

## EDUCATION COUNCIL

Wednesday, February 17 at 9:00AM CT

Host site: Varner Hall Board Room, 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, NE

Remote sites:

ESU 13, 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE;

Northeast Community College, Maclay Bldg 167A, 801 E. Benjamin, Norfolk, NE

[Open Meetings Act](#)

### Minutes

#### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Mark Askren, University of Nebraska-Lincoln  
Mr. Burke Brown, Palmyra School District  
Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools (Scottsbluff site)  
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 02  
Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College  
Mr. Steven Hamersky, Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School  
Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University  
Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09  
Ms. Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska  
Ms. Carla Streff, Alt. for Mr. Derek Bierman (Norfolk site)

**LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE; Mr. Gary Targoff, NET; Dr. Kathleen Fimple, CCPE

**MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT:** Mr. Mike Carpenter, Doane College; Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Community Schools; Mr. Steve Hotovy, Nebraska State College System; Dr. Mike Lucas; Mr. Randy Schmailzl, Metro Community College; Mr. Darren Oestmann; and Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO

#### CALL TO ORDER, ELECTRONIC POSTING, LOCATION OF OPEN MEETING LAW DOCUMENTS, ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS

Co-Chair, Mary Niemiec, called the meeting to order at 9:02 am CT. The meeting notice and agenda were posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on February 9, 2016. The Open Meeting Statutes were located on the south wall of the Varner Hall Board Room. Ms. Lopez-Urdiales called the roll and found 12 voting members or alternates present. A quorum was reached in order to conduct official business. Members and guests introduced themselves.

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE FEBRUARY 17, 2016 MEETING\*

Mr. Brown moved to approve the February 17, 2016 meeting agenda as presented. Dr. DeTurk seconded. Askren-Yes, Brown-Yes, Chrisman-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Streff-Yes. 10-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 21, 2015 MEETING\*

Dr. DeTurk moved to approve the October 21, 2015 [minutes](#) as presented. Mr. Dunning seconded. Brown-Yes, Chrisman-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Streff-Yes, Askren-Yes. 10-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

#### NETWORK NEBRASKA UPDATE

**RFP 5153 Update.** Mr. Rolfes reminded the Council members that Network Nebraska will be 10 years old next month. The Office of the CIO has been busy with the largest procurement in State history to bid for 347 Layer 2 circuits throughout the state for K12, Higher Education, County Extension, and the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. The state is in contract negotiations with 13 vendors and need

to get to signed contracts as soon as possible. For the K12 sector, an extended window was announced for E-rate filing, on April 29, 2016. The later deadline may affect vendors' abilities to install circuits on time so the sooner that providers receive work orders, the better. The Office of the CIO is currently purchasing 27 Gbps of internet for Network Nebraska participants.

**New Participant Criteria.** Participants of Network Nebraska have always been described as public and private K12 and public and private higher education institutions. More and more entities such as libraries and museums have expressed interest in participating. The Network Nebraska Advisory Work Group (NNAG) developed some new criteria that would recognize other education-related entities that would help the network to 'meet the demand of local government and education entities as defined in N.R.S. 79-1201.01'. The Collaborative Aggregation Partnership and State CIO, Ed Toner, agreed with the recommendations. Correspondence will go out next month to entities that have expressed interest. Council members were asked to review the document and provide Mr. Rolfes any feedback on the revised participant criteria:

- FULL PARTICIPANT ENTITY CATEGORY 1A (Education Entity)
- FULL PARTICIPANT ENTITY CATEGORY 1B (Nonpublic school system)
- FULL PARTICIPANT ENTITY CATEGORY 1C (Special Purpose School or special Purpose School System)
- FULL PARTICIPANT ENTITY CATEGORY 2 (Public Library or Public Library System)
- PARTICIPANT-HOSTED ENTITIES CATEGORY 3 (With the approval of the Chief Information Officer, a Full Participant Entity may "host" or share Network Nebraska access with one or more *unlike entities* to incentivize community aggregation and distance education providing that they meet the criteria listed in document.

**Bandwidth Outlook.** Layer 2 transport circuits are being purchased at higher capacity, with a lower per Mbps cost. Internet access, statewide, is up 40% and the unit cost is expected to decrease by 20%. Network Nebraska is well-positioned to provide ample bandwidth for all of the education entities on the network. The statewide backbone segments for 2016-17 will be purchased at similar bandwidths to 2015-16.

**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE.** Nebraska Education Technology Legislation this 60-day session January 6, 2016 to April 20, 2016:

LB 692 (Morfeld), Adopt the Student Online Personal Protection Act

- Introduced 1/6/2016; Heard in Education Committee 1/19/2016
- Operators of web sites, online services, online applications shall not target K-12 students for advertising purposes or use student data or information to create a profile

LB 1026 (Morfeld), Change provisions relating to education technology

- Introduced 1/19/2016; Heard in Education Committee 2/1/2016
- Creates and provides duties for the position of PreK-12 Chief Integration Officer at NDE; updates Educational Technology Center duties, including development of a digital content repository

LB 1049 (Harr), Redefine terms to include students in virtual schools in the state aid formula

- Introduced 1/20/2016; Scheduled for Hearing in Education Committee, 2/8/2016
- Defines virtual school and adds virtual student FTE to the state aid formula

## SUBSECTOR UPDATES

**State colleges.** Mr. Dunning reported that the inter-local agreement with Northeast Community is progressing.

**University of Nebraska.** Dr. DeTurk reported that the University President, Hank Bounds, has assigned Dr. Rodney Markin, of UNMC, to do an assessment of the IT departments on all university campuses. Ms. Niemec reported that the NU Technology Symposium's keynote speaker this year will be

Robbie Melton and will be presenting "The Internet of Things". In addition, she is also doing a workshop on Google Cardboard. The University will be taping her presentations. The [Innovation in Pedagogy and Technology Symposium-Digital Strategies for Student Success](#) will be held on May 10, 2016 at the Cornhusker Marriot Hotel in Lincoln. Council members were invited to attend. The University of Nebraska High School Program will now have seven dual credit courses. Advanced placement credit is also available. Ms. Niemec is pleased about the partnerships with and participation of the public and private high schools. The goal for enrolled students is to have at least a semester of college credit completed by their high school graduation. Mr. Rolfes informed the council that, pending congressional approval, there may be federal funding available to states for this effort.

**Coordinating Commission.** Dr. Fimple reported that the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) added two additional Nebraska institutions, totaling 22 Nebraska participants - 13 public and 9 private institutions. A vast majority of Nebraska institutions may be delivering courses to other states. Currently, there are 36 states participating in SARA.

**K-12 public.** Mr. Brown was pleased to hear that the Nebraska Department of Education has decided to review their relationship with the Data Recognition Corporation (DRC), the online testing vendor. He reported that the writing testing was very difficult to administer. The K12 Technology Coordinators are meeting today. They want their concerns about DRC to be heard. Mr. Brown has heard lots of positive comments about the Nebraska Education Technology Association (NETA) Conference that is attended by approximately 2,500 Nebraska educators from across the state. The NETA Conference has the largest per capita conference attendance in the nation. This year's [NETA Conference](#) will be held on April 21-22, 2016 at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha. Mr. Needham reported that DRC is working with on an ESU Blended Learning Pilot Project which involves 32 districts in the state. Training sessions will be scheduled. The Council Co-Chairs asked the Digital Education work group to include the "terminology" of blended education in the Statewide Technology Plan. Mr. Needham also commented that many schools are applying for E-rate category 2 funding for Wi-Fi upgrades so he can foresee a greater demand for Internet and a greater use of cloud technologies. Many of the council members agreed that "authentication" should be the next layer of Network Nebraska.

**Nebraska Department of Education.** At the February 9<sup>th</sup> Technical Panel meeting, the Department of Education was invited to provide an update on online testing and the contractor, DRC. Commissioner Blomstedt and two DRC Executives were present. DRC apologized for the issues with testing. The CIO, Ed Toner, has asked Mr. Rolfes to setup a follow-up meeting with NDE and DRC to continue discussions. The NITC is addressing the council concerns regarding statewide online assessment testing.

## **STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN**

At the November 12<sup>th</sup> NITC meeting the Statewide Technology Plan was approved. The plan has been posted on the NITC website. The Governor has appointed Ed Toner, State CIO, as the new NITC Chair.

## **CONSIDER AGENDA ITEMS AND LOCATION FOR THE 4/20/2016 MEETING**

Due to a time conflict, the April meeting will need to be rescheduled. Mr. Rolfes will do a poll of the council members to determine a new date and whether the meeting can be held face-to-face. It was suggested to meet at the DoSpace Center in Omaha and to check into a tour of the facility after the meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Dunning moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. DeTurk seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Tom Rolfes of the Office of the CIO/NITC.

After adjournment, the Network Nebraska and Digital Education work groups planned to meet to discuss the Statewide Technology Plan initiatives and action items. The co-chairs will provide an e-mail report to members. Members were invited to serve on both committees.