported that she and the Teaching and Learning Department from ESU 10 have joined efforts in order to provide several workshops this past month for PE teachers, Social Studies teachers, and novice teachers in the area that need training in the APL classroom management instructional model. Several of these workshops typically have low attendance in both the ESU 10 and 11 areas, so collaborating for these workshops not only prevents them from being canceled but also reduces costs. Kate also reported that she is helping Jayme Schroeder facilitate Preschool PLCs this year. The first meeting on November 15, discussed the GOLD assessment and NDE Literacy initiative as well as some resources that are available to help parents become more involved in helping develop their child's literacy skills.

Mr. Poppert, Unit Administrator, informed the board that the Educators Health Alliance (EHA) premiums would increase 5.49% for the 2025-2026 year; that is a premium increase of \$1,599 for a family health insurance plan. Mr. Poppert reported that the windows have not been installed, and he is still awaiting a definite installation date. The stucco will not be repaired until 2025.

Motion made by Machel Havenridge, seconded by Vickie Klein, to enter Executive Session at 5:45 p.m. to discuss negotiations.

Richard Phillips, Board President, restated the reason for Executive Session is to discuss negotiations.

Motion made by Gary Smidt, seconded by George Probasco, to exit Executive Session at 6:20 p.m.

ESU #11 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 18, 2024

PAGE 3

Board President, Richard Phillips, declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Educational Service Unit #11 will be held on December 16, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Oman, Board Secretary