



## **Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

Educational Service Unit 7, Oak Room

2657 44th Avenue

Columbus, NE 68601-8537

Monday, February 21, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Posted Locations:

Columbus Telegram Newspaper  
Columbus Telegram Website  
ESU 7 North Building Front Door

Posted Date: 02/14/2022

Attendance Taken at 5:34 PM.

Bob Arp: Present  
Joyce Baumert: Present  
Marni Danhauer: Absent  
Donald Ellison: Absent  
Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Dawn Lindsley: Absent  
Richard Luebbe: Present  
Jennifer Miller: Present  
Doug Pauley: Absent  
Richard Stephens: Present  
Gary Wieseler: Present  
Jack Young: Absent

Present: 6, Absent: 6.

Attendance Update Taken at 5:42 PM.

Dawn Lindsley: Present

Present: 7, Absent: 5.

Attendance Update Taken at 5:45 PM.

Jack Young: Present

Present: 8, Absent: 4.

Attendance Update Taken at 6:41 PM.

Doug Pauley: Present

Present: 9, Absent: 3.

Attendance Update Taken at 7:53 PM.  
Richard Luebbe: Absent  
Present: 8, Absent: 4.

1. **Call the Meeting to Order**

**LEADERSHIP • SERVICE • SUPPORT**

Notice of this meeting was given in advance according to State Law 84-1411, by giving notice of the meeting to the public on ESU 7 website [www.esu7.org](http://www.esu7.org) and posted at location of meeting. Notice of this meeting was also given in advance to all members of the Board of Education of Educational Service Unit 7. Availability of the agenda and purpose of the hearing was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting and in the notice to the members of this hearing. All proceedings of the Board of Education of Educational Service Unit 7 were taken while the convened hearing was open to the attendance of the public.

Roll call was taken at 5:34pm

Board Secretary conducted the meeting.

Staff present:

Larianne Polk, Administrator

Linda Shefcyk, Business Manager

Mindy Reed, Secretary to the Board of Directors

Marci Ostmeyer, Professional Development Director

Tami Clay, Special Education Director

Dan Ellsworth, Network Operations Director

1.1. Notification of Open Meetings Law

This meeting has been preceded by reasonable advance notice and is hereby declared to be in open session. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

1.2. Roll Call

1.3. Absent Board Members

Board members Donald Ellison and Marni Danhauer will be absent. Both Board members notified the Administrator of their absences prior to the board meeting.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take action to approve the Board member absences.

Approval of Board Member absences as presented Passed with a motion by Bob Arp and a second by Dawn Lindsley.

Marni Danhauer: Absent

Donald Ellison: Absent

Dan Hoesly: Absent

Doug Pauley: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Jack Young: Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 4

Board members Donald Ellison and Marni Danhauer were absent. Both Board members notified the Administrator of their absences prior to the board meeting. Board member Dan Hoesley was absent without prior notification.

1.4. Pledge of Allegiance All members present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the Board.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve agenda as presented.

Agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Gary Wieseler and a second by Richard Luebbe.

Marni Danhauer: Absent  
 Donald Ellison: Absent  
 Dan Hoesly: Absent  
 Doug Pauley: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Jack Young: Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 4

3. Welcome Visitors No visitors present.

4. Public Comment The Board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation.

Citizens wishing to address the Board on a certain agenda item must complete the Request to be Heard Document prior to the start of the board meeting. Citizens wishing to present petitions to the Board may do so at this time. However, the Board

will only receive the petitions and not act upon them or their contents. No public comments provided.

5. Approval of the 2022-2023 Services Plan  
The ESU 7 Executive Committee Chair attending will make a summary report to the Board on the plan for ESU 7 Services for 2022-2023.
6. Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the 2022-2023 Services Plan as presented Passed with a motion by Richard Stephens and a second by Jennifer Miller.
7. Marni Danhauer: 8. Absent
9. Donald Ellison: 10. Absent
11. Dan Hoesly: 12. Absent
13. Doug Pauley: 14. Absent
15. Bob Arp: 16. Yea
17. Joyce Baumert: 18. Yea
19. Dawn Lindsley: 20. Yea
21. Richard Luebbe: 22. Yea
23. Jennifer Miller: 24. Yea
25. Richard Stephens: 26. Yea
27. Gary Wieseler: 28. Yea
29. Jack Young: 30. Yea

Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 4

Howells-Dodge Superintendent and Executive Committee member Mark Ernst presented the proposed 2022-2023 Service Plan. Superintendent Ernst explained the service planning process and how services are selected. Administrator Polk provided additional information regarding the service planning process.

31. Spotlight - ESU 7 ASD Network Overview ASD Grant Staff Abby Pfister, ASD Coordinator, and Stephanie Johnson, ASD Behavior Specialist, will provide an ESU 7 ASD Network Overview. ASD Grant Staff Abby Pfister, ASD Coordinator, and Stephanie Johnson, ASD Behavior Specialist, reviewed the attached presentation.
32. **Consent Agenda**

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

If any Board member wishes to discuss an item, it must be removed from the consent agenda at which time the remaining items will be acted upon.

Consent Agenda Includes:

- Minutes from the previous meeting(s)
- Presentation of the bills
- Policy review with no recommended changes
- Other routine agenda items

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Consent agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Joyce Baumert and a second by Jennifer Miller.

Marni Danhauer: Absent  
 Donald Ellison: Absent  
 Dan Hoesly: Absent  
 Doug Pauley: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Jack Young: Yea  
 Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 4

32.1. Minutes

**This is a consent item.**

32.2. Presentation of Bills #73645 through #73785 totaling \$807,770.12

32.3. The summary of bills for the current month total:\$807,770.12 - Bills #73645 through #73785

32.4. Inservice bills total: \$0

32.5.	32.6. Amount	32.7. Vendor	32.8. Description
32.9. 7 364 8	32.10. \$13, 375.62	32.11. Amazon	32.12. Migrant/Tech/SPE D/Grants supplies
32.13. 7 365 6	32.14. \$9,9 73.20	32.15. Capital One	32.16. Tech/SPED/Grants travel and supplies
32.17. 7 365 8	32.18. \$17, 471.85	32.19. Central NE Rehab Services	32.20. SPED SLP Services
32.21. 7 366 4	32.22. \$20, 558.00	32.23. Daktec h Computers	32.24. Tech school equipment flow through
32.25. 7 366 7	32.26. \$11, 078.43	32.27. Eakes Office Solutions	32.28. Copier Maintenance

32.29.7 368 3	32.30. \$7,8 80.00	32.31. Insigni a Software	32.32. Series M and SNAP software
32.33.7 368 7	32.34. \$9,2 28.60	32.35. Journe yedcom Inc.	32.36. Tech school equipment flow through
32.37.7 371 8	32.38. \$15, 255.82	32.39. Powers chool	32.40. HR software - Applicant tracking, Records and Perform (evaluation)
32.41.7 372 2	32.42. \$6,9 50.00	32.43. Roman s, Wiemer & Assoc.	32.44. Audit services for year ending August 31, 2021
32.45.7 372 6	32.46. \$7,6 28.69	32.47. Schuyl er Communi ty Schools	32.48. Instructional Coach - Schuyer - flow through
32.49.7 373 2	32.50. \$5,1 89.80	32.51. State of NE - Departme nt of Health	32.52. Network Services Charges

**This is a consent item.**

32.53. Reading of Article I, Section 2, B Duties and Function of the Board

**This is a consent item.**

32.54. Reading of Article I, Section 3, C Role of Individual Board Members

**This is a consent item.**

32.55. Reading of Article I, Section 3, D Orientation of New Board Members

**This is a consent item.**

32.56. Reading of Article I, Section 3, G Compensation of Board Members

**This is a consent item.**

32.57. Reading of Article I, Section 4, G Removal from Officer Position

**This is a consent item.**

32.58. Reading of Article I, Section 4, H Filling a Vacancy in an Officer Position

**This is a consent item.**

32.59. Reading of Article I, Section 5, B Appointments

**This is a consent item.**

32.60. Resignation - Nicki Brigham, Nurse Resignation - Nicki Brigham, Nurse. Last day will be the last day of the school year.

**This is a consent item.**

32.61. April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023 NASB Dues **This is a consent item.**

32.62. Disposal of Inventory - VHS, DVDs and other media materials which have aged out. The videos, DVDs and other media materials being disposed of were first offered to school districts at no cost. The items for disposal are those school districts did not want and are obsolete.

**This is a consent item.**

33. Treasurer's Report

**Review the breakdown of the Treasurer's Report**

34. Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Passed with a motion by Gary Wieseler and a second by Dawn Lindsley.

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 35. Marni Danhauer:   | 36. Absent |
| 37. Donald Ellison:   | 38. Absent |
| 39. Dan Hoesly:       | 40. Absent |
| 41. Doug Pauley:      | 42. Absent |
| 43. Bob Arp:          | 44. Yea    |
| 45. Joyce Baumert:    | 46. Yea    |
| 47. Dawn Lindsley:    | 48. Yea    |
| 49. Richard Luebbe:   | 50. Yea    |
| 51. Jennifer Miller:  | 52. Yea    |
| 53. Richard Stephens: | 54. Yea    |
| 55. Gary Wieseler:    | 56. Yea    |
| 57. Jack Young:       | 58. Yea    |

Yea: 8, Nay: 0, Absent: 4

Administrator Polk discussed the cash on hand and cash reserve lines. The goal is to have 30% cash on hand, which is enough to sustain salaries and grant opportunities while ESU waits for payments from schools and grants.

59. Playground Update

The Administrator will provide a facilities update during this item.

- Julie Kutilek, Creative Sites LLC, will provide a description of the playground project.
  - The board will have the opportunity to ask questions. Administrator Polk will describe the process of the selection of Creative Sites LLC. Approval of the playground project will be brought to the Board in March.

Julie Kutilek, Creative Sites LLC, reviewed the attached playground pictures with the Board. Julie explained what the items were and the materials the playground items will be made from. The Board provided some suggestions regarding adding benches and adding more shading. If approved in March, the playground will be installed in the fall of 2022.

60. New Hire - Brooke Hemmer, Special Education Teacher  
 Brooke Hemmer, Special Education Teacher for the Learning Academy, for the 2022-2023 school year. Brooke is currently teaching at Norfolk Public School and she lives in Lindsay.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the contract for Brooke Hemmer, Special Education Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year as presented.

61. Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the contract for Brooke Hemmer, Special Education Teacher for the 2022-2023 school year as presented  
 Passed with a motion by Richard Stephens and a second by Bob Arp.

- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 62. Marni Danhauer:   | 63. Absent |
| 64. Donald Ellison:   | 65. Absent |
| 66. Dan Hoesly:       | 67. Absent |
| 68. Bob Arp:          | 69. Yea    |
| 70. Joyce Baumert:    | 71. Yea    |
| 72. Dawn Lindsley:    | 73. Yea    |
| 74. Richard Luebbe:   | 75. Yea    |
| 76. Jennifer Miller:  | 77. Yea    |
| 78. Doug Pauley:      | 79. Yea    |
| 80. Richard Stephens: | 81. Yea    |
| 82. Gary Wieseler:    | 83. Yea    |
| 84. Jack Young:       | 85. Yea    |

Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

86. Board Code of Ethics and Oath of Office Jack Young and Dan Hoesly were absent during the January 17, 2022 Annual Organizational Meeting and were unable to recite the Oath of Office. This opportunity is provided to Vice President Young and Board Member Hoesly in this agenda item.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and

allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely and without mental reservations, or for purpose or evasions; and that I will faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office of member of the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 7, according to law, to the best of my ability. And I do further swear that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence; and that during such time that I am in this position I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence. So help me God. Board Vice President Jack Young recited the Oath of Office.

87. 2020-2021 Audit Report

The 2020-2021 Romans Wiemer and Associates Audit Report is attached for the Board's review.

**Recommended Motion:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to accept the 2020-2021 Audit Report as presented.

88. Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to accept the 2020-2021 Audit Report as presented Passed with a motion by Gary Wieseler and a second by Doug Pauley.

- |                        |            |
|------------------------|------------|
| 89. Marni Danhauer:    | 90. Absent |
| 91. Donald Ellison:    | 92. Absent |
| 93. Dan Hoesly:        | 94. Absent |
| 95. Bob Arp:           | 96. Yea    |
| 97. Joyce Baumert:     | 98. Yea    |
| 99. Dawn Lindsley:     | 100. Yea   |
| 101. Richard Luebbe:   | 102. Yea   |
| 103. Jennifer Miller:  | 104. Yea   |
| 105. Doug Pauley:      | 106. Yea   |
| 107. Richard Stephens: | 108. Yea   |
| 109. Gary Wieseler:    | 110. Yea   |
| 111. Jack Young:       | 112. Yea   |
- Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

113. **Administrator's Report General**

- ESUCC Update
  - 2.8.2022 Legislative Day
- Safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan
  - The plan requires review and approval every six months. Any public comment regarding Safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan will occur during the Public Comment item 4. After approval, the plan will be available on the ESU 7 website and emailed to the ESU 7 staff.

- **Recommended Motion:** Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan as presented.
- Digital Marketing Committee Update
  - Logo winner
- Upcoming Events
  - NASB Budget and Finance Workshop
    - March 1 - York (Registration due 2.22.2022)
  - Columbus Area United Way Board of Directors Training
    - March 4 - Columbus
  - NASB Making your Meetings Matter Workshops
    - April 7 - West Point
    - April 12 - Gering
    - April 13 - Kearney

Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan as presented Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Doug Pauley.

Marni Danhauer: Absent  
 Donald Ellison: Absent  
 Dan Hoesly: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Doug Pauley: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Jack Young: Yea

Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Administrator Polk provided an update to the Board about the ESUCC Legislative Day on February 8, 2022. Nancy Smith from the Production Department and Lincoln Quteifan from the Technology Department attended with Administrator Polk, Director Ostmeyer, and Director Ellsworth to discuss the services provided at ESU 7. On Thursday, February 24, 2022, the ESU 7 Superintendent Executive Committee will be at the Capitol to meet with Senators.

#### 113.1. Goal Update

- Board Goal 3: By July 2024, the ESU 7 board will attend the corresponding school district board meetings at least once every two years to report the tailored services provided by ESU 7 and the outcomes measured.

- Administrator Goal 3: Administrator will coordinate the scheduling of regular board visits over a rolling two year period and will organize a board member summit for ESU 7 area boards to participate in professional learning.
  - Administrator Polk will share school district board meeting dates for the Board to select potential board visit dates.
- Board Goal 4: By July 2024, the ESU 7 board will create, roll out, and operationalize communication materials detailing tailored services and outcomes.
- Administrator Goal 4: Administrator will determine the data to best communicate to school boards their utilized services and outcomes and will draft communication materials for the board to consider, revise, and finalize.
  - Administrator Polk will share the first draft of the document to accompany the board members on their school district board visits. Any feedback or revisions will be presented at the next board meeting.

Administrator Polk reviewed the School District Board Meeting Info with the Board. A draft schedule for the Board will be discussed at the March board meeting.

#### 113.2. Services Update

- SIMPL Update
  - SIMPL: Testimonials
  - <https://simpl.esucc.org/>
- Substitute Rate
  - Director Tami Clay will provide the Board with a recommendation for Teacher Substitute rate increase.

**113.3. Recommended Motion:** Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Teacher Substitute rate of \_\_\_\_.

113.4. Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Teacher Substitute day rate of \$175 effective March 1, 2022. Passed with a motion by Richard Stephens and a second by Jennifer Miller.

113.5. Marni Danhauer:	113.6. Absent
113.7. Donald Ellison:	113.8. Absent
113.9. Dan Hoesly:	113.10. Ab sent
113.11. Bob Arp:	113.12. Ye a
113.13. Joyce Baumert:	113.14. Ye a
113.15. Dawn Lindsley:	113.16. Ye a

113.17.	Richard Luebbe:	113.18.	Ye
		a	
113.19.	Jennifer Miller:	113.20.	Ye
		a	
113.21.	Doug Pauley:	113.22.	Ye
		a	
113.23.	Richard Stephens:	113.24.	Ye
		a	
113.25.	Gary Wieseler:	113.26.	Ye
		a	
113.27.	Jack Young:	113.28.	Ye
		a	

Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Absent: 3

Director Clay is recommending to increase the substitute teacher day rate to \$175 a day.

#### 113.29. Facilities Update

The Administrator will provide a facilities update during this item.

- Julie Kutilek, Creative Sites LLC, will provide a description of the playground project.
  - The board will have the opportunity to ask questions. Administrator Polk will describe the process of the selection of Creative Sites LLC. Approval of the playground project will be brought to the Board in March.
- Car update
  - Administrator Polk recommends purchasing an additional car for the fleet. Quotes have been obtained and will be discussed.
- ALICAP Update by Director Ellsworth

Administrator Polk provided an update on the new car. The new car will be a hybrid vehicle, which will help with gas costs.

Director Ellsworth provided an ALICAP update. ESU 7 recently had the annual safety visit, which was successfully passed again this year. ALICAP is encouraging schools to be more secure in terms of cyber security. ESU 7 has implemented two-factor authentication and Last Pass to assist with cyber security.

#### 113.30. Personnel

- New Hires:
  - Nikole Ziembra Streckfuss - Learning Academy Paraprofessional, first day was 2.11.2022
  - Tyler Schrant - District Technology Coordinator. Tyler Schrant will be joining our technology team as a District Technology Coordinator at Columbus Catholic schools providing technical support to Scotus, St. Anthony, St. Bonaventure, and St. Isidore. Tyler most recently assisted News Channel Nebraska where he helped with numerous projects including video services

for churches that want to offer services for those that cannot attend in person. Tyler resides in the Columbus area with his wife and son. He is very eager to get started and learning more about how the ESU 7 technology department operates.

- Resignations:
  - Macy Bauenhaus, Paraprofessional, last day is 2.17.2022.
- Personnel Wellness

Administrator Polk discussed activities scheduled over the next two-three months that will target Personnel Wellness.

Director Clay shared the following staff members are involved in sharing their skills at a state and national level. Brandy Rose (BCBA/Psych) and Ronelle Jackson (LMHP) were interviewed by KETV about Mental Health last week. Brandy Rose was interviewed by the Omaha World Herald about behavior. Anne Baptiste (Learning Academy teacher) was asked to help give a four-part webinar for behavior intervention in schools by the ASD network called Flying the Plane While You Build It. Anne Baptiste was also asked to present at the MidWest Behavior symposium in Kansas City last week.

113.31. Legislative Update During this item, the Administrator will provide a Legislative Update to members of the Board. Administrator Polk reviewed the attached Legislative Update to the ESU 7 Board.

114. **Committee Reports**

114.1. Negotiations Committee Report Reports of activities and discussions from the Negotiations Committee will take place during this item.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve a \_\_\_% total package compensation increase for all staff excluding staff covered under the Negotiated Agreement and the Administrator. Chairperson Jennifer Miller provided a verbal summary to the board following the Negotiations Committee Meeting that occurred earlier. Another Negotiations meeting will be scheduled before the March Board Meeting.

115. Conference Report

Conference Attendees will report on their learnings.

- NASB Legislative Issues Conference: January 30-31,2022

Board members Dawn Lindsley and Richard Stephens attended the NASB Legislative Issues Conference and reported a summary of what they learned.

116. Adjournment Meeting adjourned at 8:14pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Mindy Reed, Recording Secretary to the ESU 7 Board.

# Open Meetings Act

## **Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1407. Act, how cited.**

Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

## **Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.**

It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

## **Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1409. Terms, defined.**

For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

## **Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.**

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such

individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

(a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the

members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; virtual meetings authorized; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.**

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by:

(A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site; or

(B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the

meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2)(a) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) of this section are met:

(i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity;

(ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act;

(iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state;

(v) An educational service unit;

(vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council;

(vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act;

(viii) A community college board of governors;

(ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee;

(x) A local public health department;

(xi) A metropolitan utilities district;

(xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority;

(xiii) A natural resources district; and

(xiv) The Judicial Resources Commission.

(b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows:

(i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference;

(ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as

would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used;

(iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and

(iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, the organization may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing. The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by virtual conferencing.

(3) Virtual conferencing, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by virtual conferencing. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (5) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsection (1) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body.

(b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in  
Open Meetings Act

number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings.

(c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of section 84-1413.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.**

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, a camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings, including meetings held by virtual conferencing. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making virtual conferencing available at an in-state location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act; and

(f) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the in-state location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting, either in paper or electronic form. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when.**

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

(7) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public web site the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the web site at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of

the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the web site at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public web site for at least six months.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

**Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1415. Open Meetings Act; requirements; waiver; validity of action.**

No motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action made, adopted, passed, or taken at a meeting as defined in section 84-1409 of a public body as defined in such section shall be invalidated because such motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action was made, adopted, passed, or taken at a meeting or meetings on or after March 17, 2020, and on or before April 30, 2021, pursuant to a Governor's Executive Order which waived certain requirements of the Open Meetings Act.



## Service Plan Details: ESU 07

School Name: **ESU 07**

Service Plan Year: **2022 - 2023**

ESU: **ESU 07**

Show Service Descriptions     Show Implementation Objectives

### STAFF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (84-002.05A)

Classroom Coaching	Continuous Improvement Process
Crisis/ School Safety	Develop, Revise, and Assess Curriculum based on Standards
Digital Learning including BlendEd	English Language Arts (ELA) Content Training
Instructional Materials Adoption	Instructional Models
Instructional Strategies	LAN Manager Program
Math Content Training	Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/RDA)
New Teacher Academy	NWEA Training/Support
Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings	Personalized PD
Principal Coaching	Principal Development
Principal/Teacher Evaluation	Science Content Training
Special Education PD	Superintendent Development
Technology Integration	

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SERVICES (84-002.05C)

Media Lending Library	Products and Subscriptions
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### TECHNOLOGY (84-002.05B)

Coordinating Computer Repair Partnership	Datacenter Services
Distance Learning Consortium	Internet Support
LanMan Partnership	Network Planning & Consultation
Technical Support	

### STUDENT SERVICES

Behavior & Mental Health Support	Cen7ter
Deaf Education	Early Childhood Special Education
Learning Academy	Program Supervision
Psychology	Resource Coach
Speech Language	Transition
Vision	

### GRANT SERVICES

Autism Spectrum Disorders Grant	Early Learning Connection (ELC)
PEaK	Perkins Grant
Planning Region Team	Title 1 COOP
Title IC Migrant Education Program	Title II-A Consortium
Title III - English Learners	Title IV
Transition Grant	

### OTHER SERVICES

Coop Purchasing	Group Purchasing
Production/Art Media	

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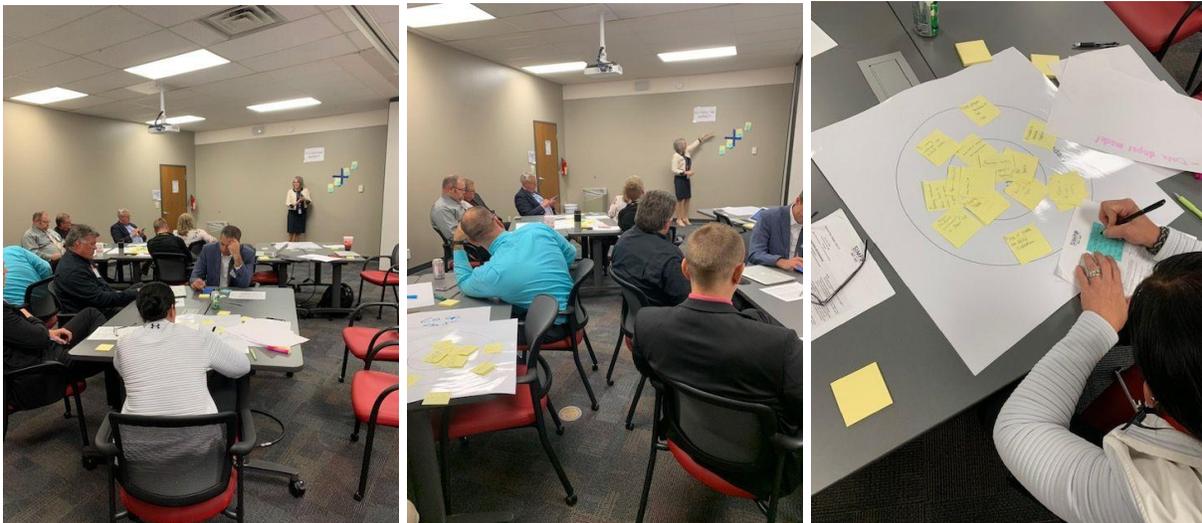
**OTHER (NOT A REQUIREMENT OF SIMPL)**



# ESU 7 Service Planning Report

December 14, 2021

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## Introduction

The Service Implementation Model Process and Log (SIMPL) is a data-driven decision making process to systematically identify needs and develop services and supports to fill the gaps. This process was utilized by the stakeholders of the Educational Service Unit 7 for the purpose of identifying services necessary for ESU 7 to include in its service plan that will positively impact student achievement.

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## Stakeholders Present:

### **Principals, September 17, 2021**

**Member District Principals:** Brent Breckner (Osceola), Brenda Buhl (Twin River), Bre Helgoth (High Plains), Brandon Kirby (Humphrey Public), Brandon Nygren (Lakeview), Brice King (Humphrey Public), Brett Webster (Osceola), Erin Craven (Lakeview), Greg Morris (Palmer), Jordan Brabec (Howells-Dodge), Lee Schneider (Clarkson), Sherise Loeffelbein (Palmer), Tammy Carlson (Fullerton), Tod Heier (Twin River), Zachary Barrett (Twin River), Travis Steinhoff (Schuyler), Heather Thompson (Shelby-Rising City).

**ESU 7 Personnel:** Marci Ostmeyer (Professional Development Director), Otis Pierce (Professional Development Coordinator), Laura Plas (Professional Development Coordinator), Brooke Kavan (Professional Development Coordinator), Brooke Koliha (Professional Development Coordinator), Mark Brady (Professional Development Coordinator), Kendra Gustafson (Professional Development Coordinator)

### **Superintendents, September 30, 2021**

**Member District Superintendents Administrators:** Tucker Tejkl (Shelby-Rising City), Michael Eldridge (East Butler), Brent Hollinger (Cross County), Aaron Plas (Lakeview), Troy Loeffelholz (Columbus Public), Joel Bohlken (Palmer), Jason Lavaley (Osceola), Kimberly Beran (High Plains), Greg Sjuts (Humphrey), Jeff Anderson (Fullerton), John Weidner (Twin River), Mark Ernst (Howells Dodge), Cole Fischer (Leigh), Justin Frederick (St. Edward), Rich Lemburg (Clarkson), Nicole Hardwick (Boone Central)

**ESU 7 Personnel:** Larianne Polk (Chief Administrator), Marci Ostmeyer (Professional Development Director), Dan Ellsworth (Network Operations Director)

### **Day 2, December 14, 2021**

**Member District Principals and Superintendents:** Aaron Plas (Lakeview), Brandon Nygren (Lakeview), Erin Craven (Lakeview), Steve Borer (Lakeview), Kim Beran (High Plains), Breanne Helgoth (High Plains), Cameron Hudson (High Plains), Brent Hollinger (Cross County), Tammy Schaefer (Cross County), Greg Sjuts (Humphrey), Brandon Kirby (Humphrey), Brice King (Humphrey), Jason Lavaley (Osceola), Brett Webster (Osceola), Tucker Tejkl (Shelby-Rising City), Cody Bobolz (Shelby-Rising City), Cole Fischer (Leigh), Chad Denker (David City), Joel Bohlken (Palmer), Greg Morris (Palmer), Sherise Loeffelbein (Palmer), Mark Ernst (Howells-Dodge), Jordan Brabec (Howells-Dodge), Justin Frederick (St. Edward), Rich Lemburg (Clarkson), Lee Schneider (Clarkson), Michael Eldridge (East Butler), Mark Cidlik (East Butler), Shawn Biltoft (East Butler)

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**ESU 7 Personnel:** Larianne Polk (Chief Administrator), Marci Ostmeyer (Professional Development Director), Tami Clay (Special Education Director), Dan Ellsworth (Network Operations Director), Amy Mazankowski (Resource Coach), Tricia Spieker (Speech Pathologist Coordinator)

## Stage I - Data Dig

Data for SIMPL analysis are both qualitative and quantitative. Prior to the data dig, necessary data resources were identified for making decisions that would impact the 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan. The data dig is designed to do the following:

- Identify challenges & opportunities from and with the existing ESU 7 Service Plan
- Prioritize needs identified in the challenges in order to focus problem solving discussions around the most highly considered areas
- Generate a theory of action or suggestions for solutions to these priorities
- Hypothesize impact of these solutions on ESU 7 schools as a region, should the priorities get resolved with the developed action(s)

### *Data Sources*

Part 1 of the data dig occurred on September 17, 2021 (Principals) and September 30, 2021 (Superintendents), and focused on qualitative data. Successes currently evident in the districts were shared at the start of the planning session. At the end of that session, a list of primary and secondary priorities were generated by the participants to bring for analysis at Part 2 of the data dig on December 14, 2021. The list below is the synthesis of those challenges:

### *Successes*

- Fullerton-new teachers! Fun getting the new teachers rolling with the new year
- Twin River new principals are here and they do not have school
- Twin River-new reading curriculum implementation elementary
- Twin River-ICU is off the ground and running
- Osceola- interaction with staff, having staff share and communication with staff

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- Osceola-field trip today for the first time in 2 years
  - Clarkson-implementation of equitable grading practices with help from Laura and Kavan, we took the plunge
  - Howells-Dodge- all of my peers are adjusting to me as their principal and not their peer, very few absences
  - Palmer-implementation FCS and art teacher
  - Humphrey-new principal position, fully staffed
  - Humphrey-MAP testing is done for HS
  - Palmer-able to get kids what they need when not in school, balancing better
  - Lakeview PC-implementing Fastbridge
  - Lakeview SC-Fastbridge has been great with getting data, very few absences
  - High Plains- after 10 years to transition to principal has been great, great culture, Fastbrige has been a great step in gathering data, new math curriculum
  - Howells Dodge Supt - Adding on to the Elementary in Dodge and no bond needed
  - Leigh Supt - Approved first budget
  - Lakeview Supt - Finished up high school building project
  - Columbus Supt - Starting Community Engagement Meetings for another Elementary school
  - Twin River Supt - New reading program and also implemented I.C.U.
  - Clarkson Supt - New staff are doing fantastic
  - Osceola Supt - Finished building project 6.5 months over projected deadline
  - Shelby-Rising City Supt - Start of the year has been really, really good
  - Cross County Supt - Created Revisit, Revise, and Recommit this year
  - Humphrey Supt - Started a conversation about a community gymnasium
  - Fullerton Supt - Is starting his 21st year as Superintendent of Fullerton and the 28th year with ESU 7
  - Palmer Supt - Good start to the year
  - East Butler Supt - Construction project completed. Adopted Danielson as an instructional model.
  - High Plains Supt - Survived first budget with Nicole's help
  - Boone Central Supt - Opened new middle school
  - St. Edward Supt - Everything moving in the right direction

# Challenges

The table below illustrates the challenges identified by the stakeholders present categorized as primary priority or secondary priority.

Primary Priorities-Supt.	Secondary Priorities- Supt.
Communication with NDE	E.L.L. increase (3)
Increase of SpEd Students (2)	Reading intervention staff
SpEd Challenges (2)	Mental Health especially down the road
Substitute teachers getting short (5)	Loss of a sports coop
Lack of Teachers/Paras - Quality/committed people (3)	MTSS
Support Staff	Severely challenging students (SpEd)
Lack of staff	5-14 age students who are identified for life skills training
Shortages: fuel, supplies, cafeteria	Technology consistently working (2)
Mental Health (4)	New ELA Standards
Special Education: Staff development, including paras (2)	Science curriculum update
Strategic Planning/CIP	BOE "keeping in their lane"
Opportunities/additions/initiatives post pandemic	New Board (inexperienced)
Hiring transportation staff (4)	Instructional coaching for teachers
Improve climate/culture - "COVID casualty"	Educator Effectiveness - Reading, Math, and Science
Non-certified wages and benefits (5)	Student behaviors
Recruitment/retention of staff	Crisis/PFA/Threat Training and implementation
Staff recruitment and longevity	Teacher shortage
Filling secondary teaching positions	Student preparedness
	Bus Driving - finding them and behaviors (2)
	Aging facility (high school)
	Lack of quality non-certified evaluations
	Some students continuously on down list

	Improve all data sets and inconsistency
	Improving ACT scores
	Data dashboard
	Accountability demands - reporting
	Meal program: limitations on food and cost
	So many challenges with student needs
	Getting instructional focus back to where we were three years ago
	Career/technical education - Job exposure/education

Primary Priorities- Principals	Secondary Priorities- Principals
SEL/SEBL Social Emotional learning for staff.	Connecting the flip classroom/Blended Canvas-modern classroom.
Social Emotional Both.	Teacher evaluation form update.
Social Emotional learning for students.	Instructional model & evaluation don't match.
Extend half day to full with Ronelle (more LMHP time)	Behavior model district wide.
Mental Health Services.	Consistent district wide behavior management.
Increase mental health service to one full day a week vs a half day a week.	How do we begin a shift to grade 4 learning?
Advancing MTSS to identify SPED students.	Grading w/o O's.
Improving core instruction and methods.	Developing engagement strategies.
Building bigger MTSS Team (District Wide)	"Seasoned" teachers get them to try new practices.
MTSS Where do we begin?	NSCAS Growth? What will it look like.
MTSS implementation	NSCAS & state testing overload of information "new principal"
Intervention scheduling.	English language learners never dealt with and now may be a new normal - small school resources.
Interventions with our current schedule.	New teacher recruitment.
Maximizing staff without burnout :(	Large teacher turnover in next 5-10 years. Fill areas like Science, Math, ITE, etc.
Time - 2 of me? :)	Canvas in the classroom practical & advance.
Subs and the affect on morale.	Improve math scores.

Learning the processes and functions of school. New Admin.	Teacher eval process (how to).
Learning how others do things. Education.	Translators - in home services - meetings.
Bus drivers (finding them).	Utilizing instructional (teacher) leaders to help others.
Transportation lack of drivers.	Data supports for individual teachers (Koliha @ High Plains).
	PK collaboration with other PK teachers.
Sub shortage.	Curriculum selection.
Not enough sub teachers.	New teacher transitions(s) upper to primary.
Substitute teacher availability.	Low participation #'s
Creating common grading practices.	MTSS at 7-12 grade levels.
Student resilience (lack of toughness)	Behaviors - communicating from teacher to principal and home to parents.
Bus driver shortage.	Difficult to find coaches.
Transportation	Difficult to get game workers personnel. Staff involvement out of classroom.
Bus drivers - where art thou?	Danielson refresher for all staff.
Para shortage	Keeping ahead or even up with constant challenges.
Para shortage	Writing SBG Scales
Behavior placement (not on school can dos) (for students not on an IEP)	Homework grading
High needs elementary - leads to para shortage & teacher burnout.	AR is not effective for struggling readers.
Behavior challenges with resource....lower elem. (alternate programs)	Supplemental materials - We don't know the process of approval.
Interventions are inconsistent from teacher to teacher.	Supplemental Programs.
Need consistency in intervention implementation & progress monitoring.	Finding para subs is difficult.
Upper EL WIN Support!	Documenting student concerns/behaviors is inconsistent
Writing support/training curriculum.	Staff managed behaviors - need more tools? strategies.

Curriculum training for new teachers (wonders)	
Finding time to meet with curriculum teams with 3 buildings.	
Math roll out - parent resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Purposeful practice</li> <li>- fill the rigor gaps.</li> </ul>	
S.E.L for staff and students	
Interventions and intervention scheduling	
Behavior placements (out of district) IEP and/or non-IEP	
Fidelity of intervention implementation	

### *Priority Analysis.*

The table below illustrates the highest identified perceptual challenges.

<b>Superintendent Impact Chart Greatest Need on Top</b>	<b>Principal Impact Chart Greatest Need on Top</b>
1. Special Education	1. Staff shortage
2. Mental Health - More LMHP time and services.	2. Maximizing staff properly to ensure student/staff needs are continually met.
3. Staffing Shortages - Certified and Non-Certified. Incentivize hiring.	3. Content specific curriculum. Support for teachers - New!
4. School Improvement: Motivation, Reporting, Strategic Planning, Additional Requirements. Data input and analysis expert.	4. MTSS Implementation & Growth

### *Theory of Action.*

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The table below illustrates potential solutions to the challenges identified by the stakeholders. These solutions will be considered as services in the 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Solution Suggestion</b>
<b>Department</b>	School Social Workers
<b>Department</b>	Sub Consortium
<b>Department</b>	Coop Staffing
<b>Department</b>	Data Steward (person for input & analysis & graphic design)
<b>Department</b>	Central Community College Career Academy

# Stage II - Service Planning

Service Planning is a process involving stakeholders from ESU 7 and member school districts in which commonly agreed upon activities are developed as a direct result of the synthesized data analyzed through the data dig. This planning stage includes the following:

- Determine services to include in 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan
- Customize the 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan to meet the needs of the school districts

The table below illustrates potential services for 2022-2023 identified by districts as filling the gaps identified in their data.

Scores were determined by calculating the scores from the support selection process. These services may not become services to include in the 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan, but they will be addressed by the ESU’s leadership team in another manner.

<b>Service</b>	<b>Big Dots</b>	<b>Little Dots</b>	<b>Total</b>
Social-Emotional Behavioral PD for Staff	17	18	53
Continuous Improvement Process	12	16	44
Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/RDA)	12	15	42
Central Community College Career Academy	10	13	36
Instructional Strategies	15	9	33
Special Education PD	13	8	29
Instructional Models	11	9	29
Classroom Coaching	13	8	29
ESU 7 Job Fair/Teacher Recruiting	11	5	21

Develop, Revise, and Assess Curriculum based on Standards	11	5	21
Principal Coaching	8	4	16
Principal/Teacher Evaluation	7	4	15
Staff Mental Health Support	7	3	13
Data Steward	6	3	12
Crisis/School Safety	9	1	11
Instructional Materials Adoption	7	2	11
Principal Development	8	1	10
Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings	7	1	9
New Teacher Academy	9	0	9
LanMan Partnership	6	1	8
Personalized PD	8	0	8
Technical Support	7	0	7
English Language Arts (ELA) Content Training	7	0	7
Distance Learning Consortium	6	0	6
Math Content Training	5	0	5
Science Content Training	4	0	4
LAN Manager Program	2	1	4
Network Planning & Consultation	3	0	3
Technology Integration	3	0	3
NWEA Training/Support	3	0	3
Co Op Staffing	2	0	2
Superintendent Development	1	0	1

---

Sub Consortium	1	0	1
Media Lending Library	1	0	1
Coordinating Computer Repair Partnership	1	0	1
Products and Subscriptions	0	0	0
Datacenter Services	0	0	0
School Social Workers	0	0	0
Digital Learning including BlendEd	0	0	0

# 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan

The following section contains the 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan.

Service Plan Details: ESU 07 [Edit Plan](#) | [Print](#)

School Name: **ESU 07**

Service Plan Year: **2022 - 2023**

ESU: **ESU 07**

Show Service Descriptions  Show Implementation Objectives

## STAFF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES (84-002.05A)

### Classroom Coaching

Cognitive Coaching for Teachers

### Crisis/ School Safety

Workshops, consultation, and on-site support for school safety teams, crisis teams, and threat assessment teams.

### Digital Learning including BlendEd

Professional learning and direct support for districts and teachers in digital learning. This includes: remote learning, hybrid learning, blended learning, and the tools and resources used to facilitate digital learning.

### Instructional Materials Adoption

Instructional materials adoption assistance and materials alignment

### Instructional Strategies

Kagan, Differentiation, Vocabulary, BlendED, Direct Instruction

### LAN Manager Program

Provide support and training to school LAN Managers.

### Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/RDA)

Direct support of MTSS process and practice in school districts. Example activities: team meeting, data analysis, action plans, creating process/protocols, on-site coaching.

### Continuous Improvement Process

Analyzing results, selecting goals, implementation of strategies, verifying results, implementation of CIP cycle, leadership retreat, SIMPL data dig @ districts

### Develop, Revise, and Assess Curriculum based on Standards

Assisting schools in developing, revising, and aligning curriculum based on current content standards through a three-phase process. This process includes understanding instructional shifts, unpacking and prioritizing standards, and creating pacing guides. The final phase of this process could include building proficiency scales, program evaluation, and building assessments.

### English Language Arts (ELA) Content Training

Training specific to reading, phonemic awareness, phonics, decoding fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, grammar, and writing instruction and strategies.

### Instructional Models

Professional development surrounding instructional models (Danielson, Marzano, ITIP, homegrown, etc.), strategies, and planning.

### LAN Manager Program

Provide support and training to school LAN Managers.

### Math Content Training

Professional learning based on best practices of content and pedagogy in math, PK-12

### New Teacher Academy

Study and implementation of research-based, best practices designed to support beginning teachers. Includes a clear focus on career-long excellence in the classroom and the legacy we create. Topics could include: lesson design, classroom management, student engagement, high yield strategies, technology integration, SPED, parent-teacher conferences

#### NWEA Training/Support

NWEA Certified Facilitators providing on-site consultation, training, and data analysis for administrators, teachers and staff.

#### Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings

Trainings and support for content areas not tested through NSCAS. Such trainings as for guidance counselors, special education staff, and para educators.

#### Principal Development

ESU 7 Principals have the opportunity to meet 5 times each year for opportunities to collaborate. Additionally, principal trainings are scheduled as needs are identified.

#### Science Content Training

Professional learning based on best practices of content and pedagogy in science, PK-12.

#### Technology Integration

Provides professional development of staff and/or individuals with the integration of technology into the classroom.

#### Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings

Trainings and support for content areas not tested through NSCAS. Such trainings as for guidance counselors, special education staff, and para educators.

#### Personalized PD

Assistance/mentoring for teachers (or small groups of teachers) needing assistance with implementing specific strategies.

#### Principal Coaching

Cognitive Coaching for Principals

#### Principal/Teacher Evaluation

Evaluation and training support. Example activities: consultation, Staff Evaluation Tool Support, classroom observations, walk through data collection, workshop facilitation, support with Student Learning Objectives, Professional Goal setting

#### Special Education PD

Special education trainings offered to school district personnel.

#### Superintendent Development

Superintendent networking meetings on ESU campus throughout the year. Visits by ESU Administrator to school district Superintendents to discuss, plan and problem solve services provided to the districts. KSB training series. Perry Law Firm policy updates. Other topics for superintendents.

### INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS SERVICES (84-002.05C)

#### Media Lending Library

Provides tangible resources for schools. ex: DVDs, Real Care Babies, assessment rentals

#### Products and Subscriptions

EdReady, World Book, Other

### TECHNOLOGY (84-002.05B)

#### Coordinating Computer Repair Partnership

Coordination of a computer repair service across multiple vendors. ESU serves as a central drop off / pick up location.

#### Distance Learning Consortium

Coordination of DL and online learning. This consortium includes virtual field trips, e-rate filing and consultation, Santa visits, and Zoom desktop video conferencing.

#### LanMan Partnership

ESU offers to supply technical services on a consistent scheduled basis per our LANMAN Partnership service agreement. A District Technology Coordinator is hired by the ESU and assigned to those schools who choose to participate in the service.

#### Datacenter Services

Provides a direct connection to each school via a layer 2 VPN. This connection allows schools to place servers in our data center for redundant and primary services along with offsite backups. Server hosting for Wireless (Unifi) and Network Infrastructure (UISP).

#### Internet Support

Provide coordination and support for our school's direct connection to an internet service provider of their choice. These services range from the initial planning and design, to implementation of equipment and assuring continuity of the connection.

#### Network Planning & Consultation

Network personnel help plan, design, and implement infrastructure from wire to wireless, iPad, or laptops, servers and more.

#### Technical Support

Our Team provides support in the following areas: Backups, Client Computers, iOS, General IT, Lab Computers, Web Filtering, Email, Wired & Wireless Networking, Anti-Virus, and User Administration. Training is available for a variety of software and hardware platforms including server, mobile device management, client and tablet systems.

## STUDENT SERVICES

### Behavior & Mental Health Support

A Behavior Analyst conducts Functional Behavior Assessments to determine why a behavior is occurring and then develop a Behavior Intervention Plan to address the challenging behaviors. The analyst works closely with school administrators, teachers, paraprofessionals, and school psychologists. Services can be minimal, such as conducting an observation and helping with classroom strategies, or much more extensive. Some students may require intensive behavior interventions, social skills training and/or emotional behavioral health support. I also provide trainings to districts that discuss the basics of behavior, classroom strategies to help manage challenging behaviors, de-escalation strategies, and various other topics that the school district specifies.

### Early Childhood Special Education

Early Childhood Special Education services includes managing referrals and conducting evaluations of children birth to 5 years old. If children are in need of special education services; it also includes evidence based service delivery of comprehensive services in homes, childcare and preschool settings that adhere to IDEA Part C and Part B (619) rules and regulations. The teams also works to smoothly transition verified children to their elementary schools as they move on to kindergarten. Schools can utilize coordinators to help manage their Teaching Strategies GOLD requirements.

### Resource Coach

The ESU7 Resource Coach focus is working with teachers, other district staff, and families to assist, provide guidance, training, resources, and strategies for working with students by utilizing programming and materials to improve learning through meeting each individual student's needs (ages 0-21). Training Topics: Functions of Behavior and Behavior Strategies, Classroom Management Strategies, Stages of Behavior Escalation, Least Restrictive Environment, Functional Behavior Assessment/Behavior Intervention Plan, Paraprofessional Roles & Responsibilities, Writing Measurable IEP goals, General/Special Education Teacher Responsibilities, Disability Awareness, Social Skills, Verbal Behavior Available Services: Implement verbal behavior program, IEP development-how to write measurable goals, District IEP meeting facilitation, Direct teaching to assist IEP implementation, Para, Parent & Teacher training-Behavior strategies, role modeling, coaching, & data collection, Model, instruct and collect data for social skills & functional life skills, Develop data collection systems, Direct student services in the home, Differentiate instruction, Provide resources (web sites, trainings, curriculum materials, evidence based research )

### Cen7ter

Cen7ter is designed to meet the needs of students ages 14 to 21 with developmental disabilities. Cen7ter's mission is to empower students to use their strengths to assist in preparing each individual to gain employment and independent living skills. Cen7ter program emphasis is placed on life skills academics, social skills, independent living, recreation/leisure, and prevocational opportunities. Cen7ter services are IEP driven and available 1 - 5 days a week.

### Deaf Education

A teacher of the Hearing Impaired provides deaf education services and/or consultation for students verified as deaf or hard of hearing. Our Deaf Educator works with audiologists to ensure appropriate aural rehabilitation services to students, families, and schools.

### Learning Academy

The ESU 7 Learning Academy supports students aged 5 - 21 in unlocking their potential by working collaboratively with stakeholders and meeting students where they are academically, behaviorally, and socially to build on their strengths in order to successfully transition back to their prior educational environment.

### Program Supervision

Compliance, financials, training

### Psychology

Provide direct and indirect support through general education and special education processes. Provide individual, team, and systems-level supports and services to various problem-solving teams. Academic, social emotional, and behavioral assessment, consultation, collaboration with classroom teachers, special education staff, specialists, parents, administration, and school personnel to develop an effective plan to meet the needs of each individual student.

### Speech Language

Provide diagnostic, therapeutic, and consultative services for students. Provide services in many areas, including receptive language, expressive language, articulation, voice, fluency, literacy, and social communication. Individual plans and service delivery made for each student to ensure FAPE. Participate in transition teams.

### Transition

A transition specialists primary focus is preparing students with disabilities to transition from high school to life after graduation. The specialist supports districts through training opportunities, linkages to agencies and specialists, and providing student workshops on transition-related topics.

### Vision

The ESU7 Vision Team provides resources, services, and support in preparing children/youth, ages birth to 21, who have a visual impairment for success in life through collaboration with schools, families, and community agencies. Vision services are available for students experiencing vision problems. Certified vision personnel provide evaluation, consultation, and intervention for these children. This assistance may include the use of adaptive equipment, assistive technology, instruction in Braille, orientation and mobility, and other skills for accessing the general curriculum, and acquire Adapted Core Curriculum skills specific to individuals with vision impairments.

## GRANT SERVICES

### Autism Spectrum Disorders Grant

The Northeast Regional ASD Network is available to provide Resources and Training to local school districts in the areas of: Assessment and verification of ASD ?Program planning, including identification and implementations of appropriate strategies and interventions for students with ASD The Northeast region has a lending library consisting of books, videos, and other resources that is available to school districts and parents upon request. These may be checked out from the ESU7 Media Department.

### Perkins Grant

Provides grant facilitation, management, professional development, and networking for Career and Technical Education teachers through the Carl D Perkins Grant Consortium.

### Title 1 COOP

Provide support in coordinating school wide and targeted assistance Title 1 programs. Training and support provided for teachers, administrators, and bookkeepers.

### Title II-A Consortium

The ESU 7 Title II-A Consortium supports the goal of Title II-A: Increase the academic achievement of all students through strategies such as improving teacher and Principal quality and increasing the number of highly qualified teachers in the classroom and highly qualified Principals and leaders in schools.

### Transition Grant

A transition specialists primary focus is preparing students with disabilities to transition from high school to life after graduation. The specialist supports districts through training opportunities, linkages to agencies and specialists, and providing student workshops on transition-related topics.

### Early Learning Connection (ELC)

Nebraska's Early Learning Connection (ELC) is an integrated system of early childhood professional development. The ELC consists of a statewide hub at the Early Childhood Training Center and seven regional Early Learning Connection partnerships, along with other state and regional partners. It is designed as a system that supports the career and professional development of all who provide programs and services for young children birth through age eight.

### PEaK

PEaK, formerly known as ILCD stands for Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities, a Nebraska Department of Education Initiative designed to enhance program improvement that will result in better outcomes for children with disabilities. The ESU7 PEaK Coordinator assists school districts with their improvement activities for students with disabilities. The Facilitator partners with districts to gather and analyze data in collaboration with the Continuous School Improvement Process and to assist in the development of Targeted Improvement Plans. Each Nebraska school district will develop a Targeted Improvement Plan that will lead to better child and student performance and report annually to NDE on the Plan's progress.

### Planning Region Team

Planning Region 7 is an organized group of parents, advocates and representatives from school districts, agencies, educational service units, Head Start, and other relevant agencies or persons responsible for assisting in the planning and implementation of the Early Intervention Act in each local community or region. PRT also tracks, arranges or provides the required NDE training for PART C providers and is the entity to compliance monitoring of Part C in our 7 counties.

### Title IC Migrant Education Program

The Migrant Education Program (MEP) provides supplemental educational and support services to assist with academic success of migrant students.

### Title III - English Learners

Trainings, support and resources to assist schools in meeting the needs of English Learners.

### Title IV

Title IV-A Consortium supports the goal of Title IV-A: Well rounded education opportunities, safe and healthy students, and effective use of technology.

## OTHER SERVICES

### Coop Purchasing

Nebraska ESUCC Cooperative Purchasing provides compliant, competitive, aggregated bidding and purchasing to control and reduce costs to its members by maximizing efficiency of resources and processes in Nebraska and Nationally. Cooperative Purchasing is authorized to coordinate purchases for public school districts, nonpublic school systems, other ESUs, and other public agencies, including any county, city, village, school district, or agency of the state government, any drainage district, sanitary and improvement district, or other municipal corporation or political subdivision of the State of Nebraska.

### Group Purchasing

Volume purchases for various vendor services to optimize purchasing efficiencies for such items as John Baylor, policy updates, etc

### Production/Art Media

The ESU 7 Production Department provides schools with copy and finishing services, lamination, flash and word cards, writing paper pads, Ellison Cutouts, and poster printing.

### *Staffing, Training, and Budget Considerations.*

The following section defines the necessary resources to fulfill demands of the drafted 2022-2023 ESU 7 Service Plan.

<b>Program Function</b>	<b>2021-2022 2-Budgeted Expenditure</b>	<b>2022-2023 2-Budgeted Expenditure</b>
Special Education	4,717,728.31	4,835,671.52
Core Services	6,508,745.39	6,671,464.02
State and Federal Grants	3,438,407.70	3,524,367.90
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14,664,881.40</b>	<b>15,031,503.43</b>
Valuation	17,766,427,212.00	18,210,587,892.30
Percent Growth in Levy	2.17%	2.50%
Dollar Amount in Growth	56,553.85	66,624.10
Levy Dollars	2,664,964.08	2,731,588.18
Total Budgeted Expenses	14,664,881.40	15,031,503.43
Estimated Cash Reserve	\$1,304,205.11	\$1,336,810.24
Estimated Cash Reserve %	11%	10%

<b>STAFFING NEEDS</b>		
<b>Professional/ Leadership (funded by levy dollars)</b>	<b>Other Professional/Support Staff (funded by levy dollars)</b>	<b>Special Education *** (contracted to school districts)</b>
1.0 FTE Administration	2.0 FTE Administration Support	1.0 FTE Director
7.0 FTE Professional Development	1.0 FTE Professional Development Support	1.0 Student Services Principal
3.0 FTE Network Operations	3.5 FTE Network Operations	7 FTE Speech Language
<b>11.0 FTE PROFESSIONAL TOTAL</b>	5.5 FTE LANMAN Partnership*** (Contracted to school districts)	5.2 FTE Psychology
	4.25 FTE Media/Production	2 FTE Vision/O&M
	<b>16.25 FTE OTHER PROF/SUPPORT TOTAL</b>	7 FTE Early Childhood 7
		6.75 FTE Cen7ter
		6.7 FTE Learning Academy
		1.0 FTE Resource Coach
		1.0 FTE Board Certified Behavior Analyst
		4.0 FTE Mental Health Practitioner
		2.0 FTE Clerical
		<b>44.65 FTE SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>
<p>Funding sources: General Levy 1.5 cents and Cash Reserve Fund if necessary  Full Time Equivalencies are calculated on a 245 day contract/work agreement basis unless otherwise specified.  FTEs as assigned may vary according to (1) Federal Grant time logged throughout the year, (2) other changes in needs  FTE for Special Education are calculated on a 185 day contract basis (excluding Sped Dir who is on 245 day contract)  FTE for PD Staff are calculated on 225 day contract basis (excluding PD Director who is on 245 day contract)</p>		
<p>*These are estimates only. Please be advised the allocations and dollars may change as needs of the districts change.</p>		

## Stage III - Implementation

The implementation stage of SIMPL measures how well the supports in the ESU 7 Service Plan are implemented at the district level. This implementation may include:

- Assess participation in the ESU 7 services
- Evaluate the level of implementation for each service
- Log activity for each service

# 2022-2023 Service Plan Approval

The Levy/Core Services Plan and Cost Estimates were reviewed with the ESU 7 Superintendents on January 25, 2022 and will be reviewed by the ESU 7 Board on February 21, 2022. The Executive Committee recommends schools approve the plan and budget as attached. Each member school is requested to complete this form to document their approval decision by February 15, 2022.

\*Forms not returned by that date will be counted as affirmative votes for the proposed plan.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request as your information will help ESU 7 make decisions regarding staff assignments and budget allocations for the 2022-2023 fiscal year.

---

\* Required

1. School District \*

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Superintendent Filling out this Form \*

\_\_\_\_\_

3. The above mentioned school district has reviewed the proposed Levy/Core Services Plan and Cost Estimates as recommended by the ESU 7 Superintendents for the 2022-2023 budget year. The choice below indicates the school district's acceptance of this plan: \*

*Mark only one oval.*

Approve

Do Not Approve

# Nebraska ASD Network



**ASD Regional Coordinator**

Abby Pfister, M.Ed., BCBA

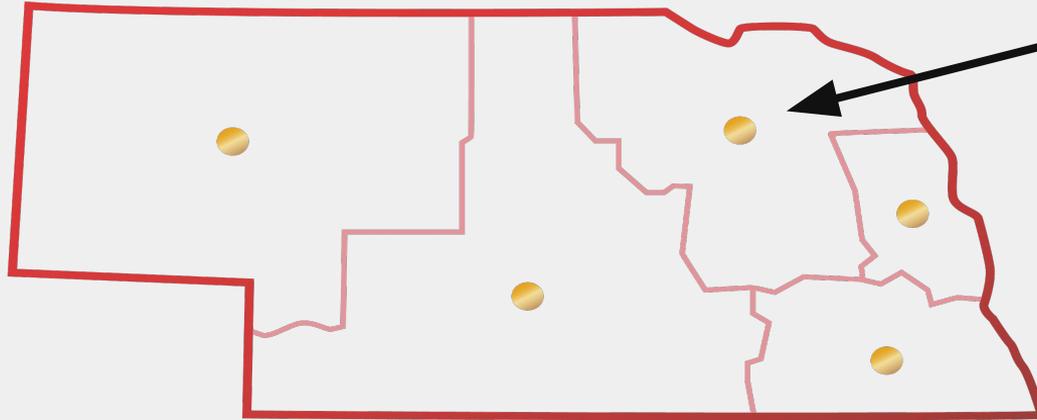


**Behavior Specialist**

Stephanie Johnson M.Ed.

# Introductions

# How it Works!



We Are here.

N E B R A S K A  
**autism spectrum disorders**  
N E T W O R K

## Network Goals

**The goals of the Nebraska ASD Network are to:**

- Build and enhance the capacity of Nebraska schools and families in supporting children across the autism disorders spectrum
- Provide training and technical assistance to Nebraska educators in providing appropriate services to students across the autism spectrum from birth to age 21

## Coordinator Role

Support teams with:

- Consultation
- Observations
- Educational ID
- IEP/IFSP Goal Writing
- Program Planning
- Team Trainings
- Regional Trainings
- Resource Dissemination
- Grant Writing
- Grant Reports
- Budget (w/support of the bookkeeper. Thank goodness)

# Behavior Specialist Role

- Regional training and/or staff development for educators, community professionals, and family members
- Intensive Consultative support to local school districts and families of students with ASD
- Mentored Support
  - Data collection
  - Functional behavior assessment (FBA)
  - Behavior intervention plan (BIP) implementation
- Follow up visits, determined on a student by student basis  
Visits provided for the following support:
  - Training
  - Treatment fidelity checks
  - Data analysis
  - Program revisions and/or program transitions, as needed
- Group/District training on Behavior Support concepts and strategies

**1 IN 54  
8-YEAR-OLD  
CHILDREN WERE  
IDENTIFIED WITH  
AUTISM.\***

*Learn the Signs.  
Act Early.*

\*Based on data collected in 2016 on 8-year-old children living in 11 communities across the United States.

CDC.GOV      bit.ly/MMWR\_Autism      MMWR

<https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2021/p1202-autism.html>

## Northeast Region Goals

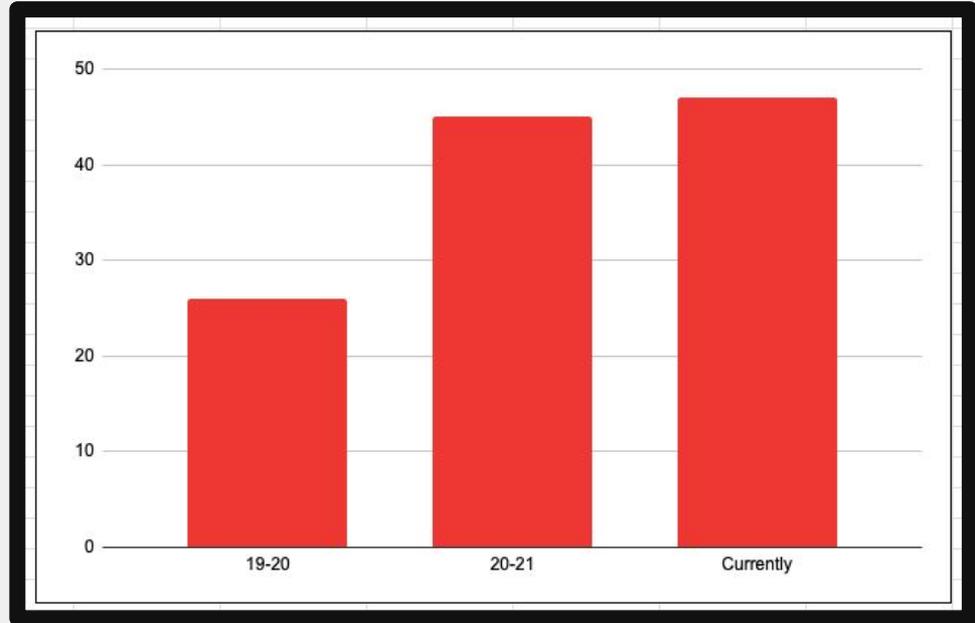
### The goals of the Northeast Region are to:

- Build local capacity of regional school districts
- Provide districts with support services in the areas of assessment, consultation, and assistance with intervention and programming
- To further develop awareness and promote evidenced based practices in the area of ASD
- Maintain an active voice in the ASD Network by collaborating with the State and Regional Coordinators

## The Process

- General ASD Questions
  - Email
  - Zoom Sign Up
- Student Specific Questions/Support
  - Referral Form

# Current Referrals



36

43

48

# Referrals

Submit Referral  
Form and  
Parent/Admin  
Signature page



Sign up for a team  
meeting



Make a plan for  
moving forward

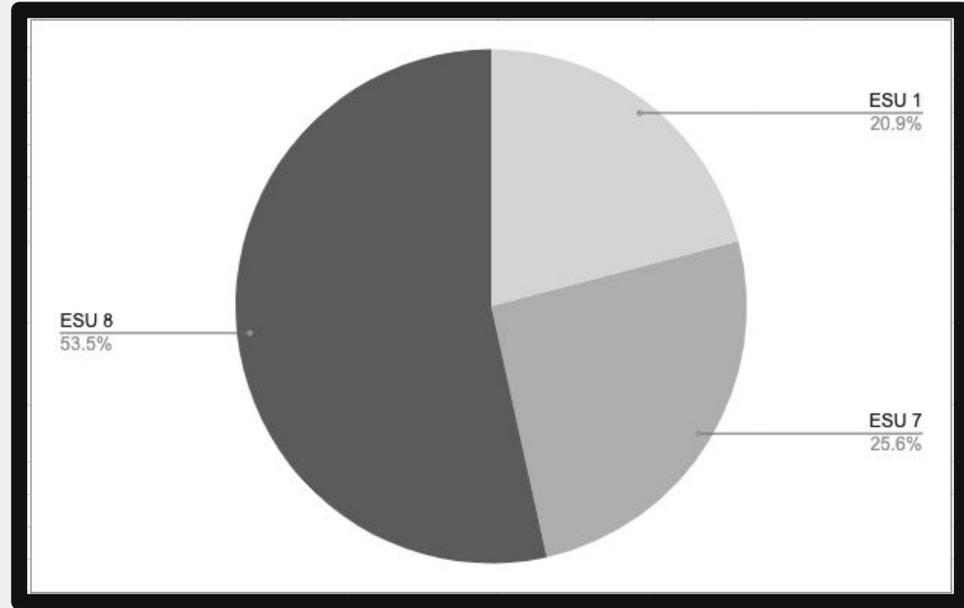
## “The PLAN”



Treating people the same  
is not equal treatment if  
they are not the same.

Deborah Tannen

# Current Referrals per ESU Area





**Resources**

# Monthly Newsletter

Email Abby at [apfister@esu7.org](mailto:apfister@esu7.org) If you would like to be on our mailing list.

DECEMBER 1, 2021



## Northeast Region

Nebraska ASD Network Newsletter



### Webinars Worth Watching: Interception Assessment and Curriculum

Interception is an important sensory system that helps us to feel internal body signals like a full bladder, growling stomach, tense muscles or speeding heart. Research indicates that our ability to clearly notice and interpret these signals enables us to accurately identify and manage how we feel: Are we anxious? getting frustrated? hungry? full? in pain? needing the bathroom? Interoceptive differences are very common in a variety of students including those with autism, but also in co-occurring or stand alone conditions such as trauma and attachment disorders, sensory processing disorder, ADHD, anxiety, depression and behavioral challenges.



[Referral Form](#)

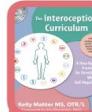


### JOIN US . . .

Our second semester [Training Calendar](#) is now available. There are many great training opportunities to meet the need of our region.

### -ZOOM WITH US!-

Sign up for your spot [HERE!](#)



### Check it Out!

(email Abby)

The Interception Curriculum: A Step-by-Step Guide to

Developing Mindful Self Regulation

This curriculum provides a framework for building independent, self-regulation, by sequentially teaching a learner to notice body signals, connect body signals to emotions, and then determine what action to take to promote comfort within the body.

Nearly 78% of children with autism have at least one co-occurring mental health condition. *Science Daily (January 2021)* ADHD is the most common mental health condition in people with autism, occurring in 28% , according to the Duke Center for Autism and Brain Development.

### Event Calendar



**Abby Pfister**  
Northeast Regional  
ASD Coordinator

**Stephanie Johnson**  
Behavior Specialist

2657 44th Ave.  
Columbus, NE 68601  
(402) 564-5753 Ext 1026  
(712) 898-9992

### Northeast Region ASD Team

*\*Click names to email team members*

Aimee Albers  
Beth Burki  
Angie Corderman  
Rebecca Eckhardt  
Kim Green  
Bobbi Hightree-Comstock  
Chris Harder  
Alex Heard  
Jenna Hoffman  
Rebecca Jepsen  
Jessica Johnson  
Stephanie Johnson  
Christina Kilgore  
Brandy King  
Jamie London  
Amy Mazankowski  
Andrea McGregor  
Renae McInerney  
Cassie Ohl  
Gina Ohnesorg  
Audrey Pollreisz  
Abby Pfister  
Sierra Reuter  
Brandy Rose  
Amy Slama  
Shannon Stelling  
Stacy Stewart  
Lynn Sullivan  
Nicole Swain  
Chelsea Umscheid  
Crystal Walters

*\*Click underlined titles to be redirected*

# ASD Network Site

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Nebraska Autism Spectrum Disorders Network website. At the top, it features the University of Nebraska-Lincoln logo and navigation links for 'Visit', 'Apply', and 'Give'. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main header includes the 'N' logo and the text 'NEBRASKA AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDERS NETWORK'. Below this is a red navigation bar with links for 'About ASD Network', 'Autism Spectrum Disorders', 'Education & Training', 'Webinars', and 'Nebraska ASD Network State Conference'. The main content area has a heading 'Welcome to the Nebraska ASD Network website' followed by a paragraph: 'The Nebraska ASD Network is committed to providing up-to-date information and training based on current research about autism spectrum disorders. Which consists of workshops that are scheduled throughout the state on a variety of subjects and several websites that offer on-line training opportunities related to autism spectrum disorders.' Below this is a 'Webinars' section with the text: 'The 2020-2021 Tri-State Webinar Series offers a wide variety of content. Webinars are live on the dates and times posted on the flyer. All webinars are recorded and archived on our site after the initial airing. This allows you to watch all content later as well!' and a link to 'Download the Fall 2021-2022 Tri-State Webinar Series Flyer'. On the right side, there is a circular logo for the 'TRI-STATE AUTISM COLLABORATIVE' featuring the logos of Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska, and the acronym 'TASN'. An 'EMAIL US' button is located in the bottom right corner.

<https://www.unl.edu/asdnetwork/>

# Northeast Region ASD Website

**ASD Offerings & Resources**



**Monday Meetings with Coordinator**

Sign up for 30 minute time slots to attend Zoom meeting with me! We can talk about resources that may be available, any questions you have, etc.

We can meet individually or sign up as a team!



**Northeast Region Training Calendar**

Please view Events that are offered.



**Tri-State Webinars**

Check out our tri-state webinars for developing understanding and skill for Autism Spectrum Disorder



**NE ASD Referral Form**



**Nebraska ASD Network**

NE ASD Network is committed to providing up to date information and training

<https://www.esu7.org/asd>

# Tri State Collaborative

- Partnership between Kansas, Colorado and Nebraska
- Collaborate on trainings
  - Working together
  - Separate but share within each state
- Meet in May/June for 3 Days



# Northeast ASD Team

Group of educators and therapists that have a passion for autism

## Team members

- Participate in ongoing training to keep up-to-date on current research and practice.
- Disseminate ASD Network training opportunities, webinars and services.
- Make recommendations regarding the development of regional training and resources in the area of ASD.
- Model evidence based practices that others can learn from.
- Contribute to regional trainings and/or State Conferences
- Attend **Quarterly** Meetings

# Northeast ASD Team

## Members from the ESU 7 Area

Brandy Rose- ESU7 School Psychologist, BCBA

Stacy Stewart-Shelby-Rising City, SLP

Amy Mazankowski- ESU 7 Resource Coach, BCBA

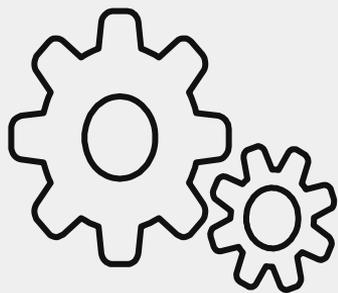
Amy Slama- ESU 7 Transition Specialist, SLP

Christina Kilgore- Occupation Therapist

Alex Heard- Lakeview Community Schools, Special Education Teacher

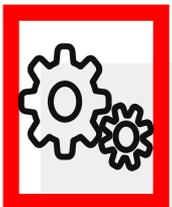
Kim Green- Osceola High School, Special Education Teacher

Brandy King - Special Education Teacher, Fullerton Public Schools



# Trainings

- State Initiatives
- Survey Results
- Referral Needs (patterns)



# First Semester Trainings

## SEPTEMBER

- ❑ 8- What Works Wednesday: Visual Schedules
- ❑ 13-15- Engaged and On Task: How to Teach Critical Language and Learning Skills through Direct Instruction (Verbal Behavior)

## OCTOBER

- ❑ 6- What Works Wednesday: Mini Schedules
- ❑ 13- Overview of VB

## NOVEMBER

- ❑ 9- Strategies for Including Bright and Verbal Students with Autism in the General Education Classroom
- ❑ 10- What Works Wednesday: Positive Reinforcement
- ❑ 15- Girls on the Spectrum

## DECEMBER

- ❑ 8- What Works Wednesday: Negative Reinforcement



# Second Semester Trainings

## JANUARY

- ❑ 5- Toolkit for ED ID
- ❑ 11- Structured Teaching Live Virtual Series (1 of 4)
- ❑ 12- What Works Wednesday: Transition Strategies (Between Activities)
- ❑ 18- Structured Teaching Live Virtual Series (2 of 4)
- ❑ 25- Structured Teaching Live Virtual Series (3 of 4)
- ❑ 26- Supporting Your Student's Executive Functioning Skills

## FEBRUARY

- ❑ 1- Structured Teaching Live Virtual Series (4 of 4)
- ❑ 9- What Works Wednesday: Video Modeling
- ❑ 25- Math & ASD

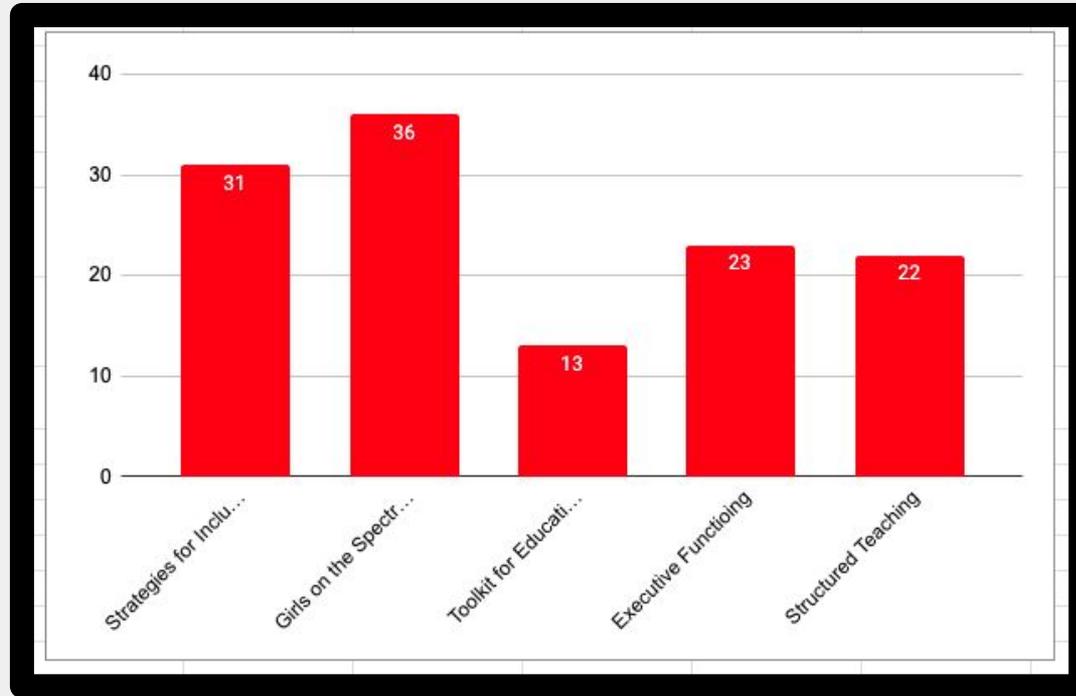
## MARCH

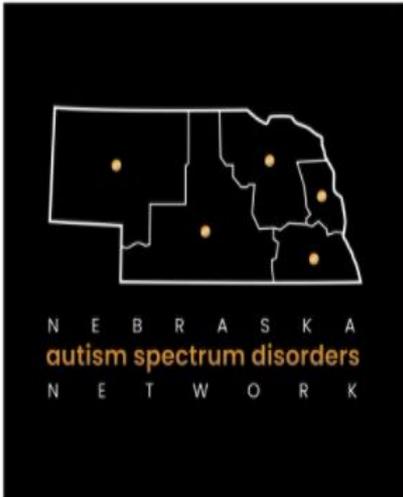
- ❑ 9- What Works Wednesday: Social Narratives
- ❑ 28- Teaching the "Must Have" Skills to Early Learners of All Ages

## APRIL

- ❑ 7 & 8- NE ASD State Conference @ Kearney
- ❑ 13- What Works Wednesday: Bringing it all together to Prepare for Next Year

## 2nd Semester Training Numbers





# ASD Network State Conference

April 7th and 8th, 2022

Younes Convention Center North, Kearney NE & Online  
(Hybrid Event)

“Skills travel. People Don’t”  
- unknown



thanks!

**Any questions?**

**Abby Pfister**

Northeast Region ASD  
Coordinator

[apfister@esu7.org](mailto:apfister@esu7.org)

402-564-0815

**Stephanie Johnson**

Northeast Region  
Behavior Specialist

[sjohnson@esu7.org](mailto:sjohnson@esu7.org)

402-564-0815





## **Regular Board of Directors Meeting**

Educational Service Unit 7, Oak Room  
2657 44th Avenue  
Columbus, NE 68601-8537  
Monday, January 17, 2022 at 5:30 PM  
Posted Locations:

- Columbus Telegram Newspaper
- Columbus Telegram Website
- ESU 7 North Building Front Door

Posted Date:01/10/2022

Attendance Taken at 5:32 PM.

Bob Arp: Present  
Joyce Baumert: Present  
Marni Danhauer: Present  
Donald Ellison: Present  
Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Dawn Lindsley: Present  
Richard Luebbe: Present  
Jennifer Miller: Present  
Doug Pauley: Present  
Richard Stephens: Present  
Gary Wieseler: Present  
Jack Young: Absent  
Present: 10, Absent: 2.

### 1. **Call the Meeting to Order**

**LEADERSHIP • SERVICE • SUPPORT**

Notice of this meeting was given in advance according to State Law 84-1411, by giving notice of the meeting to the public on ESU 7 website www.esu7.org and posted at location of meeting. Notice of this meeting was also given in advance to all members of the Board of Education of Educational Service Unit 7. Availability of the agenda and purpose of the hearing was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting and in the notice to the members of this hearing. All proceedings of the Board of Education of Educational Service Unit 7 were taken while the convened hearing was open to the attendance of the public.

Roll call was taken at 5:32pm  
Board President conducted the meeting.

Staff present:

Larianne Polk, Administrator

Linda Shefcyk, Business Manager

Marci Ostmeyer, Professional Development Director

Tami Clay, Special Education Director

Dan Ellsworth, Network Operations Director

1.1. Notification of Open Meetings Law

This meeting has been preceded by reasonable advance notice and is hereby declared to be in open session. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room.

1.2. Roll Call

1.3. Absent Board Members

Vice President Jack Young and Board Member Dan Hoesly will be absent due to personal reasons. Vice President Young and Board Member Dan Hoesly notified the Administrator prior to the meeting.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take action to approve the Board member absences.

Approval of Board Member absences as presented Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Marni Danhauer.

Dan Hoesly: Absent

Jack Young: Absent

Bob Arp: Yea

Joyce Baumert: Yea

Marni Danhauer: Yea

Donald Ellison: Yea

Dawn Lindsley: Yea

Richard Luebbe: Yea

Jennifer Miller: Yea

Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Vice President Jack Young and Board Member Dan Hoesly will be absent due to personal reasons. Vice President Young and Board Member Dan Hoesly notified the Administrator prior to the meeting.

1.4. Pledge of Allegiance

All members present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Agenda

The sequence of agenda topics is subject to change at the discretion of the Board.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve agenda as presented.

Agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Donald Ellison and a second by Jennifer Miller.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

3. Welcome Visitors

No visitors present.

4. Public Comment

The Board has the discretion to limit the amount of time set aside for public participation.

Citizens wishing to address the Board on a certain agenda item must complete the Request to be Heard Document prior to the start of the board meeting. Citizens wishing to present petitions to the Board may do so at this time. However, the Board will only receive the petitions and not act upon them or their contents.

No public comments provided.

5. **Election of Board Officers**

### 5.1. Election of Board President

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to elect \_\_\_\_\_ as President of Board of Directors.

Motion for Administrator Polk to preside over the nomination and electronic election process Passed with a motion by Bob Arp and a second by Gary Wieseler.

Dan Hoesly:	Absent
Jack Young:	Absent
Bob Arp:	Yea
Joyce Baumert:	Yea
Marni Danhauer:	Yea
Donald Ellison:	Yea
Dawn Lindsley:	Yea
Richard Luebbe:	Yea
Jennifer Miller:	Yea
Doug Pauley:	Yea
Richard Stephens:	Yea
Gary Wieseler:	Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Election of Doug Pauley as President of the Board of Directors Passed with a motion by Richard Luebbe and a second by Bob Arp.

Dan Hoesly:	Absent
Jack Young:	Absent
Bob Arp:	Yea
Joyce Baumert:	Yea
Marni Danhauer:	Yea
Donald Ellison:	Yea
Dawn Lindsley:	Yea
Richard Luebbe:	Yea
Jennifer Miller:	Yea
Doug Pauley:	Yea
Richard Stephens:	Yea
Gary Wieseler:	Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Doug Pauley has been elected as the 2022 - 2023 Board President.

### 5.2. Election of Vice President of the Board of Directors

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to elect \_\_\_\_\_ as Vice President of Board of Directors.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to elect Jack Young as Vice President of Board of Directors Passed with a motion by Bob Arp and a second by Marni Danhauer.

Dan Hoesly:	Absent
Jack Young:	Absent
Bob Arp:	Yea
Joyce Baumert:	Yea
Marni Danhauer:	Yea
Donald Ellison:	Yea
Dawn Lindsley:	Yea
Richard Luebbe:	Yea
Jennifer Miller:	Yea
Doug Pauley:	Yea
Richard Stephens:	Yea
Gary Wieseler:	Yea
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2	

Jack Young has been elected as the 2022 - 2023 Board Vice President.

### 5.3. Election of Secretary of Board of Directors

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to elect \_\_\_\_\_ as Secretary of Board of Directors.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to elect Jennifer Miller as Secretary of Board of Directors Passed with a motion by Richard Stephens and a second by Doug Pauley.

Dan Hoesly:	Absent
Jack Young:	Absent
Bob Arp:	Yea
Joyce Baumert:	Yea
Marni Danhauer:	Yea
Donald Ellison:	Yea
Dawn Lindsley:	Yea
Richard Luebbe:	Yea
Jennifer Miller:	Yea
Doug Pauley:	Yea
Richard Stephens:	Yea
Gary Wieseler:	Yea
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2	

Jennifer Miller has been elected as the 2022 - 2023 Board Secretary.

6. Board Code of Ethics and Oath of Office  
Annually, Board Members participate in the Oath of Office and sign their Code of Ethics.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely and without mental reservations, or for purpose or evasions; and that I will faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office of member of the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 7, according to law, to the best of my ability. And I do further swear that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence; and that during such time that I am in this position I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence. So help me God.

All Board Members present read the Oath of Office and signed their Code of Ethics. Absent members will be provided the Oath of Office and Code of Ethics at their next attended meeting.

7. Board Member Job Description  
**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Board Member Job Description as presented.

Discuss, consider, and take any necessary action to approve the Board Member Job Description as presented Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Doug Pauley.

Dan Hoesly:	Absent
Jack Young:	Absent
Bob Arp:	Yea
Joyce Baumert:	Yea
Marni Danhauer:	Yea
Donald Ellison:	Yea
Dawn Lindsley:	Yea
Richard Luebbe:	Yea
Jennifer Miller:	Yea
Doug Pauley:	Yea
Richard Stephens:	Yea
Gary Wieseler:	Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Administrator Polk read the job description. There were no questions.

8. **Committees, positions, and designations**  
8.1. Select Treasurer to the Board of Directors

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Treasurer to the Board of Directors.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to appoint Linda Shefcyk as Treasurer to the Board of Directors Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Bob Arp.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Linda Shefcyk has been appointed as the 2022 - 2023 Treasurer to the Board of Directors.

8.2. Select Recording Secretary to the Board of Directors

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to appoint \_\_\_\_\_ as Recording Secretary to the Board of Directors.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to appoint Mindy Reed as Recording Secretary to the Board of Directors Passed with a motion by Gary Wieseler and a second by Jennifer Miller.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Mindy Reed has been appointed as the 2022 - 2023 Secretary to the Board of Directors.

8.3. Select members of Board Committees

Members of the Board will choose Committees to partake in.

**2021 Members**

Negotiations:

- Jennifer Miller (Chair)
- Richard Luebbe
- Richard Stephens

Handbook:

- Dawn Lindsley (Chair)
- Joyce Baumert
- Bob Arp

Budget:

- Gary Wieseler (Chair)
- Jack Young
- Dan Hoesly

Evaluation:

- Marni Danhauer (Chair)
- Donald Ellison
- Joyce Baumert
- Dawn Lindsley

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve the 2022 Negotiations Committee members as presented Passed with a motion by Donald Ellison and a second by Doug Pauley.

Dan Hoesly: Absent

Jack Young: Absent

Bob Arp: Yea

Joyce Baumert: Yea

Marni Danhauer: Yea

Donald Ellison: Yea

Dawn Lindsley: Yea

Richard Luebbe: Yea

Jennifer Miller: Yea

Doug Pauley: Yea

Richard Stephens: Yea

Gary Wieseler: Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve the 2022 Handbook Committee members as presented Passed with a motion by Doug Pauley and a second by Jennifer Miller.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve the 2022 Budget Committee members as presented Passed with a motion by Dawn Lindsley and a second by Doug Pauley.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea

Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to approve the 2022 Evaluation Committee members as presented Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Richard Stephens.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea

Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

## 2022 Members

### Negotiations:

- Jennifer Miller (Chair)
- Richard Luebbe
- Richard Stephens

### Handbook:

- Dawn Lindsley (Chair)
- Joyce Baumert
- Bob Arp

### Budget:

- Gary Wieseler (Chair)
- Jack Young
- Dan Hoesly

### Evaluation:

- Marni Danhauer (Chair)
- Donald Ellison
- Joyce Baumert
- Dawn Lindsley

## 8.4. Designate depository bank(s)

Authorized Depositories, Bonds, Disbursement of Funds requires the ESU 7 Board to annually authorize depositories for ESU 7 Funds. The checking accounts are currently at First National Bank and Trust, Columbus. The Board authorizes the Administrator and Board Treasurer to contact banks in the ESU area to invest money at the best rate.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to authorize First National Bank and Trust, Columbus as the depository bank, as presented Passed with a motion by Gary Wieseler and a second by Bob Arp.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Jennifer Miller: Nay  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea

Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 9, Nay: 1, Absent: 2

8.5. Designate Newspapers of Record

The Columbus Telegram is a newspaper of general circulation in all counties in the ESU 7 Area. Legal Notices as required will be reported in the Columbus Telegram.

Discuss, consider and take any necessary action to authorize the Columbus Telegram as the newspaper of record, as presented Passed with a motion by Dawn Lindsley and a second by Doug Pauley.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Administrator Polk explained the reasons why there must be a newspaper of record on file.

9. **Consent Agenda**

Unless removed from the consent agenda, items identified within the consent agenda will be acted on at one time.

If any Board member wishes to discuss an item, it must be removed from the consent agenda at which time the remaining items will be acted upon.

Consent Agenda Includes:

- Minutes from the previous meeting(s)
- Presentation of the bills
- Policy review with no recommended changes
- Other routine agenda items

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Consent agenda as presented Passed with a motion by Doug Pauley and a second by Dawn Lindsley.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
 Jack Young: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Marni Danhauer: Yea  
 Donald Ellison: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Doug Pauley: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

9.1. Minutes

**This is a consent item.**

9.2. Presentation of Bills #73513 through #73642 totaling \$745,350.90

The summary of bills for the current month total:\$745,350.90 - Bills #73513 through #73642

Inservice bills total: \$0

	Amount	Vendor	Description
73515	\$7,282.68	Amazon	Migrant/Tech/SPED/Grants supplies
73526	\$16,115.67	Capital One	Tech/SPED/Grants travel and supplies
73527	\$11,042.11	Central NE Rehab Services	SPED SLP Services
73532	\$37,196.00	Daktech Computers	Tech school equipment flow through
73542	\$8,263.91	ESU 2	NNNC quarterly
73585	\$7,628.69	Schuyler Comm. Schools	Instructional Coach - Schuyer - flow through
73587	\$5,189.80	State of NE - Department of Admin	Network Services charges

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.3. New Hire: Christina Hamling, Speech Language Pathologist  
Christina Hamling, Speech Language Pathologist. Christina graduated from St. Edward High School and UNK. She is currently working for Norfolk Public.

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.4. New Hire: Rachel Beck, Speech Language Pathologist  
Rachel Beck, Speech Language Pathologist. Rachel graduated from High Plains. She is currently working at Raymond Central as a Speech Language Pathologist.

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.5. Resignation - Jennifer Rivera, Migrant Education Program Service Provider

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.6. Mileage Reimbursement Rate  
The IRS Mileage rate for 2022 is \$0.585 per mile.

Article III, Section 4, D Coffee Act Policy (Reimbursable Expenses)

Reimbursement of Expenses. The ESU will pay the registration costs, tuition costs, fees or charges for attendance by Board members at such approved functions. The ESU will pay mileage at the rate allowed by law (that is, the rate established by the Department of Administrative Services) or actual travel expense if travel is authorized by commercial or charter means. The ESU will pay meals and lodging at a rate not exceeding the applicable federal rate unless a fully itemized claim is submitted substantiating the costs actually incurred in excess of such rate and such additional expenses are expressly approved by the Board.

For employees and volunteers, the ESU will pay costs and make reimbursements in the same manner as provided above for Board member attendance, unless otherwise established by policy, Board action, contract, or negotiated agreement.

- 9.7. Annual SPARQ Data Solution Dues

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.8. Reading of Article I, Section 1, F Unit Calendar

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.9. Reading of Article I, Section 3, B Filling Vacancies

**This is a consent item.**

- 9.10. Reading of Article I, Section 3, E Oath of Office

**This is a consent item.**

9.11. Reading of Article I, Section 3, F Code of Ethics for Board Members

**This is a consent item.**

9.12. Reading of Article I, Section 4, A Officer Positions

**This is a consent item.**

9.13. Reading of Article I, Section 4, B President

**This is a consent item.**

9.14. Reading of Article I, Section 4, C Vice President

**This is a consent item.**

9.15. Reading of Article I, Section 4, D Secretary

**This is a consent item.**

9.16. Reading of Article I, Section 4, E Treasurer

**This is a consent item.**

9.17. Reading of Article I, Section 4, F Recording Secretary

**This is a consent item.**

9.18. Reading of Article I, Section 5, A Committees

**This is consent item.**

9.19. Reading of Article I, Section 5, C Temporary Committees

**This is a consent item.**

9.20. Reading of Article I, Section 5, D Committee Operations

**This is a consent item.**

10. Treasurer's Report

Review the breakdown of the Treasurer's Report.

Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Richard Stephens.

Dan Hoesly: Absent

Jack Young: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Marni Danhauer: Yea  
 Donald Ellison: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Doug Pauley: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Administrator Polk discussed the cash on hand and cash reserve lines. The goal is to have 30% cash on hand, which is enough to sustain salaries and grant opportunities while ESU waits for payments from schools and grants.

11. Dissemination of Conflict of Interest Forms

Annually, Conflict of Interest and Code of Ethics forms will be disseminated to the Board for signature.

Administrator Polk explained the Conflict of Interest Form.

12. ESU 7 2022-2023 General Calendar

**Recommendation:** Discuss, Consider and take any necessary action to approve the ESU 7 2022-2023 General Calendar as presented.

Discuss, Consider and take any necessary action to approve the ESU 7 2022-2023 General Calendar as presented Passed with a motion by Joyce Baumert and a second by Donald Ellison.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
 Jack Young: Absent  
 Bob Arp: Yea  
 Joyce Baumert: Yea  
 Marni Danhauer: Yea  
 Donald Ellison: Yea  
 Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
 Richard Luebbe: Yea  
 Jennifer Miller: Yea  
 Doug Pauley: Yea  
 Richard Stephens: Yea  
 Gary Wieseler: Yea  
 Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Administrator Polk notified the Board of the two opening days instead of the traditional one day.

13. Coordinating Agency for ESU 7 Special Education Cooperative  
ESU 7 continues to serve as the coordinating agency for the ESU 7 Special Education Cooperative for 2022-2023.

Discuss, consider and take any action necessary for ESU 7 to continue to serve as the coordinating agency for the ESU 7 Special Education Cooperative for 2022-2023  
Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Donald Ellison.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

14. Virtual Conferencing option for the February 21, 2022 and March 21, 2022 Board Meetings

Nebraska Revised Statute § 84-1411 authorizes virtual meetings for educational service units if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) are met.

**Recommendation:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve a virtual conferencing option for the February 21, 2022 and March 21, 2022 Board Meetings.

Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve a virtual conferencing option for the February 21, 2022 and March 21, 2022 Board Meetings Passed with a motion by Joyce Baumert and a second by Bob Arp.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

President Pauley explained the virtual option is made available primarily for weather-related conflicts, but is available if other conflicts arise.

## 15. **Administrator's Report General**

- Board Member Information Update
- ESUCC Update
  - PDO Mental Health Presentation
- Upcoming Events
  - NASB Budget & Finance Workshop (York) - 3.1.2022 (Registration deadline 2.23.22)
    - For Budget Committee
  - NASB Area Membership Meeting (Fremont) - 8.24.2022
  - AESA Educators' Call to Action (Washington, DC) - 9.21-9.23.2022
  - NASB Labor Relations (Lincoln) - 10.5-6.2022
    - For Negotiations Committee
  - NASB State Education Conference (Omaha) - 11.16-18.2022
  - AESA Annual Conference (Atlanta, GA) - 11.30-12.3.2022
  - NSBA Annual Conference (Orlando, FL) - 4.1-4.3.2023

Administrator Polk invited the board to study the information in the PDO Mental Health Slideshow and become familiar with what services are being provided for mental health by our ESUs.

### 15.1. Goals Update

Goals - Attached for your Review

Administrator Polk explained her goals are closely related to the board goals. There will be ongoing updates related to these goals. This will be the place in the agenda where this will be reported.

### 15.2. Services Update

- Spotlight - Tech
- SIMPL Update
  - Testimonials Video

Items inside this item include visit updates, quarterly report, director reports, etc. Director Ellworth review the attached slideshow and answered questions from the board.

### 15.3. Facilities Update

- Playground Update
  - Grants submitted
    - Impact Grant with United Way
    - Columbus Area Future Fund Grant
  - Grant to be submitted this summer

- Waste Reduction and Recycling Incentive Grant
- Audio/Visual Update

**Recommended Motion:** Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the Impact Grants 2022 Application as presented.

Discuss, consider and take any action necessary to approve the Impact Grants 2022 Application as presented Passed with a motion by Jennifer Miller and a second by Donald Ellison.

Dan Hoesly: Absent  
Jack Young: Absent  
Bob Arp: Yea  
Joyce Baumert: Yea  
Marni Danhauer: Yea  
Donald Ellison: Yea  
Dawn Lindsley: Yea  
Richard Luebbe: Yea  
Jennifer Miller: Yea  
Doug Pauley: Yea  
Richard Stephens: Yea  
Gary Wieseler: Yea  
Yea: 10, Nay: 0, Absent: 2

Administrator Polk provided information related to grants submitted for the playground. Administrator Polk notified the board the audio/ visual project will begin installation in the second week of February and will be available for the March virtual meeting.

15.4. Legislative Update

The Second Session of the 107th Legislature convened January 5, 2022 at 10 a.m. The Legislature began bill introduction, which will continue through January 20, 2022. Public hearings will begin on January 18, 2022.

Administrator Polk reviewed the attached documents with the board.

16. **Committee Reports**

16.1. Negotiations Committee Report

Reports of activities and discussions from the Negotiations Committee will take place during this item.

Chairperson Jennifer Miller discussed the committee's conversations related to paraeducators and general staff. The next Negotiations Committee meeting will be February 21, 2022 at 4:00pm, followed by a joint Budget/Negotiations Committee at 5:00pm.

17. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:59pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda Shefcyk, Treasurer to the ESU 7 Board.

## A/P Summary Check Register

FPREG01A

Bank	Check No	Amount	Date	Vendor	Type
10	00073645	1,187.88	02/20/22	60053 5TH SEASON, INC	C
10	00073646	150.00	02/20/22	9652 AINSWORTH VISION CLINIC	C
10	00073647	213.00	02/20/22	190428 ALMQUIST, MALTZAHN, GALLOWAY & LUTH, PC	C
10	00073648	13,375.62	02/20/22	10391 AMAZON	C
10	00073649	379.67	02/20/22	120155 AMY J SLAMA	C
10	00073650	838.89	02/20/22	130180 AMY MAZANKOWSKI	C
10	00073651	689.13	02/20/22	7633 ANA SANTOS	C
10	00073652	329.00	02/20/22	10681 APPLE COMPUTER, INC.	C
10	00073653	174.00	02/20/22	12599 ASHLEY BAUER	C
10	00073654	120.00	02/20/22	20428 BOONE CENTRAL SCHOOLS	C
10	00073655	260.00	02/20/22	9253 BROWN COUNTY HOSPITAL	C
10	00073656	9,973.20	02/20/22	30039 CAPITAL ONE BANK (USA), N.A.	C
10	00073657	1,054.87	02/20/22	1996 CASEY'S MAIL SERVICE LLC	C
10	00073658	17,471.85	02/20/22	8940 CENTRAL NE REHAB SERVICES	C
10	00073659	318.18	02/20/22	30550 CITY OF COLUMBUS WATER & SANIT	C
10	00073660	1,487.50	02/20/22	31029 COLUMBUS PUBLIC SCHOOLS LUNCH FUND	C
10	00073661	308.00	02/20/22	31290 CORNHUSKER MARRIOTT HOTEL	C
10	00073662	254.10	02/20/22	4812 CUBBY'S, INC.	C
10	00073663	600.00	02/20/22	12289 CYBR SCHOOL LLC	C
10	00073664	20,558.00	02/20/22	40190 DAKTECH COMPUTERS	C
10	00073665	600.00	02/20/22	12580 DAVID DE JONG	C
10	00073666	2,818.03	02/20/22	12319 DAVID LORDEN	C
10	00073667	11,078.43	02/20/22	40725 EAKES OFFICE SOLUTIONS	C
10	00073668	204.50	02/20/22	50065 EAST CENTRAL DIST HEALTH DEPARTMENT	C
10	00073669	598,862.07	02/20/22	50825 ED SERVICE UNIT 7-PAYROLL	C
10	00073670	1,337.50	02/20/22	50595 ENGINEERED CONTROLS	C
10	00073671	740.49	02/20/22	50630 ERNST AUTO CENTER	C
10	00073672	187.93	02/20/22	7560 HOSTED SERVICES	C
10	00073673	1,054.00	02/20/22	9946 ESTR R PUBLICATIONS	C
10	00073674	497.25	02/20/22	50640 ESU 1	C
10	00073675	107.59	02/20/22	60056 FIRST NATIONAL BANK	C
10	00073676	69.56	02/20/22	70060 GENE STEFFY FORD	C
10	00073677	318.90	02/20/22	7013 GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS	C
10	00073678	487.00	02/20/22	80147 HAMPTON INN	C
10	00073679	1,107.37	02/20/22	11460 HAYLEY MURPHY	C
10	00073680	558.00	02/20/22	80543 HOMETOWN LEASING	C
10	00073681	871.22	02/20/22	80880 HY-VEE	C
10	00073682	214.95	02/20/22	90088 INDOFF, INC	C
10	00073683	7,880.00	02/20/22	200270 INSIGNIA SOFTWARE	C
10	00073684	75.00	02/20/22	3344 ISTE	C
10	00073685	855.24	02/20/22	3387 JENNIFER FISTLER	C
10	00073686	100.00	02/20/22	9180 JERI GLENN	C
10	00073687	9,228.60	02/20/22	6319 JOURNEYED.COM, INC.	C
10	00073688	436.96	02/20/22	260092 JUDY A ZADINA	C
10	00073689	1,060.61	02/20/22	110030 JULIE R KAHLER	C
10	00073690	60.72	02/20/22	574 KAROL BANKSON-RECKNOR	C
10	00073691	820.64	02/20/22	12424 KASEYA US, LLC	C
10	00073692	3,855.85	02/20/22	11452 KENDALL HUNT PUBLISHING COMPANY	C
10	00073693	1,848.00	02/20/22	110235 KIDDIE CAB	C
10	00073694	100.00	02/20/22	11738 KIM RUGER	C
10	00073695	225.00	02/20/22	12335 KIMBERLY JEAN CHASE	C
10	00073696	250.00	02/20/22	120129 LAKEVIEW COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	C
10	00073697	94.77	02/20/22	6718 LAURA PLAS	C
10	00073698	151.12	02/20/22	120223 LEIGH COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	C
10	00073699	18.85	02/20/22	120314 LINCOLN JOURNAL STAR	C

## A/P Summary Check Register

FPREG01A

Bank	Check No	Amount	Date	Vendor	Type
10	00073700	725.99	02/20/22	40545 LISA DURANSKI	C
10	00073701	2,192.60	02/20/22	120550 LOUP POWER DIST	C
10	00073702	69.90	02/20/22	130070 MAILBOX, THE	C
10	00073703	132.21	02/20/22	5410 MARK BRADY	C
10	00073704	71.12	02/20/22	130378 MENARDS	C
10	00073705	850.00	02/20/22	10499 MICHELLE RUIPIPER	C
10	00073706	15.00	02/20/22	9199 NACIA	C
10	00073707	793.00	02/20/22	140063 NASB ALICAP	C
10	00073708	1,520.40	02/20/22	12386 NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR DIRECT INSTRUCTIO	C
10	00073709	450.00	02/20/22	140066 NE ASSOC OF SCHOOL BOARDS	C
10	00073710	244.00	02/20/22	12602 NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL AGENCY	C
10	00073711	124.89	02/20/22	140570 NEBRASKA TECHNOLOGY & TELECOM.	C
10	00073712	290.00	02/20/22	140525 NRCSA	C
10	00073713	3,904.61	02/20/22	150290 O'NEILL PUBLIC SCHOOLS	C
10	00073714	105.00	02/20/22	11185 OBRIST	C
10	00073715	58.50	02/20/22	418 OTIS PIERCE	C
10	00073716	130.00	02/20/22	160033 PALMER PUBLIC SCHOOL	C
10	00073717	157.00	02/20/22	80130 PEARSON ASSESSMENT	C
10	00073718	15,255.82	02/20/22	10197 POWERSCHOOL	C
10	00073719	276.34	02/20/22	160672 PRESTO-X	C
10	00073720	32.83	02/20/22	170029 QUALITY SOUND	C
10	00073721	123.99	02/20/22	21001 RACHEL BURGESS	C
10	00073722	6,950.00	02/20/22	180493 ROMANS, WIEMER & ASSOC. CPA'S	C
10	00073723	2,800.00	02/20/22	12467 RON SHUALI	C
10	00073724	75.00	02/20/22	20250 RUTT'S HEATING & AIR	C
10	00073725	530.60	02/20/22	30268 SANDY CERNY	C
10	00073726	7,628.69	02/20/22	190164 SCHUYLER COMMUNITY SCHOOLS	C
10	00073727	4,049.00	02/20/22	9660 SEIDLITZ EDUCATION	C
10	00073728	509.38	02/20/22	8524 SHAYNA CEPPEL	C
10	00073729	600.00	02/20/22	9989 SHAYNE MCGUIRE	C
10	00073730	4,616.24	02/20/22	190557 SOUTHWEST BINDING & LAMINATING	C
10	00073731	2,206.91	02/20/22	190675 SRA/MCGRAW-HILL	C
10	00073732	5,189.80	02/20/22	190850 STATE OF NEBRASKA - DEPARTMENT OF ADMIN	C
10	00073733	775.07	02/20/22	191085 SUPER SAVER	C
10	00073734	649.21	02/20/22	160655 SYMMETRY ENERGY SOLUTIONS, LLC	C
10	00073735	367.50	02/20/22	9130 THE SUPPORT GROUP	C
10	00073736	629.20	02/20/22	6823 THINKING COLLABORATIVE, LLC	C
10	00073737	112.00	02/20/22	200606 U & I SANITATION	C
10	00073738	125.00	02/20/22	4960 UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT KEARNEY	C
10	00073739	1,394.82	02/20/22	10320 VERIZON WIRELESS	C
10	00073740	352.96	02/20/22	230049 CAPITAL ONE-WALMART (SPED)	C
10	00073741	240.00	02/20/22	230195 WAYNE COMM. SCHOOLS	C
10	00073742	2,190.66	02/20/22	230249 WEST POINT PUBLIC SCHOOLS	C
10	00073743	341.64	02/20/22	10510 ABBY PFISTER	A
10	00073744	219.96	02/20/22	1082 ANGEL D MAYBERRY	A
10	00073745	720.73	02/20/22	990 BRANDY ROSE	A
10	00073746	100.00	02/20/22	10782 BRENDA HAKE	A
10	00073747	100.00	02/20/22	5967 CASSANDRA RUTH	A
10	00073748	415.94	02/20/22	9512 CASSIE KRINGS	A
10	00073749	489.06	02/20/22	11690 CHRIS HILLIARD	A
10	00073750	10.53	02/20/22	230304 CINDY WIESER	A
10	00073751	91.26	02/20/22	50579 DAN ELLSWORTH	A
10	00073752	1,323.76	02/20/22	180474 DARLENE RODRIGUEZ	A
10	00073753	622.44	02/20/22	10529 DAVID VANDERHEIDEN	A
10	00073754	497.84	02/20/22	12262 ELIZABETH PREISTER	A

A/P Summary Check Register

FPREG01A

Bank	Check No	Amount	Date	Vendor	Type
10	00073755	343.98	02/20/22	7099 HALEY KUNZE	A
10	00073756	1,065.29	02/20/22	20135 ISAURA BARRETO	A
10	00073757	528.81	02/20/22	8559 JACLYN TERNUS	A
10	00073758	210.60	02/20/22	12220 JALAYNE FREY	A
10	00073759	133.38	02/20/22	9580 JASON TROTTER	A
10	00073760	246.87	02/20/22	11223 JILL WURDEMAN	A
10	00073761	100.00	02/20/22	8540 JOLYNN KAHLANDT	A
10	00073762	208.26	02/20/22	6459 KAISE RECEK	A
10	00073763	67.28	02/20/22	100521 KRIS JOHNSON	A
10	00073764	372.57	02/20/22	160636 LARIANNE POLK	A
10	00073765	85.34	02/20/22	190384 LARRY SHEFCYK	A
10	00073766	68.45	02/20/22	10430 LEANNE BLANCHARD	A
10	00073767	563.36	02/20/22	12270 LORI DINGEL	A
10	00073768	704.93	02/20/22	190434 LORI SIMANEK	A
10	00073769	230.72	02/20/22	2267 MARCIA OSTMEYER	A
10	00073770	1,946.26	02/20/22	11797 MARIA RODRIGUEZ	A
10	00073771	448.08	02/20/22	11479 MEGAN WELCH	A
10	00073772	756.99	02/20/22	4650 MELINDA VELECELA	A
10	00073773	950.80	02/20/22	12246 MERRIDIE KAUP	A
10	00073774	537.03	02/20/22	12254 MOLLIE MORROW	A
10	00073775	632.97	02/20/22	8788 NATHALIE VARGAS	A
10	00073776	863.43	02/20/22	5983 RACHEL GARNER	A
10	00073777	139.82	02/20/22	190888 RICHARD STEPHENS	A
10	00073778	444.02	02/20/22	10375 RONELLE JACKSON	A
10	00073779	1,090.99	02/20/22	130708 SHARON M BROWN	A
10	00073780	560.40	02/20/22	10740 SHELLI EICKMEIER	A
10	00073781	327.29	02/20/22	12165 STEPHANIE FOREMAN	A
10	00073782	332.18	02/20/22	11436 TAMRA CLAY	A
10	00073783	328.74	02/20/22	10774 TRICIA SPIEKER	A
10	00073784	753.48	02/20/22	230361 WENDY WOLFE	A
10	00073785	360.36	02/20/22	10545 YARIBEY RODRIGUEZ	A

Total Bank No 10 807,770.12

Total Manual Checks	.00
Total Computer Checks	787,434.28
Total ACH Checks	20,335.84
Total Other Checks	.00
Total Electronic Checks	.00
Total Computer Voids	.00
Total Manual Voids	.00
Total ACH Voids	.00
Total Other Voids	.00
Total Electronic Voids	.00

Grand Total 807,770.12

Number of Checks 141

Batch Yr	Batch No	Amount
22	000127	117,116.39
22	000137	598,862.07
22	000139	55,820.14
22	000141	35,971.52

## **Article I, Section 2, B Duties and Function of the Board**

The Board functions as a policy-forming and legislative body, and in some circumstances, as a quasi-judicial body. The general duties and functions of the Board are as follows:

1. **Policies**: Adopt policies governing the organization and operation of the ESU that are appropriate to serve the role and mission of ESU 7 and meet requirements of law. The Board policies will be available for review upon request at the administrative office of the ESU. The Board may act to suspend policies for a specified purpose and limited time by a majority vote of the Board.
2. **Personnel**: Appoint and fix the compensation and duties of the Administrator and evaluate the Administrator's performance. The method for selecting the Administrator shall be determined by the Board and may include the use of Administrator Selection Services or committee(s) created by the Board for the sole purpose of identifying candidates for the position. With the advice of the Administrator, the Board shall also employ and fix the compensation and duties of professional staff and delegates this authority for classified staff to the Administrator. The Board shall be responsible for taking action on certain personnel grievances and personnel contracts required pursuant to law or Board policy.
3. **Budget**: Provide for the preparation and adoption of the annual budget for the operations of the ESU, which shall include an itemized list of contemplated expenditures and expected revenue.
4. **Services**: Exercise final authority with regard to the determination of services to be provided to member school districts and contracted services to be provided to other schools or entities. The Board shall determine the participation of the ESU in providing supplementary educational services.
5. **Purchases and Contracts**: Approve purchases and contracts for which Board action is required pursuant to law or Board policy.
6. **Audit**: Cause a complete and comprehensive annual audit to be made of the books, accounts, records, and affairs of the ESU. The audits shall be conducted annually, except that the Auditor of Public Accounts may determine an audit of less frequency to be appropriate but not less than once in any three-year period. The Board may contract with the Auditor of Public Accounts or select a licensed public accountant or certified public accountant or firm of such accountants to conduct the audit and shall be responsible for the cost of the audit pursuant to the contract. Such audit shall be Title IX conducted in the same manner as audits of county officers. The original copy of the audit shall be filed in the office of the Auditor of Public Accounts.

7. Fulfill Mission: Take any other lawful and appropriate action to fulfill the ESU's mission.

Legal Reference:	§§ 79-1217 to 79-1224, § 79-1229 NDE Rule 84, section 3.04F
Related Policy/Policies	IV.1.A: Recruitment and Selection IV.II.C: Hiring, Assignment, and Dismissal
Date of Adoption:	January 15, 2018
Date of Review:	November 16, 2020 December 21, 2020 February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 3, C Role of Individual Board Members**

The role of individual Board members is to express their position by voting on issues presented at duly called meetings of the Board. The Board of ESU 7 functions only when it takes official action at a duly called meeting of the Board. Individual Board members and individual Board officers cannot bind ESU 7 or its Board to a contract or obligation and may not speak on behalf of the Board except when acting upon specific authority given by the Board.

Legal Reference	<i>Busboom v. Southeast Nebraska Technical Community College</i> , 194 Neb. 448 (1975); <i>Markay v. School District No. 18</i> , 58 Neb. 479 (1899)
Date of Adoption	January 15, 2018
Date of Review:	September 13, 2021 February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 3, D Orientation of New Board Members**

The Board and the administrative staff will be available to assist each new member-elect to understand the Board’s functions, policies and procedures and operations of ESU 7 both before and after the member takes office. Each member-elect will be:

1. Given selected material on the functions of the Board and ESU 7.
2. Invited to meet with the Administrator and other administrative personnel to discuss services they perform.
3. Invited to attend Board meetings.
4. Given copies of the policies and administrative regulations and other pertinent materials.

Legal Reference:	
Date of Adoption:	January 15, 2018
Date of Review	November 16, 2020 February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 3, G Compensation of Board Members**

Members of the Board shall receive no compensation for their services. Members may be reimbursed for the actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, pursuant to law and by a majority vote of the Board.

The Board may permit its members to participate in ESU 7’s hospitalization, medical, surgical, accident, sickness, or term life insurance coverage or any one or more of such coverages. A Board member electing to participate in the insurance program of ESU 7 shall pay both the employee and the employer portions of the premium for such coverage. This coverage is available to Board members beginning the first day of the first full month following the Board meeting when the Board member is sworn in.

If the Board opts to permit its members to participate in insurance coverage, the Administrator shall report quarterly at a Board meeting the board members who have elected such coverage. Such a report shall be made available in the ESU 7 office for review by the public upon request.

Legal Reference:	§ 79-1217(3); § 79-1232
Related Policy:	Coffee Act Policy (Reimbursable Expenses)
Date of Adoption:	January 15, 2018
Date of Review:	October 18, 2021 February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 4, G Removal from Officer Position**

A Board member may be removed from an officer position by a majority vote of the members of the Board.

Legal Reference:	
Date of Adoption:	December 18, 2017
Date of Review:	February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 4, H Filling a Vacancy in an Officer Position**

In the event of a vacancy in an officer position, the Board shall elect by a majority vote a successor to serve until a majority of the Board elects a different member to serve that office position.

Legal Reference:	
Date of Adoption:	December 18, 2017
Date of Review:	February 21, 2022

**Article I, Section 5, B Appointments**

The President shall appoint members of committees. However, the entire Board may, by a majority vote, take action in the first instance to make committee appointments and may remove any existing committee members and appoint replacement members.

Legal Reference:	
Date of Adoption:	February 19, 2018
Date of Review:	February 21, 2022

# MEMBERSHIP DUES INVOICE

in account with

## Nebraska Association of School Boards

1311 Stockwell, Lincoln, NE 68502 (402) 423-4951 or 1-(800) 422-4572

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**Name:** ESU 7

**County:** Platte

**NASB Region:** 16

DATE	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT DUE
January 29, 2022	<b>Annual Membership Dues</b> for NASB Fiscal Year 4/1/2022 to 3/31/2023	<b>\$750</b>
	Pay by 4/1/2022 to receive a 2% discount.	<b>\$15</b>
	<b>TOTAL AMOUNT DUE IF PAID BY APRIL 1, 2022</b>	<b><u>\$735</u></b>

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**Thank you for your support and participation in NASB.**

Dear Larianne Polk,

Despite the chaos the pandemic caused over the last two years, NASB never stopped pursuing its mission to support school board members in Nebraska!

Marcia is still doing board retreats. Colby is still at the Capitol. Megan and ALICAP are still providing excellent insurance coverage. Shari is still running effective superintendent searches. Sharon and her team still offer learning and networking opportunities. Jim is still working on policy. The Sparq team continues to provide state of the art technology solutions. Belka likely sent you an email and twittered minutes ago!

While that's simply how we are wired, you made that task easier as day after day, we looked out to see YOU never stopped either! 2021 brought new challenges both in and outside of your buildings and board rooms. From recalls to regulations, standards and mandates, local control and your ability to lead was constantly challenged, yet you never stopped. Being a school board member is not easy, but you didn't put your name on the ballot for easy.

Well before the latest round of obstacles, the job of the local school board member was to make decisions based on what's best for the youth attending our public schools. What some see as a couple hours, one night a month, don't see the amount of time and effort it takes to do the job properly. But they don't see how truly rewarding it is either.

Plain and simple, through all the obstacles of the past few years, Nebraska school boards have continued to deliver. That makes it incredibly easy and rewarding for us to want to continue to deliver for you! The NASB board and staff will continue to be here for you in 2022. We will travel to your towns to see you and others in our education community, to provide you the money-saving programs, information-sharing services, and events you need to thrive.

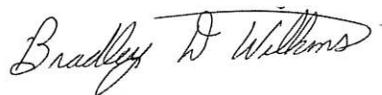
Thank You. Thank you for being bold, remaining calm, and not losing sight of what matters to kids and to your community. Thank you for giving it more than just a couple hours, one night a month. Nebraska is a better place because of you. Don't ever stop!

Membership renewal notices are going out now to your district/ESU and we look forward to working for and with you and your board again this year. If you have any questions about NASB's programs, services, advocacy efforts, or any other item, please give us a call at 800-422-4572, or email [schoolboards@NASBOnline.org](mailto:schoolboards@NASBOnline.org). Once again, we are offering a 2% discount for all annual dues received prior to April 1.

Sincerely,



John Spatz  
NASB Executive Director



Brad Wilkins  
2022 NASB Board President

0400111 DISCOVER NEBRASKA: OREGON TRAIL	0500215 ARGENTINA
0400168 ALASKA AND HAWAII	0500223 MOROCCO
0400344 PRINCIPLES OF ORBIT	0500229 ZIMBABWE
0400421 LINCOLN--AMERICA'S HEROES: ABRAHAM LINCO	0500302 EXPLORING SPACE
0400427 CHRISTMAS CUSTOMS NEAR AND FAR	0500304 SUN
0400671 FRENCH REVOLUTION: THE TERROR, THE	0500320 PLATE TECTONICS AND EARTHQUAKES
0401440 FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR (Rev)	0500333 LIGHTING UP: GRUESOME FACTS ABOUT CIGARE
0401872 CAT IN THE HAT, THE	0500352 WE THE KIDS: THE PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTIT
0401879 LORAX, THE	0500369 HOW OUR LAWS ARE MADE
0401898 MOLLY'S PILGRIM	0500378 FIGHT FOR INDEPENDENCE
0401906 POCKET FOR CORDUROY	0500379 NATIVE AMERICAN LIFE
0402259 BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO THE CONSTELLATIONS,	0500380 SLAVERY AND ABOLITION
0402712 INDIAN FAMILY OF LONG AGO: BUFFALO HUNTE	0500385 PUSHING WESTWARD
0402715 INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: BEGINNINGS IN THE	0500387 EAT RIGHT: 2005 FOOD PYRAMID
0402813 YOUR BODY AND ITS PARTS	0500400 REALITY MATTERS: OBESITY AND NUTRITION
0403040 REVOLUTION!	0500402 HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY BODY IMAGE
0403165 CHARLIE'S CHRISTMAS SECRET	0500417 GENETICS: BILL NYE
0403183 ASTEROIDS, COMETS AND METEORITES	0500419 BIOLOGY: BILL NYE
0403186 WHAT IS AN ECLIPSE?	0500425 SMALL APPLIANCES: A TO Z
0403355 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR: A FIRST FILM (Rev)	0500435 COLONIAL AMERICA
0403504 GREEN EGGS AND HAM	0500441 HEAT/ENERGY
0403653 WAR COMES TO PEARL HARBOR (INDEXED) VOL	0500443 SOUND/LIGHT AND COLOR
0403709 DISCOVER NEBRASKA: TRAILS WEST	0500444 MOON/OUTER SPACE
0403736 CAN I SIT ON A CLOUD?	0500450 NUTRITION AND SPORT
0403769 COLOR IN CLOTHING	0500474 WHO'S THAT STEPPING ON PLYMOUTH ROCK?
0403777 LAYOUT, CUTTING AND MARKING	0500486 SO YOU WANT TO BE PRESIDENT
0403781 MEASURING AND FITTING	0500491 PILGRIMS OF PLIMOTH
0403786 HOUSING: RENT OR BUY DECISIONS	0500497 WHATS THE BIG IDEA BEN FRANKLIN?
0403790 STORAGE AND CLOSET ORGANIZATION	0500511 JEAN FRITZ: SIX REVOLUTIONARY WAR FIGURE
0403940 DR. D'S BIRDS AND BEES VIDEO SHOW	0500525 SHH! WE'RE WRITING THE CONSTITUTION
0404001 SHELTER BOY	0500534 KU KLUX KLAN: HATE CRIME IN AMERICA DVD
0404052 MAMMALS AND THEIR YOUNG	0500539 AMERICAN DIVERSITY

0404228 BONNIE CONSOLO	0500541 FOOD SMARTS: MYPYRAMID FOR KIDS
0404300 GARBAGE TALE: AN ENVIRONMENTAL ADVENTURE	0500547 UNDERSTANDING GOOD CITIZENSHIP
0404307 GREENHOUSE EFFECT, THE	0500548 WE THE PEOPLE: A HISTORY
0404312 HAROLD AND HIS AMAZING GREEN PLANTS	0500572 NEW FOOD PYRAMID
0404317 HOW ANIMALS SURVIVE	0500573 SNACK ATTACK
0404361 MOUSE ON THE MAYFLOWER, THE	0500603 GATEWAY TO ADDICTION
0404374 PLATE TECTONICS	0500604 OTC DRUGS AND INHALANTS
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0500154 LISTEN TO WHAT I JUST HEARD: RUMERS AND	9000131 OPPOSITIONAL, DEFIANT & DISRUPTIVE CHILD
0500166 OUR SOLAR SYSTEM: EXPLORING SPACE	9018006 HUMAN TORSO
0500181 SUN: VIDEO QUIZ	9018022 EYE MODEL
0500208 VIETNAM	9018026 LUNG MODEL
0500210 SPAIN	9218249 HEART MODEL
0500214 SOUTH AFRICA	9807059 CHOICES, CHOICES: TAKING RESPONSIBILITY

January '22 Treasurer Report

<b>Beginning Balance January 1, 2022</b>			<b>\$116,107.63</b>		
<b>RECEIPTS</b>					
Property taxes			\$412,541.82		
SPED			\$497,096.45		
General/Flow Through			\$129,529.71		
Grants			\$156,078.10		
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>			\$1,195,246.08	\$1,195,246.08	
				\$1,311,353.71	
Transfer to Money Market				\$450,000.00	-
Total Funds Available				\$861,353.71	
<b>DISBURSEMENTS:</b>					
General Fund			\$297,335.70		
SPED			\$337,751.76		
Grants			\$110,138.44		
<b>Total DISBURSEMENTS Check #73513 thru #73643</b>			\$745,225.90	\$745,225.90	-
<b>Ending balance, JANUARY 31, 2022</b>				<b>\$116,127.81</b>	

Checking balance					\$116,127.81
Money Market Deposit Account at First National Bank					\$4,300,000.00
Money Market Deposit Account at First National Bank					\$100,000.00
Money Market Deposit Account at Bank of Clarks					\$100,000.00
Money Market Deposit Account at Columbus Bank & Trust					\$100,000.00
Certificate of Deposit - Great Western Bank					\$200,000.00
Certificate of Deposit - First National Bank-Columbus					\$100,000.00
<b>TOTAL CASH ON HAND (includes the amounts below)</b>					<b>\$5,016,127.81</b>
<b>CASH RESERVE</b>	<b>\$1,332,482.04</b>				
<b>PROTECTED BUDGET AUTHORITY</b>	<b>\$1,325,459.00</b>				
<b>Funds that are due to ESU 7</b>					
Grants				(\$566,898.00)	
Production/Art Media Accounts Receivable			(\$8,695.50)		
Network Support Accounts Receivable			(\$1,947.50)		
Misc. Flow thru Accounts Receivable			(\$9,079.59)		
Outstanding Receivables				(\$19,722.59)	
<b>Total due to ESU 7</b>				<b>(\$586,620.59)</b>	

	2020-2021	2021-2022	2020-2021	2021-2022		
	Dollars Spent Per Month	Dollars Spent Per Month	Percentage spent each month	Percentage spent each month		
September	\$219,458.69	\$230,646.07	8.41%	8.65%	Total Budget	\$14,750,740.08
October	\$193,540.30	\$172,872.86	7.42%	6.49%	30% of budget	\$4,425,222.02
November	\$170,793.79	\$194,455.74	6.55%	7.30%	Earmarked set aside	\$5,264,201.00
December	\$170,207.74	\$197,903.14	6.53%	7.43%	Total budget spent to date	\$4,120,064.75
January	\$163,271.84	\$191,895.21	6.26%	7.20%		
February	\$185,946.19	\$0.00	7.13%	0.00%	NOTES	
March	\$160,023.15	\$0.00	6.13%	0.00%		
April	\$175,952.25	\$0.00	6.75%	0.00%		
May	\$188,816.11	\$0.00	7.24%	0.00%		
June	\$175,773.04	\$0.00	6.74%	0.00%		
July	\$194,713.50	\$0.00	7.46%	0.00%		
August	\$268,457.00	\$0.00	10.29%	0.00%		
<b>Approved Total General Budget for Levy \$</b>			\$2,608,410.23	\$2,664,964.08		
<b>Total Spent to date</b>			\$2,266,953.60	\$987,773.02		
Dollars approved from cash reserve				\$0.00		



**COLOR KEY**

●	BLACK
●	RED
●	SLATE
●	WOOD
●	GRAY
●	GREEN
●	SPRINKLER
●	PLANTER



**Article I, Section 3, E Oath of Office**

Board members before taking office shall take and sign the following oath or affirmation:

I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Nebraska, against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that I take this obligation freely and without mental reservations, or for purpose or evasions; and that I will faithfully and impartially perform the duties of the office of member of the Board of Educational Service Unit No. 7, according to law, to the best of my ability. And I do further swear that I do not advocate, nor am I a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence; and that during such time that I am in this position I will not advocate nor become a member of any political party or organization that advocates the overthrow of the government of the United States or this State by force or violence. So help me God.

Legal Reference:	§ 11-101 to § 11-101.03
Date of Adoption:	January 15, 2018
Date of Review:	January 17, 2022

**Article I, Section 3, F Code of Ethics for Board Members**

Board members of ESU 7, like all public officers in the State, “stand in a fiduciary relationship to the people whom they have been elected or appointed to serve. As fiduciaries and trustees of the public wealth they are under an inescapable obligation to serve the public with the highest fidelity. In discharging the duties of their office they are required to display such intelligence and skill as they are capable of, to be diligent and conscientious, to exercise their discretion not arbitrarily but reasonably, and above all to display good faith, honesty and integrity. They must be impervious to corrupting influences and they must transact their business frankly and openly in the light of public scrutiny so that the public may know and be able to judge them and their work fairly. These obligations are assumed by them as a matter of law upon their entering public office.”

To assure that the entire Board acts in accordance with the foregoing legal responsibilities and to ensure the effective functioning of the Board, each Board member will sign a Board-approved Code of Ethics for ESU 7 Board Members (attached). The Code of Ethics is to be signed upon assumption of office and at each annual meeting.

Legal Reference:	<i>Nebraska Legislature on behalf of the State of Nebraska v. C. David Hergert</i> , 271 Neb. 976, 1011 (2006)
Date of Adoption:	January 15, 2018
Date of Review	January 18, 2021 January 17, 2022

**Code of Ethics for ESU 7 Board Members**

Members of the Board of ESU 7 are expected to abide by the following Code of Ethics in performance of their duties as a Board member and will be requested to acknowledge their intent to do so:

- Follow Laws:** I will uphold and enforce the constitutions, laws, rules and regulations of the state and federal governments, the state and federal agencies, binding court orders pertaining to educational service units, and the policies and regulations of ESU 7. Desired changes shall be brought about only through legal and ethical procedures.
- Non-Discrimination:** I will not make decisions which affect personnel, students, parents, the public, or otherwise on the basis of sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran

status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status, or on the basis of constitutionally protected speech.

3. **Welfare of Students:** I will make decisions in terms of the educational welfare of students served by ESU 7 and will seek to develop and maintain services and programs that meet the individual needs of students served by the ESU regardless of their sex, disability, race, color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, or other protected status, social standing, or personal feelings not associated with the best interests of ESU 7 and the students.

4. **Role of the Board:** I will confine my action as a member of the Board to policy making, planning, and evaluation of the Administrator. I will carry out my responsibility, not to administer ESU 7 or its services and programs, but, together with my fellow board members, to see that they are well run. I will refer all complaints which I may receive to the Administrator and will act on the complaints at public meetings only after failure of an administrative solution. I will support decisions made by the Board, even if it is not the one I would have made, although I will reserve my independent right to seek a change using appropriate procedures. I will recognize that authority rests with the Board as a whole and will make no personal promises nor take any private action that may compromise the Board.

5. **Meetings of the Board:** I will attend all meetings of the Board except when I am unable to attend for excusable reasons, will be prepared to be an active participant at such meetings, and will follow appropriate rules of order at such meetings. I will fulfill my responsibilities on any committees and any officer positions to which I may be elected, assigned or appointed. I will not attempt to circumvent the open meetings laws by participating in meetings with a quorum of other members of the Board to make decisions on ESU 7 matters. I will not seek closed session meetings or participate in closed session meetings except as permitted by law.

6. **Independent Judgment:** I will refuse to surrender my independent judgment to special interest or partisan political groups.

7. **Confidentiality:** I will hold confidential all matters pertaining to ESU 7 which, if disclosed, would needlessly injure individuals, the Board, or ESU 7. I will not ask for legally confidential information about staff or students when not required to fulfill my duties as a Board member. When such information is made available to me in my role as a Board member, I will maintain the confidentiality of such information.

8. **Conflicts:** I will not use my position as a Board member for personal gain or for the gain of family or friends. Where I have a personal conflict of interest which affects or may be reasonably seen by others as affecting my ability to make a fair and impartial decision on a matter before the Board, I will follow the law and Board policy to avoid the conflict from affecting the decision of the entire Board.

9. **Personnel Matters:** I will vote to appoint the best qualified personnel available after consideration of the recommendation of the administration. I will support and protect personnel in the proper performance of their duties but likewise will hold staff accountable, on matters which reach the Board, to the standards and expectations of the Board and the administration.

10. **Role Model.** I understand that my personal actions may reflect on ESU 7 and the schools and communities served by ESU 7 due to my position as a Board member. I will in all respects serve as a proper role model and engage in conduct which is reflective of a good citizen in the communities served by ESU 7.

Agreed to by the members of the Board of Educational Service Unit 7 on this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

# Romans Wiemer & Associates

Steven D. Wiemer, CPA  
Gayle D. Steiger CPA

Certified Public Accountants, P.C.  
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January 27, 2022

Board of Directors  
Educational Service Unit No. 7  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska as of and for the year ended August 31, 2021, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in the internal control that might be material weaknesses. Given these limitations during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management, the Board of Directors, and others within the organization, and is not intended to be and should not be, used by anyone other than the specified parties.

*Romans Wiemer & Associates*  
ROMANS, WIEMER & ASSOCIATES,  
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

RWA: klz

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**

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**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**

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# Romans Wiemer & Associates

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January 27, 2022

## Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors  
Educational Service Unit No. 7  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the School District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting described in Note 1; this includes determining that the modified cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting

Independent Auditor's Report

Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska

policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

**Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective modified cash basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska, as of August 31, 2021, and the respective changes in modified cash basis financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with the modified cash basis of accounting as described in Note 1.

**Basis of Accounting**

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to that matter.

**Other Matters**

*Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's basic financial statements. The management's discussion and analysis and supplementary and other information as listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule of expenditures of federal awards is presented for purpose of additional analysis as required by Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part if the basic financial statements.

The management's discussion and analysis, Schedule 1 and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information described in the first sentence of

Independent Auditor's Report

Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska

this paragraph is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

**Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 27, 2022, on our consideration of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Romans Wiemer & Associates*  
ROMANS, WIEMER & ASSOCIATES,  
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

RWA: klz

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

This section of Educational Service Unit No. 7's annual audit report presents our discussion of ESU's financial performance during the fiscal year ending August 31, 2021. Please read it in conjunction with the ESU's financial statements that follow.

**Overview of the Financial Statements**

The ESU has adopted the provisions of Statement No. 34 ("Statement 34") of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board "Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments." Statement 34 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local government entities, which includes government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and the classification of net assets into three components: (a) invested in capital assets, net of related debt; (b) restricted; and (c) unrestricted.

This annual report consists of four parts: (1) Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section); (2) the Basic Financial Statements – Modified Cash Basis; (3) Supplemental Schedules; and (4) Information on the Single Audit (Federal Funds).

The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting. Accordingly, the financial statements and supplemental schedules are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The use of the modified cash basis of accounting is permissible under Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 2 for Educational Service Units such as ESU 7.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS (Detailed Information Follows Later in this *Discussion & Analysis*)**

**Governmental Activities**

- Governmental activities modified cash position at August 31, 2021 was \$4,515,394.83 compared with \$4,135,278.67 at August 31, 2020. This was an increase of \$380,116.16 or 9.19%.
- General Fund disbursements were \$9,332,086.70 for the current fiscal year, which is a \$393,899.69, 4.41% increase from the prior fiscal year.
- Federal program disbursements were \$2,434,231.68 for the current fiscal year, which is a \$43,689.00 increase from the previous fiscal year.
- **Budget Observations 2020- 2021**
  - Balancing of the ESU 7 Budget between available resources and increasing costs continued to require constant monitoring. During 2020-2021 revenue exceeded expenditures.

(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**Governmental Activities** (Continued)

- o Statewide Core Service Funding was at \$0 during 2020-2021 as a result of statewide formula distribution applications.
- o While working to build cash reserve, the three year spending/revenue projections continue to indicate cash reserve obligations if current levels of services and expenditures are continued. This trend continues to be closely studied/monitored by the Superintendent's Executive Committee and the ESU 7 Board as valuation and Core Service funding continue to interact.
- o Federal and State requirements for increased student achievement accountability and involvement in statewide initiatives, along with ongoing financial pressures for schools, continue to influence service offering discussions. These continually translate into additional service request from area schools, and require increase work efficiency and budget resource allocation shifts as key means to control future budget challenges.

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE UNIT AS A WHOLE**

One of the largest single source of receipts for the Unit is Federal funding for grants. In 2020-2021, the Unit's assessed valuation was \$17,389,401,531, an increase of \$124,335,238 from 2019-2020. Another large source of receipts for the Unit is property tax. Comparison figures for the past two years are as follows:

	<u>2019/2020</u>	<u>2020/2021</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Beginning Balance	\$ 3,105,935.77	\$ 4,135,278.67	\$ 1,029,342.90
Receipts	\$ 9,967,529.91	\$ 9,712,202.86	\$ (255,327.05)
Expenses	8,938,187.01	9,332,086.70	393,899.69
Net Increase	<u>1,029,342.90</u>	<u>380,116.16</u>	<u>(649,226.74)</u>
Ending Balance	<u>\$ 4,135,278.67</u>	<u>\$ 4,515,394.83</u>	<u>\$ 380,116.16</u>

The following table shows the property tax rates, by fund, for fiscal years 2020-2021 and 2019-2020, including a calculation of the amount by which each levy changed. Note: levies are expressed in dollars and cents per \$100 of valuation. For example, the Unit's total property tax on a \$100,000 property in 2020-2021 would be \$15.00.

	<u>2020-2021</u>	<u>2019-2020</u>	<u>Difference</u>
General Levy	.015000	.015000	0.000000

(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

Over the course of the 2020-2021 fiscal year, the Unit's General Fund Cash Position increased by \$380,116.16. The following table provides a detailed picture of the increase in cash position.

09/01/19 Actual Beginning Balance		<u>\$ 4,135,278.67</u>	
	<u>2020-2021 Year End</u>		
	<u>Budget</u>		
	<u>Original &amp; Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Receipts:			
Local District Taxes	\$ 2,608,410.23	\$ 2,363,670.48	\$ (244,739.75)
Carline		2,316.10	2,316.10
Interest and Penalties on Taxes		4,244.23	4,244.23
Contracted Services	3,883,530.88	3,815,980.75	(67,550.13)
Investment Interest	4,600.00	3,861.64	(738.36)
Other Local Sources	1,020,594.76	989,053.39	(31,541.37)
Homestead	25,000.00	30,423.31	5,423.31
Property Tax Credit		225,146.88	225,146.88
Personal Property Tax Credit		1,259.38	1,259.38
Nameplate Capacity Tax		8,713.08	8,713.08
P.P. Tax Credit – Public Services & RR		708.64	708.64
Motor Vehicle Prorate	5,000.00	6,155.95	1,155.95
Federal Sources	3,262,630.62	2,242,529.50	(1,020,101.12)
Non-Revenue Receipts	<u>20,000.00</u>	<u>18,139.53</u>	<u>(1,860.47)</u>
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 10,829,766.49</u>	<u>\$ 9,712,202.86</u>	<u>\$ (1,117,563.63)</u>
Disbursements:	<u>\$ 13,640,055.21</u>	<u>\$ 9,332,086.70</u>	<u>\$ 4,307,968.51</u>
Net Increase		<u>380,116.16</u>	
08/31/21 Ending Balance		<u>\$ 4,515,394.83</u>	

**CURRENT FINANCIAL ISSUES**

In 2020-2021 ESU 7 continued the analysis of security and entry systems. Doors to the north building were replaced to allow for better sight and safety. Additionally, conference room furniture was updated addressing aged and irreparable equipment. One car was added to the fleet.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**CONTACTING THE UNIT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and taxpayers a general overview of the Unit's finances and to demonstrate the Unit's accountability for the money in which it is entrusted. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Administrator, 2657 44th Avenue, Columbus, Nebraska 68601. Our telephone number is (402) 564-5753, our fax number is (402) 563-1121, and our website is located at <http://www.esu7.org>.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	Governmental Activities
Assets:	
Cash and Deposits	\$ 3,985,385.44
County Treasurers' Balance	530,009.39
Total Assets	\$ 4,515,394.83
Liabilities:	\$ 0.00
Net Position	
Unrestricted	\$ 4,515,394.83

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	<u>Program Cash Receipts</u>			Net Disbursements Receipts and Changes in Net Assets
	<u>Cash Disbursements</u>	<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities:				
Special Education	\$ (2,378,924.97)	\$ 3,815,980.75		\$ 1,437,055.78
Support Services - Students	(1,527,867.30)			(1,527,867.30)
Support Services - Instruction	(883,040.93)			(883,040.93)
Support Services - General Administration	(414,876.48)			(414,876.48)
Central Services	(1,554,585.00)			(1,554,585.00)
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	(136,204.28)			(136,204.28)
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	(90,574.80)			(90,574.80)
Federal Programs	(2,346,012.94)		\$ 2,242,529.50	(103,483.44)
Net Program (Disbursements) Receipts	<u>\$ (9,332,086.70)</u>	<u>\$ 3,815,980.75</u>	<u>\$ 2,242,529.50</u>	<u>\$ (3,273,576.45)</u>
General Receipts:				
Local Receipts				\$ 2,370,230.81
Investment Income				3,861.64
Other Local Receipts				989,053.39
State Sources				272,407.24
Non-Revenue Receipts				18,139.53
Total General Receipts				<u>\$ 3,653,692.61</u>
Changes in Net Position				\$ 380,116.16
Net Position - Beginning				<u>4,135,278.67</u>
Net Position - Ending				<u><u>\$ 4,515,394.83</u></u>

See Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**STATEMENT OF MODIFIED CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES AND**  
**MODIFIED CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN MODIFIED CASH BASIS**  
**FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**  
**AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	Actual
Receipts:	
Local Receipts	\$ 2,370,230.81
Tuition Receipts	3,815,980.75
Investment Income	3,861.64
Other Local Receipts	989,053.39
State Sources	272,407.24
Federal Sources	2,242,529.50
Non-Revenue Receipts	18,139.53
 Total Receipts	 \$ 9,712,202.86
 Disbursements:	
Special Education	\$ 2,378,924.97
Support Services - Students	1,527,867.30
Support Services - Instruction	883,040.93
Support Services - General Administration	414,876.48
Central Services	1,554,585.00
Operation & Maintenance of Plant	136,204.28
Facilities Acquisitions & Construction	90,574.80
Federal Programs	2,346,012.94
 Total Disbursements	 \$ 9,332,086.70
 Excess (Deficit) of Receipts Over Disbursements	 \$ 380,116.16
 Fund Balance, September 1	 4,135,278.67
 Fund Balance, August 31	 \$ 4,515,394.83
 Assets	
Cash and Deposits	\$ 3,985,385.44
County Treasurers' Balance	530,009.39
 Total Assets	 \$ 4,515,394.83
 Fund Balances	
Unassigned	\$ 4,515,394.83

See Accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**  
**FIDCIARY FUNDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	<u>Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds</u>	<u>Custodial Funds</u>
Assets:		
Cash and Deposits	<u>\$ 29,034.50</u>	<u>\$ 4,910.01</u>
Net Position		
Held in Trust for Nebraska Educational Service Unit Board Association		\$ 4,910.01
Held in Trust for Employees	<u>\$ 29,034.50</u>	
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 29,034.50</u>	<u>\$ 4,910.01</u>

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY**  
**NET POSITION - MODIFIED CASH BASIS**  
**FIDUCIARY FUNDS**  
**AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds	Custodial Funds
Receipts:		
Participant Contributions	\$ 53,324.40	
Interest		\$ 3.43
Total Receipts	\$ 53,324.40	\$ 3.43
Disbursements:		
Payments to Participants	\$ 45,082.24	
NESUBA Disbursements		\$ 0.00
Total Disbursements	\$ 45,082.24	\$ 0.00
Change in Net Position Held in Trust for Employees	\$ 8,242.16	\$ 3.43
Modified Cash Basis Net Position - Beginning	20,792.34	4,906.58
Modified Cash Basis Net Position - Ending	\$ 29,034.50	\$ 4,910.01

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 1**

**Significant Accounting Policies**

The accounting policies of Educational Service Unit No. 7, Columbus, Nebraska, conform to the uniform system of accounting as prescribed by the Nebraska State Department of Education.

A. Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Educational Service Unit are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balances, receipts collected and disbursements paid. The ESU resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based on the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund Types:

General Fund - This fund is the operating fund of the ESU. It is used to account for all financing resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds – Fiduciary funds report assets held in a trustee capacity for others and, therefore, cannot be used to support Educational Service Unit No. 7's own programs. The contributions and disbursements related to certain employee benefits, including medical and dependent care reimbursements, are accounted for in the Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds. This is a Fiduciary Fund.

Custodial Funds – This fund holds the assets of the Nebraska Educational Service Unit Board Association. This is a Fiduciary Fund.

B. Basis of Accounting

The Educational Service Unit's policy is to prepare its financial statements on the basis of modified cash receipts and disbursements, which is consistent with the Commissioner of Education and Nebraska Department of Education requirements. Consequently certain receipts and the related assets are recognized when received rather than when earned, and certain disbursements are recognized when paid rather than when the obligation is incurred. Thereby, encumbrance accounting is not used. Accordingly, the accompanying financial statements are not intended to present financial position and results of operations in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

C. Basis of Presentation

The Educational Service Unit has adopted the provisions of Statement No. 34  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 1**

**Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

("Statement 34") of the Government Accounting Standards Board "Basic Financial Statements – and Management's Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments." Statement 34 established standards for external financial reporting for all state and local government entities, which includes government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements and the classification of net position into three components – invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted; and unrestricted.

Government-wide and fund financial statements – The government-wide financial statements report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental receipts, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct disbursements of a given function or segment are offset by program receipts. Direct disbursements are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program receipts include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program receipts are reported instead as general receipts.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual proprietary funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

Proprietary funds are used to account for the Educational Service Unit's business type activities. Proprietary funds distinguish operating receipts and disbursements from nonoperating items. Operating receipts and disbursements generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. All receipts and disbursements not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating receipts and disbursements. The Educational Service Unit had no proprietary funds.

Fiduciary funds report assets held in a trustee or agency capacity for others and therefore cannot be used to support the Educational Service Unit's own programs.  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 1**

**Significant Accounting Policies** (Continued)

D. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

**NOTE 2**

**Reporting Entity**

The Educational Service Unit Board of Directors, an twelve-member group constituting an on-going entity, is the level of government, which has governance responsibilities over activities supporting public elementary and secondary school education within the jurisdiction of the Educational Service Unit. The Board receives funding from local, state and federal government sources and must comply with certain requirements, but these other governmental bodies are not financially accountable for the Board. The Board members are elected by the public and have decision-making authority, the power to adopt their own budget, power to designate management, the responsibility to significantly influence operations and primary accountability for fiscal matters.

Based upon these criteria, the Educational Service Unit Board of Directors is not considered a component unit of any other governmental entity. All significant activities and organizations in which Educational Service Unit No. 7 exercises oversight responsibility have been included in Educational Service Unit No. 7's financial statements.

**NOTE 3**

**Fund Balance Reporting**

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has issued Statement No.54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions (GASB 54). This Statement defines the different types of fund balances that a governmental entity must use for financial reporting purposes.

GASB 54 requires the fund balance amounts to be properly reported within one of the fund balance categories list below.

1. *Nonspendable*, such as fund balance associated with inventories, prepaids, long-term loans and notes receivable, and property held for resale (unless the proceeds are restricted, committed, or assigned),  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 3**

**Fund Balance Reporting** (Continued)

2. *Restricted* fund balance category includes amounts that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation,
3. *Committed* fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board of Directors (the Service Unit's highest level of decision-making authority),
4. *Assigned* fund balance classification are intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed, and
5. *Unassigned* fund balance is the residual classification for the government's general fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications

*Committed Fund Balance Policy*

The Service Unit's Committed Fund Balance is fund balance reporting required by the Board of Directors, either because of a Board Policy in the Board Policy Manual, or because of motions that passed at Board meetings.

*Assigned Fund Balance Policy*

The Service Unit's Assigned Fund Balance is fund balance reporting occurring by Board Administration authority, under the direction of the Administrator.

*Order of Fund Balance Spending Policy*

The Service Unit's policy is to apply expenditures against non-spendable fund balance, restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, an unassigned fund balance at the end of the fiscal year by adjusting journal entries.

First Non-spendable fund balances are determined. Then restricted fund balances for specific purposes are determined (not including non-spendable amounts). Then any remaining fund balance amounts for the non-general funds are classified as restricted fund balance.

It is possible for the non-general funds to have negative unassigned fund balance when non-spendable amounts plus the restricted fund balances for specific purposes amounts exceed the positive fund balance for the non-general fund.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 4**

**Cash and Investments**

Cash for the Educational Service Unit at August 31, 2021, consisted of the following:

	<u>Bank Amount</u>	<u>Book Amount</u>
General Fund	\$4,408,507.82	\$3,985,385.44
Other Employee Benefit Trust Funds	29,034.50	29,034.50
Custodial Funds	<u>4,910.01</u>	<u>4,910.01</u>
Total	<u>\$4,442,452.33</u>	<u>\$4,019,329.95</u>

At August 31, 2021, the Educational Service Unit had bank deposits of \$4,442,452.33. All of this balance was covered by federal depository insurance and /or collateralized by U.S. Government securities subject to joint custody safe keeping receipts issued by the custodial financial institution which was not the pledging institution. This would be classified as a Category 3 level of risk as described below.

The Educational Service Unit's deposits are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Educational Service Unit at year-end. Category 1 includes deposits that are insured or collateralized or for which securities are held by the Educational Service Unit or its agent in the Educational Service Unit's name. Category 2 includes uninsured and unregistered deposits for which the counter-party's trust department or agent in the Educational Service Unit's name holds the securities. Category 3 includes deposits uncollateralized (this includes any bank balance that is collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, its trust department or agent but not in the Educational Service Unit's name).

The Educational Service Unit had no investments at August 31, 2021.

**NOTE 5**

**Funds Held by County Treasurers**

The following County Treasurers' ending balances are included in the fund balances for the year ended August 31, 2021:

	<u>August 31, 2021</u>
General Fund (Including Bond Collections): Antelope County (Continued)	\$ 168.66

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 5**

**Funds Held by County Treasurers** (Continued)

	<u>August 31, 2021</u>
General Fund (Including Bond Collections):	
Boone County	\$ 53,779.78
Butler County	73,446.61
Colfax County	67,327.94
Cumming County	8,615.50
Greeley County	0.00
Hamilton County	7,655.14
Howard County	1,401.69
Merrick County	54,414.68
Nance County	28,389.28
Platte County	136,079.02
Polk County	55,778.19
Saunders County	10,308.67
Seward County	2,107.66
Stanton County	11,019.45
York County	12,460.04
Madison County	110.15
Dodge County	6,946.93
	\$ 530,009.39

**NOTE 6**

**Budget Process and Property Taxes**

The ESU follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the accompanying financial statements:

Prior to August 31, the Board of Directors prepares a proposed operating budget on the modified cash basis for the fiscal year commencing the following September 1. The operating budget includes proposed disbursements and the means of financing them.

Hearings are conducted at public meetings to obtain taxpayer comments.

Prior to September 20, the budget is legally adopted by the Board of Directors through the passage of a resolution.

Total disbursements in each budgetary fund may not legally exceed total appropriation, and appropriations lapse at year-end. Any revisions to the budget require Board approval.

(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 6**

**Budget Process and Property Taxes** (Continued)

No supplemental appropriations were made during the year.

The property tax requirement resulting from the budget process is utilized by the County Assessor to establish the tax levy, which attaches as an enforceable lien on property within the ESU's jurisdiction as of December 31, and is due as of that date. The first half of unpaid taxes is delinquent as of May 1; the second half becomes delinquent September 1. The combined tax rate subject to limitations of the ESU for the year ended August 31, 2021, was \$0.015000 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

**NOTE 7**

**Retirement Plan**

**Plan Description**

The Educational Service Unit No. 7 contributes to the Nebraska School Employees Retirement System, a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System (NPERS). NPERS provides retirement and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. The School Employees Retirement Act establishes benefit provisions.

In 1945, the Nebraska Legislature enacted the law establishing a retirement plan for school employees of the State. During the NPERS fiscal year ended June 30, 2020, there were 265 participating school districts. These were the districts that had contributions during the fiscal year. All regular public school employees in Nebraska, other than those who have their own retirement plans (Class V school districts, Nebraska State Colleges, University of Nebraska, Nebraska Community Colleges), are members of the plan.

Normal retirement is at age 65. For an employee who became a member before July 1, 2013, the monthly benefit is equal to the greater of the following: 1) the sum of a savings annuity, which is the actuarial equivalent of the member's accumulated contributions and a service annuity equal to \$3.50 per year of service; or 2) the monthly average of the three 12-month periods of service as a school employee in which such compensation was the greatest, multiplied by total years of creditable service, multiplied by a formula factor of two percent, and an actuarial factor based on age.

For an employee who became a member on or after July 1, 2013, the monthly benefit is equal to the greater of the following: 1) the sum of a savings annuity, which is the actuarial equivalent of the member's accumulated contributions and a service annuity equal to \$3.50 per year of service; or 2) the average of the five 12-month periods of service as a school  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 7**

**Retirement Plan** (Continued)

employee in which such compensation was the greatest, multiplied by total years of creditable service, multiplied by a formula factor of two percent, and an actuarial factor based on age.

Benefit calculations vary with early retirement. Employees' benefits are vested after five years of plan participation or when termination occurs at age 65 or later.

For Educational Service Unit employees who became members prior to July 1, 2013, the benefit paid to a retired member or beneficiary receives an annual cost of living adjustment, which is increased by the lesser of the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers or two and one-half percent. The current benefit paid to a retired member or beneficiary is adjusted so that the purchasing power of the benefit being paid is not less than 75 percent of the purchasing power of the initial benefit.

For Educational Service Unit employees who became members on or after July 1, 2013, the benefit paid to a retired member or beneficiary receives an annual cost-of-living adjustment, which is increased by the lesser of the percentage change in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers or one percent. There is no purchasing power floor for employees who fall under this tier.

For the Service Unit's year ended August 31, 2021, the Service Unit's total payroll for all employees was \$5,156,187.87. Total covered payroll was \$5,052,630.45. Covered payroll refers to all compensation paid by the Service Unit to active employees covered by the Plan.

**Contributions**

The State's contribution is based on an annual actuarial valuation. In addition, the State contributes an amount equal to two percent of the compensation of all members. This contribution is considered a nonemployer contribution since school employees are not employees of the State. The employee contribution was equal to 9.78 percent from July 1, 2019, to June 30, 2020 (and from July 1, 2020 through, August 31, 2021). The Educational Service Unit (employer) contribution is 101 percent of the employee contribution. The Service Unit's contribution to the Plan for its year ended August 31, 2021 was \$499,088.39.

**Pension Liabilities**

At June 30, 2020 the Service Unit had a liability of \$3,080,007 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. (This liability is not recorded in the accompanying modified cash basis financial statements.) The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2020, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined using an actuarial valuation as of that date. The NPERS School Plan was 88.71% funded as of June 30, 2020 based on actuarial calculations comparing total pension liability to the plan fiduciary net position. The Service Unit's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 7**

**Retirement Plan** (Continued)

projection of the Service Unit's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating entities, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2020, the Service Unit's proportion was 0.197605 percent, which was an increase of 0.006627 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2019.

For the year ended June 30, 2020, the Service Unit's allocated pension expense was \$630,596.

**Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2020 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.75 percent
Salary increases, including wage inflation	3.50 – 8.50 percent
Cost-Of-Living Adjustment	Members hired before July 1, 2013: 2.25% with a floor benefit equal to 75% purchasing power of original benefit Members hired on/after July 1, 2013: 1.00% with no floor benefit
Investment Rate Return, net of investment expense, including inflation	7.50 percent

The School Plan's pre-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 White Collar Table for Employees (100% of male rates for males, 55% of female rates for females), projected generationally with MP-2015.

The School Plan's post-retirement mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 White Collar Table for Employees, set back two years, scaled (males: under 80, 1.008; over 80, 1.449; females: under 85, 0.924; over 85, 1.5855; geometrically blended), projected generationally with a Society of Actuaries projection scale tool using 0.5% ultimate rate in 2035.

The School Plan's disability mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Disabled Lives table (static table).

The actuarial assumptions used in the July 1, 2019, valuations for the School plan are based on the results of the most recent actuarial experience study, which covered the four-year period ending June 30, 2015. The experience study report is dated November 17, 2016.

The long-term expected real rate of return on pension plan investments was based upon the expected long-term investment returns provided by a consultant of the Nebraska Investment Council, who is responsible for investing the pension plan assets. The return assumptions were developed using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected  
(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 7**

**Retirement Plan** (Continued)

future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plans' target asset allocation as of June 30, 2020, (see the discussion of the pension plan's investment policy) are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return*
Large Cap U.S. Equity	26.10%	5.83%
Small Cap U.S. Equity	2.90%	7.56%
Global Equity	15.00%	6.51%
International Developed Equity	10.80%	6.80%
Emerging Markets	2.70%	10.55%
Core Bonds	20.00%	1.63%
High Yield	3.50%	5.22%
Bank Loans	5.00%	2.78%
International Bonds	1.50%	1.41%
Private Equity	5.00%	9.70%
Real Estate	7.50%	5.18%
Total	100.00%	

\* Arithmetic mean, net of investment expenses

**Discount Rate**

The discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability at June 30, 2020, was seven and a half percent. The discount rate is reviewed as part of the actuarial experience study, which was last performed for the period July 1, 2011, through June 30, 2015. The actuarial experience study is reviewed by the NPERS Board, which must vote to change the discount rate.

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and contributions from employers and nonemployers will be made at the contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, the pension plans' fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payment to determine the total pension liability. The projected future benefit payments for all current plan members were projected through 2119.

(Continued)

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 7**

**Retirement Plan** (Continued)

**Sensitivity of the Service Unit's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate.**

The following presents the Service Unit's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.5 percent, as well as what the Service Unit's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.5 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.5 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>Discount rate</u>	<u>Service Unit's proportionate Share of net pension liability</u>
1% decrease	6.5%	\$ 6,839,570
Current discount rate	7.5%	\$ 3,080,007
1% increase	8.5%	\$ (23,551)

**Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the Plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Nebraska Public Employees Retirement Systems Plan financial report. NPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for NPERS. That report may be obtained via the internet at [http://www.auditors.nebraska.gov/APA\\_Reports](http://www.auditors.nebraska.gov/APA_Reports).

**NOTE 8**

**Risk of Loss**

Educational Service Unit No. 7 is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. Educational Service Unit No. 7 maintains commercial insurance coverage covering Property, Automobile, General Liability, Premises Medical Payments, Errors and Omissions, Workers Compensation, Employers Liability, Employee Dishonesty, Money and Securities (Inside and Outside), Money Order/Currency Counterfeit and Depositors Forgery. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 9**

**Fiduciary Funds**

Educational Service Unit No. 7 provides for a qualifying Cafeteria Plan within the meaning of Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (Code). The benefits that an employee elects to receive under the Cafeteria Plan are includable or excludable from the employee's income under Section 125(a) and other applicable sections of the Code. For the year ended August 31, 2021, Educational Service Unit No. 7 had collected \$53,324.40 from employees to be paid out when claims are filed. Educational Service Unit No. 7 maintains a separate checking account to pay these claims. As of August 31, 2021, that account had a carrying value of \$29,034.50, which is included in the Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Modified Cash Basis.

Educational Service Unit No. 7 holds funds for the Nebraska Educational Service Unit Board Association (NESUBA). Expenses incurred by NESUBA are communicated to Educational Service Unit No. 7, which then makes the disbursement. The NESUBA account increased by \$3.43 for fiscal year ended August 31, 2021. This is reported as the Custodial Fund.

**NOTE 10**

**Unemployment Compensation Insurance**

Educational Service Unit No. 7 has adopted the reimbursable option of the State's Unemployment Compensation Insurance Program. Under this option, a claimant would receive unemployment compensation from the State. Educational Service Unit No. 7 is liable to reimburse the State for the actual amount of the claim(s).

**NOTE 11**

**Interlocal Agreement**

The Service Unit has entered into an interlocal agreement with 19 schools dated August 6, 2018. The purposed of this agreement is to construct and operate a special education facility at Educational Service Unit No. 7 and to enter into any arrangements or agreements that are desirable or necessary to achieve this purpose. The agreement shall commence on August 20, 2018 and continue until terminated by the parties involved. Each party shall make an initial contribution of \$31,500.00. Each party has the option of a) Pay full amount before the end of FY18 or FY19; b) Pay in 5 annual payments beginning in FY18 or FY19; c) Incur \$5,000.00 penalty and will be billed upon enrollment of qualifying student in the behavior program, which will make total cost \$36,500.00.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 12**

**Tax Abatement**

The Service Unit is subject to tax abatements granted by the cities and villages within the Unit's district, who have entered into tax increment financing (TIF) agreements with various redevelopers. This TIF program has the stated purpose of increasing business activity and employment in the community.

Under the TIF program, redevelopers can apply for TIF financing whereby the property tax they pay on the increased valuation of property under a TIF agreement is returned to the redeveloper by the City to finance the project for a period of up to 15 years.

Information relevant to the abatements impacting Educational Service Unit No. 7 for the year ended August 31, 2021 is as follows:

<u>Tax Abatement Program</u>	<u>Amount Abated During the Year</u>
Petersburg Redevelopment 1	\$ 148.46
Petersburg Redevelopment 2	\$ 159.85
Petersburg Redevelopment 3	\$ 107.25
Sindelar Utility Extension	\$ 18.34
Cornerstone Bank St. Edward	\$ 75.05
St. Edward Redevelopment 2012	\$ 56.12
St. Edward Redevelopment 2013	\$ 252.56
Stock Brothers	\$ 104.32
Dana Point Dulp Housing 2017	\$ 64.74
Dana Point Dulp Housing Phase 2	\$ 268.26
Eating Establishment LLC	\$ 21.06
GDC Properties LLC	\$ 0.00
Industrial Park Expansion & Infrastructure	\$ 913.50
Northwest Industrial Park	\$ 414.42
Schuyler Hotel Group	\$ 198.48
Cottonwood Estates	\$ 497.59
Dairy Queen	\$ 63.82
Green Line	\$ 231.76
McHargue 18	\$ 58.97
Merrick Manor	\$ 240.49
Runza	\$ 95.06
SCIUGA	\$ 240.27
Southeast Vila	\$ 35.09
Subway Project	\$ 45.40
Archer Daniels Midlands	\$ 617.39
Front Runner Fab Inc.	\$ 27.65
Fullerton Senior Living	\$ 100.33
Homs, LLC	\$ 105.46
(Continued)	

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 12**

**Tax Abatement**

<u>Tax Abatement Program</u>	<u>Amount Abated During the Year</u>
Farm View Redev Airport Redev Area	\$ 56.15
Frontier Redev Prj Armory NHBD	\$ 275.61
Highway 81 & 30/Ramada Inn	\$ 466.62
Sequoia Redev Prj Downtown	\$ 20.33
West Elks Redev Prj W 23 <sup>rd</sup> St	\$ 79.16
Westgate Center Hwy 81 & 30	\$ 244.19
Westgate Center Redevelopment Project	\$ 200.05
WHO Development Phase I Apartment	\$ 398.87
WHO Development Phase I Hotel	\$ 410.51
WHO Development Phase I Retail	\$ 254.83
WHO Development Phase II Retail	\$ 108.99
Osceola Coop	\$ 372.62
Stromsburg City Project 2	\$ 555.21

**NOTE 13**

**Subsequent Events**

Subsequent events have been evaluated through the audit report date, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET- MODIFIED CASH BASIS - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	Budget <u>Original &amp; Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Favorable (Unfavorable)
Receipts:			
1100 Local District Taxes	\$ 2,608,410.23	\$ 2,363,670.48	\$ (244,739.75)
1115 Carline		2,316.10	2,316.10
1140 Penalties and Interest on Taxes		4,244.23	4,244.23
1380 Contracted Services Below Age 5 - SPED	1,017,825.75	972,048.05	(45,777.70)
1385 Contracted Services School Age - SPED	2,865,705.13	2,843,932.70	(21,772.43)
1510 Investment Interest	4,600.00	3,861.64	(738.36)
1905 Internet Service Reimbursement from Districts		54,621.91	54,621.91
1910 Rental	500.00	530.12	30.12
1951 Miscellaneous Revenue - Other Districts	890,594.76	848,846.69	(41,748.07)
1960 Miscellaneous Revenue - Other Governments	26,500.00	23,506.01	(2,993.99)
1965 Distance Education	100,000.00	58,900.00	(41,100.00)
1990 Miscellaneous Local Revenue	3,000.00	2,648.66	(351.34)
3130 Homestead Exemption	25,000.00	30,423.31	5,423.31
3131 Property Tax Credit		225,146.88	225,146.88
3132 Personal Property Tax Credit		1,259.38	1,259.38
3133 Nameplate Capacity Tax		8,713.08	8,713.08
3134 P. P. Tax Credit - Public Services & RR		708.64	708.64
3180 Pro-Rate Motor Vehicle	5,000.00	6,155.95	1,155.95
4418 IDEA Part B PEaK Projects	65,047.00	47,681.53	(17,365.47)
4505 Title I	674,954.00	569,158.00	(105,796.00)
4509 Title IIA	196,514.00	131,013.00	(65,501.00)
4510 Title IV	196,864.00	96,563.00	(100,301.00)
4523 IDEA Special Projects	317,295.66	201,021.61	(116,274.05)
4524 Other Federal Non-Categorical	159,746.74	150,364.00	(9,382.74)
4525 Carl Perkins	102,750.00	4,263.00	(98,487.00)
4526 Title I Part C Migrant	1,042,722.00	877,612.00	(165,110.00)
4527 Title III LEP	152,151.00	58,603.00	(93,548.00)
4530 Other Federal Categorical	234,586.22		(234,586.22)
4531 Title IV Part B CCLC	20,000.00	15,950.82	(4,049.18)
4709 Medicaid Admin Activities	100,000.00	90,299.54	(9,700.46)
5301 Insurance Adjustments	15,000.00	15,122.00	122.00
5690 Non-Revenue Receipts	5,000.00	3,017.53	(1,982.47)
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$ 10,829,766.49</b>	<b>\$ 9,712,202.86</b>	<b>\$ (1,117,563.63)</b>

See Independent Auditor's Report

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET- MODIFIED CASH BASIS - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	Budget Original & Final	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
Disbursements:			
1200 Special Education	\$ 1,823,566.76	\$ 1,399,456.63	\$ 424,110.13
1296 Special Education - Below Age 5	1,117,825.75	979,468.34	138,357.41
2141 Psychological Services - SPED School Age	658,838.29	566,553.38	92,284.91
2151 Speech Pathology & Audiology Services - SPED School Age	918,006.53	795,544.82	122,461.71
2181 Visually Impaired - Related Services - SPED School Age	199,490.98	165,769.10	33,721.88
2213 Instructional Staff Training	927,107.50	769,207.64	157,899.86
2290 Support Services - Other	128,359.89	113,833.29	14,526.60
2310 ESU Board of Control	102,287.16	55,116.64	47,170.52
2320 Executive Administration	563,664.08	355,016.84	208,647.24
2330 District Legal Services	7,159.00	4,743.00	2,416.00
2510 Fiscal Services	182,990.82	125,019.59	57,971.23
2530 Printing, Publishing & Duplicating Services	503,982.68	416,906.17	87,076.51
2580 Administrative Technology Services	1,349,236.98	1,012,659.24	336,577.74
2610 Operation of Buildings	215,020.00	34,368.47	180,651.53
2620 Maintenance of Buildings	41,775.47	32,750.43	9,025.04
2630 Care & Upkeep of Grounds	13,175.00	4,545.14	8,629.86
2650 Vehicle Operation, Maintenance & Purchasing	49,775.28	29,139.46	20,635.82
2660 Security	4,930.00	23,720.48	(18,790.48)
2670 Safety	2,500.00	11,680.30	(9,180.30)
4700 Building Improvements	1,536,459.00	90,574.80	1,445,884.20
6200 Title I	739,380.20	507,216.96	232,163.24
6310 Title II Part A	196,834.08	92,288.69	104,545.39
6415 IDEA Special Projects	349,490.27	316,640.65	32,849.62
6416 IDEA Part C (PRT)	32,462.32	22,035.01	10,427.31
6417 IDEA Part B Transition Projects	148,279.83	112,326.89	35,952.94
6418 IDEA Part B PEaK Projects	130,094.00	44,568.13	85,525.87
6700 Carl Perkins	141,397.82	51,316.56	90,081.26
6915 Title I Part C Education of Migratory Children	1,098,298.00	977,779.95	120,518.05
(Continued)			

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES**  
**IN FUND BALANCE COMPARED TO BUDGET- MODIFIED CASH BASIS - GENERAL FUND**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

	<u>Budget Original &amp; Final</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Disbursements: (Continued)			
6925 Title III Part A	\$ 210,110.87	\$ 100,052.30	\$ 110,058.57
6969 Title IV, Part A	241,556.65	119,707.00	121,849.65
6990 Other Federal Categorical Programs	6,000.00	2,080.80	3,919.20
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 13,640,055.21</u>	<u>\$ 9,332,086.70</u>	<u>\$ 4,307,968.51</u>
Excess (Deficit) of Receipts Over Disbursements	<u>\$ (2,810,288.72)</u>	\$ 380,116.16	<u>\$ 3,190,404.88</u>
Fund Balance, September 1		<u>4,135,278.67</u>	
Fund Balance, August 31		<u>\$ 4,515,394.83</u>	

# Romans Wiemer & Associates

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Gayle D. Steiger CPA

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January 27, 2022

## Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

Board of Directors  
Educational Service Unit No. 7  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska, as of and for the year ended August 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated January 27, 2022. Our report disclosed that as described in Note 1 to the financial statements, the Educational Service Unit prepares its financial statements on the modified cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and have issued our report thereon dated January 27, 2022.

### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska's, internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control.

A *deficiency* in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Independent Auditor's Report On Internal Control Over Financial Reporting And On Compliance And Other Matters Based On An Audit Of Financial Statements Performed In Accordance With Government Auditing Standards

Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance And Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Educational Service Unit No. 7, of Columbus, Nebraska's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statement. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Romans Wiemer & Associates*  
ROMANS, WIEMER & ASSOCIATES,  
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

RWA: klz

# Romans Wiemer & Associates

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Gayle D. Steiger CPA

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January 27, 2022

## Independent Auditor's Report On Compliance For Each Major Program And On Internal Control Over Compliance Required By The Uniform Guidance

Board of Education  
Educational Service Unit No. 7  
Columbus, Nebraska 68601

### **Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's major federal programs for the year ended August 31, 2021. Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

### **Management's Responsibility**

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's compliance.

Independent Auditor's Report On Compliance For Each Major Program And On Internal Control Over Compliance Required By The Uniform Guidance

Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska

**Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

In our opinion, Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended August 31, 2021.

**Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

Management of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program, and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with The Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Educational Service Unit No. 7 of Columbus, Nebraska's internal control over compliance.

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance such that there is reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency or combination of deficiencies in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that were not identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing on internal control over compliance and the result of that testing based on the requirements of The Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

*Romans Wiemer & Associates*  
ROMANS, WIEMER & ASSOCIATES,  
Certified Public Accountants, P.C.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

<u>Federal Grantor/Pass through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>Pass through Entity Identification Number</u>	<u>Federal Disbursements</u>
<u>U. S. Department of Education</u>			
Passed through Programs from Nebraska Department of Education:			
Title I	84.010	Not Available	\$ 507,216.96
Title I Migrant	84.011	Not Available	977,779.95
Special Education Cluster			
ASD	84.027	Not Available	151,196.56
PEaK	84.027	Not Available	44,568.13
Regional Transition	84.027	Not Available	57,445.56
ENTC Transition	84.027	Not Available	<u>6,728.09</u>
Total Special Education Cluster			\$ 259,938.34
Carl Perkins	84.048	Not Available	51,316.56
VR Grant	84.126	Not Available	48,153.24
IDEA Special Projects	84.181	Not Available	13,356.99
Planning Region	84.181	Not Available	22,035.01
Title III	84.365	Not Available	100,052.30
Title IIa	84.367	Not Available	92,288.69
Title IV-A	84.424	Not Available	<u>119,707.00</u>
Total U. S. Department of Education			<u>\$ 2,191,845.04</u>

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

<u>Federal Grantor/Pass through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>Pass through Entity Identification Number</u>	<u>Federal Disbursements</u>
<u>U. S. Department of Health and Human Services</u>			
Passed through Programs from Nebraska Department of Education:			
Child Care Development Funding	93.575	Not Available	<u>\$ 152,087.10</u>
Passed through Programs from Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services:			
Medicaid Administrative Activities	93.778	Not Available	<u>\$ 90,299.54</u>
Total U. S. Department of Health and Human Services			<u>\$ 242,386.64</u>
Total Disbursements of Federal Awards			<u>\$ 2,434,231.68</u>

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**COLUMBUS, NEBRASKA**  
**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
**AUGUST 31, 2021**

**NOTE 1**

**Basis of Presentation**

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal award activity of Educational Service Unit No. 7 and is presented on the modified cash basis of accounting. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2, U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations (CFR)* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance).

**NOTE 2**

**Indirect Costs**

Educational Service Unit No. 7 did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate allowed when computing the amounts in the schedule of expenditures of federal awards.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

**SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS**

1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the modified cash basis financial statements of Educational Service Unit No. 7.
2. No significant deficiencies were disclosed during the audit of the modified cash basis financial statements as required to be reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Modified Cash Basis Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the modified cash basis financial statements of Educational Service Unit No. 7 were disclosed during the audit.
4. No significant deficiencies were disclosed during the audit of internal control over major federal award programs required to be reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Program and on Internal Control over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.
5. The auditor's report on compliance for the major federal award programs for Educational Service Unit No. 7 expresses an unqualified opinion on all major federal programs.
6. There were no audit findings relative to the major federal award programs for Educational Service Unit No. 7 to be reported in this schedule.
7. The programs tested as major programs included:
  1. Title I - Migrant CFDA# 84.011
8. The threshold for distinguishing Type A and B programs was \$750,000.
9. Educational Service Unit No. 7 was not determined to be low-risk auditee.

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

**FINDINGS- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT**

None

**FINDINGS AND QUESTIONS COSTS - MAJOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAM AUDIT**

None

<u>Questioned Cost</u>
<u>\$ 0.00</u>

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT NO. 7**  
**SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS**  
**FEDERAL FINANCIAL AWARDS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED AUGUST 31, 2021**

**FINDINGS- FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDIT**

None

**FINDINGS AND QUESTIONS COSTS - MAJOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAM AUDIT**

None

<u>Questioned Cost</u>
<u>\$ 0.00</u>

# **Educational Service Unit 7**

## **SAFE RETURN TO SERVICES/INSTRUCTION PLAN**



*Serving the Schools of Boone, Butler, Colfax, Merrick, Nance, Platte, and Polk Counties.*

ESU 7  
2657 44th Ave.  
Columbus, NE 68601  
[www.esu7.org](http://www.esu7.org)

*Last Update: July 26, 2021*

**Discussion and public input - Monday, August 16 @ 5:30 p.m. during regular Board meeting.**

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# Introduction

## **General Information (Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan)**

On March 11, 2021, President Biden signed the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law. The ARP Act includes nearly \$122 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Fund that allows state and local education agencies (LEAs) to take additional steps for continued safe in-person instruction and to address unfinished teaching and learning to mitigate the COVID-19 pandemic. The ARP Act requires each school district that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the school district's website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction, and continuity of services for all schools (Safe Return Plan). The ARP Act further requires that the district seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account in finalization of the Safe Return Plan. A school district must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan. ***At this time ESU's do not qualify for aid via ARP.***

The [ESU 7 COVID-19 Return to Services/School Plan](#) initially developed during the summer of 2020 allowed us to remain open and successfully serve our school districts in the safest modality possible given the public health conditions during the 2020-2021 academic year. This document is an update to the plan for the 2021-22 school year to ensure the continuation of services for the 2021-22 school year. The updates are considering the new guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Nebraska Association of Local Health Departments (NALHD), the East Central District Health Department (ECDHD), Four Corners Health Department (FCHD), Central District Health Department (CDHD), the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), and the United States Department of Education (USDE). Although ESUs do not qualify for financial support by the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act, our school districts must. The contents of this document, the format, components, and name have been revised to meet these same requirements, so we are able to provide comparable services and supports under the same mitigating circumstances as our member school districts.

The ESU 7 safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan will be reviewed at least every 6 months and may be adjusted as new information/guidance becomes available.

## **Plan Development Team**

Larriane Polk, ESU 7 Chief Administrator

Tami Clay, ESU 7 Special Education Director

Marci Ostmeyer, ESU 7 Professional Development Director

Dan Ellsworth, ESU 7 Technology Director and parent of children in ESU 7 region

Leanne Blanchard, Level III Principal and teacher

Amy Mazankowski, Grant Program Coordinator

Tricia Spieker, Speech-Language Pathology Coordinator

Jackie Ternus, School Psychology Coordinator and parent of children in ESU 7 region

Lisa Duranski, Early Childhood Coordinator

Wendy Wolfe, Early Childhood Coordinator

Judy Zadina, Vision Program Coordinator

Cynthia Alarcon, Migrant Education Program Coordinator and parent of children in ESU 7 region

Larry Shefcyk, ESU 7 Maintenance

Linda Shefcyk, ESU 7 Human Resources and Business Manager

Nicki Brigham, Level III Nurse

Troy Loefelholz, ESU 7 Superintendent Executive Committee Chair

## **Guiding Principles**

**Mission:** The mission of ESU 7 is to provide leadership and support by delivering customized and innovative services.

**Planning Purpose:** The purpose of this Safe Return to Services/Instruction Plan is to keep our students, staff, and families safe and in-school should the pandemic situation reoccur. The plan was developed to allow for changes and updates throughout a pandemic, based upon COVID incidences within our community and consideration of guidance from local, state, and federal governments and health officials.

**Schools vs. ESU:** The term “school” is used throughout the ARC guidelines. For the ESU’s purposes, this term has been revised to read “schools/ESU” where appropriate.

# **COVID Transmission Levels**

The plan was developed considering the COVID transmission levels and positivity rates within our ESU 7 region.

If COVID transmission levels/positivity rates increase, this plan may be revised to include additional COVID mitigation measures.

# **Layered Prevention**

The CDC recommends that all schools/ESU implement and layer prevention strategies, including:

- Universal, correct use of masks
- Physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, and
- Contact Tracing (in combination with isolation and quarantine)

*All prevention strategies provide some level of protection, and layered strategies implemented at the same time provide the greatest level of protection. (CDC)*

# **Components**

## **Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks**

### **Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:**

1. Face masks are optional for all staff and students on campus.
2. Correct wearing of masks as described by the CDC.
3. Face masks may be required for staff, students, and visitors if COVID cases rise and it is believed that this safety precaution is necessary to prevent further spread and a possible school closure.

## Modifying Facilities to Allow for Physical Distancing

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. Social distancing measures (goal of maintaining 3 feet between students where feasible) may be taken to prevent the spread of COVID as needed.
2. Non-essential furniture may be removed from classrooms to maximize social distancing between students if needed. Desks will all face the same direction **if** additional preventative measures are needed.
3. Non-essential visitors and volunteers may be limited if case levels increase.
4. Six feet of social distancing may be encouraged for all students **if** COVID cases rise and it is necessary to prevent the further spread and possible school closure.

## Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. Proper handwashing, cough and sneeze etiquette will be taught, reinforced and monitored.
2. If handwashing is not feasible, hand sanitizer will be provided and used.

## Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities and Improving Ventilation

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. High-touch surfaces will be cleaned routinely (at least daily and between uses when possible).
2. Shared supplies and equipment will be sanitized between uses **if** COVID cases and it is necessary to prevent the further spread and possible school closure.
3. Heating, ventilation and air condition settings will maximize ventilation and bring in as much outdoor air as possible.
4. Air filters will be changed regularly.
5. Windows will be opened if feasible.

## Contact Tracing

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. If contact tracing, isolation and quarantines are reinstated, ESU 7 will cooperate and coordinate with the East Central District Health Department Four Corners Health Department, and/or Central District Health Department.
2. ESU 7's normal health procedures will be followed, including:
  - a. Students and staff who are sick must stay home.
  - b. Students and staff must be fever free for 24 hours (without medication) before returning.

## Diagnostic and Screening Testing

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. Students and staff who exhibit COVID-related symptoms will be encouraged to stay home and consult your physician.
2. If COVID levels rise, ESU 7 will consult with local officials to determine if screening should be considered for students, staff, and visitors.

## Vaccination Efforts

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. ESU 7 provided the opportunity for vaccinations for all staff.
2. ESU 7 will provide information to staff regarding when/how they should receive vaccinations if needed or as requested.
3. ESU 7 will continue to monitor information regarding vaccinations and provide updates to staff when necessary.
4. Vaccination information will be included on the ESU's webpage **if** the need arises.

## Appropriate Accommodations for Children with Disabilities

### Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:

1. Student's IEP's and 504 plans will be followed. Accommodations may be included that apply to the health and safety of students, relative to COVID.

# Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

**Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:**

1. ESU 7 will continue to collaborate with our local and state health department on a regular basis, monitoring case levels and new guidance.
2. Information about levels of community transmission will be combined with information about cases within the district; implementation of prevention strategies will be increased if needed.
3. ESU 7 will implement or revise strategies when necessary.
4. This plan will be revised at least once every 6 months.

# Continuity of Services

**Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:**

1. It is our goal to continue to provide in-person services and instruction to our school districts and students, addressing their academic, social, emotional, and mental health. We intend to follow the ESU 7 2021-22 calendar delivering services as typical according to the needs of the school districts.
2. If COVID cases rise significantly and we are required to close, every effort will be made to provide these services virtually. All special education services will be provided according to student's IEP's.
3. If COVID cases rise significantly and the ESU is providing virtual services/instruction, the ESU will work with each school district to ensure staff and students have access to the necessary equipment.

# Symptoms Screening

**Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:**

1. Staff is encouraged to self-screen at home and to follow health department guidance regarding testing, isolation, and quarantine.
2. Parents and guardians are encouraged to screen students for COVID-related symptoms at home, and to follow health department guidance regarding testing, isolation, and quarantine.
3. If necessary to prevent the further spread and possible school closure, on-site symptom checks **may be** reinstated for everyone entering our facilities.

## Other

### **Mitigating Measures/Safety Protocols:**

1. Water fountains will be available. However, students and staff are encouraged to bring water bottles to school/ESU.
2. Self-service food options **may be** limited.

## Itinerant/Traveling Staff

### **Itinerant/Traveling Staff Protocols:**

1. ESU 7 staff are expected to follow the protocol described in this document when delivering services outside the ESU 7 campus.
2. In circumstances where the external location has more restrictive protocols in place, ESU 7 staff are expected to follow the more restrictive protocols.

## Summary

ESU 7 is committed to providing staff and students with a safe, in-person learning environment. The strategies outlined in this plan will be implemented to mitigate the risk of COVID spread in our school/ESU 7 region. The strategies will be reviewed and revised at least every six months based on COVID cases within the ESU 7 area, and any new research/evidence that becomes available.

## Safe Return Plan Documentation Records

### **Planning, Review and Consideration of Public Comment**

July 26, 2021: Draft sent to Plan Development Team for review.  
Aug 12, 2021: Director meeting to discuss, review, and revise the plan  
Aug 13, 2021: Draft shared with all staff and ESU 7 Board for review and

comment.

Aug 13, 2021: Feedback from staff reviewed; suggestions considered

Aug 16, 2021: Final Draft reviewed and discussed at Board meeting; Public Comment open for feedback. Return to Services/Instruction adopted by ESU 7 Board with relevant revisions.

Aug 17, 2021: Final Return to Services/Instruction Plan shared with staff and included on ESU 7 website.

Feb 7, 2022: 6 month review of Plan by Development Team.

Feb 21, 2022: Return to Services/Instruction Plan reviewed by ESU 7 with Public Comment.

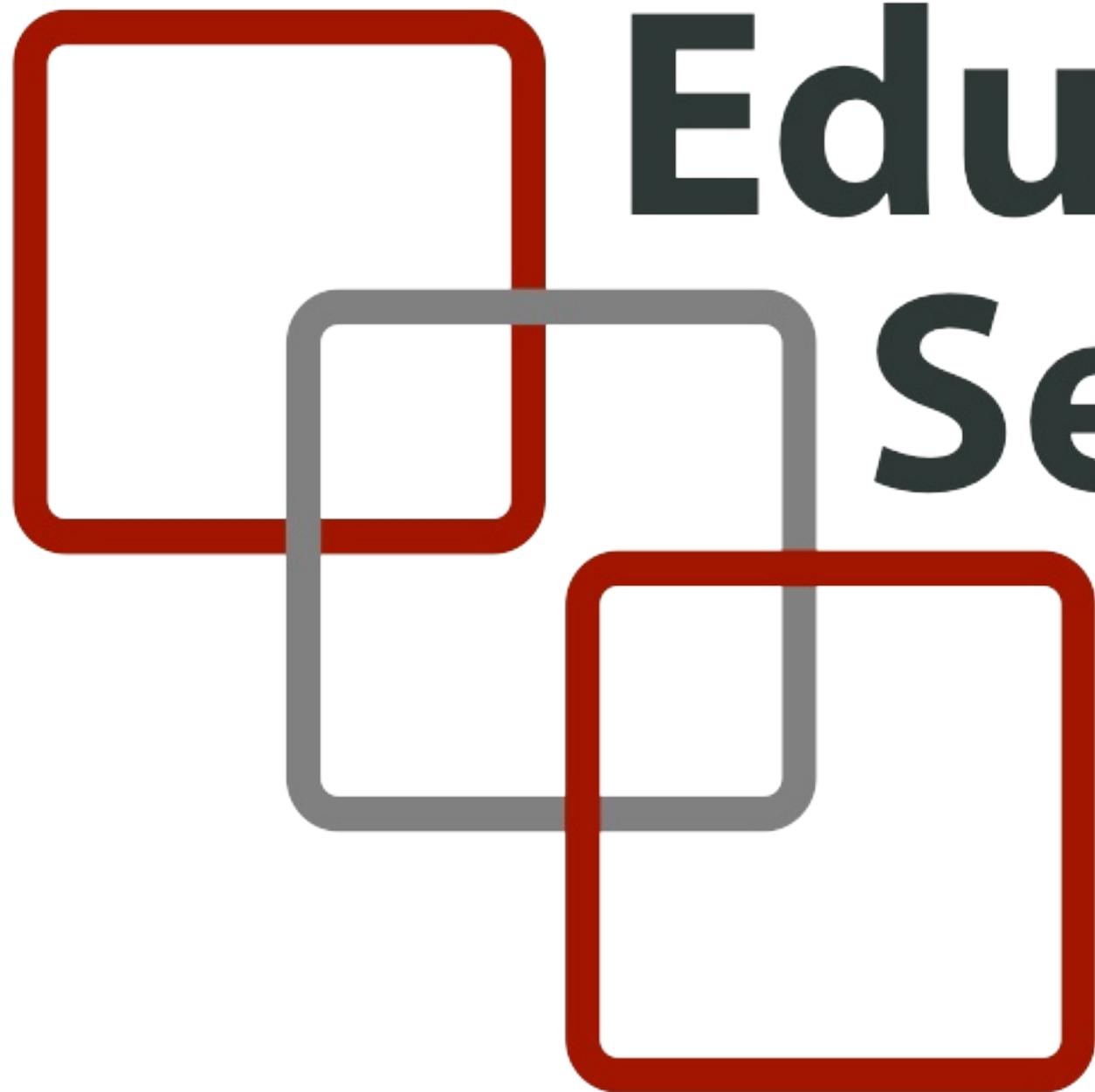
Feb 22, 2022: Updated Return to Services/Instruction Plan shared with staff and updated on ESU 7 website.

### **Record of General Comments Received about the Plan**

<b>DATE COMMENT RECEIVED:</b>	<b>LOCATION OR METHOD COMMENT WAS RECEIVED:</b>	<b>GENERAL TOPIC OF COMMENT:</b>

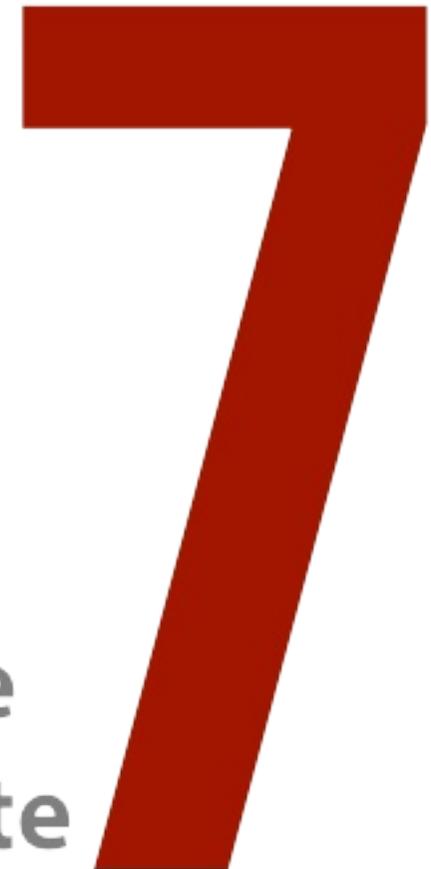
### **Record of Changes made to Original Plan**

<b>DATE PLAN WAS CHANGED:</b>	<b>SECTION OF CHANGE:</b>	<b>DETAILS OF CHANGES MADE:</b>



# Educational Service Unit

Lead Customize  
Support Innovate



# REGISTRATION & AGENDA

## MARCH 1 - YORK

Holthus Convention Center  
3130 Holen Avenue  
Registration Deadline - February 23

## MARCH 23 - OGALLALA

Kathleen Lute Public Library  
610 W. A Street  
Registration Deadline - March 17th

### TO REGISTER

Go to [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org), and log in using your email and password

If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 800-422-4572 for assistance. \$20 cancellation fee by the registration deadline. No refunds after the deadline.

Registration fees for each event are as follows:

Budget & Finance Workshop	\$65
Cancellation Fee	\$20

### AGENDA

5:00 PM	REGISTRATION
5:30 PM	DINNER, FOLLOWED BY THE WORKSHOP
8:30 PM	ADJOURN

### SUGGESTED AUDIENCE

School Board Members; Superintendents/ESU Administrators  
15 AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT POINTS WILL BE EARNED FOR ATTENDING



# BUDGET & FINANCE WORKSHOP

**"AN INVESTMENT IN KNOWLEDGE PAYS THE BEST INTEREST."**

**--Benjamin Franklin**

School finance is a complex task. The Leadership Team, comprised of both the board and Superintendent/ESU Administrator is responsible for managing the finances within their district/ESU. This evening workshop will feature former superintendents Carl Dietz and Matt Fisher, two school finance experts, who will structure the presentation around all aspects of the school district finances. They will share their experiences in:

- How the NDE Budget Document gets completed
- How the Annual Financial Report is used
- Importance of Cash Reserves
- Understanding historical budget information and how this helps project future budgets
- How a Capital Replacement Schedule is important for budget building
- How regular reports to the board make finances an appropriate part of board discussions
- Impact of TEEOSA Formula and SPED Funding
- Tie between the budget process and Property Tax
- Communication with the community about school finances
- A brief discussion of LB 644 and how it affects your annual budget workshop
- Pitfalls and stories from the trenches and how to avoid hidden financial traps

This workshop will be suited for both new board members and administrators just learning the process, as well as seasoned veterans who have been through this annual process.





**NEWS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
02/10/2022**

**Columbus Area  
United Way**



**Contact: Hope Freshour**

O) 402-564-5661

C) 402-332-8101

[hfreshour@columbusunitedway.com](mailto:hfreshour@columbusunitedway.com)

**COLUMBUS AREA UNITED WAY HOSTING NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION OF THE  
MIDLANDS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAINING.**

Columbus Area United Way is hosting Nonprofit Association of the Midlands (NAM) Board of Directors training on March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Columbus Area United Way Office location (3214 25<sup>th</sup> Street Suite 2). The training is open to any community member who would like to gain more information and best practices for being a volunteer board member. According to Columbus Area United Way Executive Director Hope Freshour “NAM offers insight and resources to local nonprofits and community volunteers, the Board of Directors training empowers volunteers to serve the organization they represent and the community they serve providing guidance, best practices and empowerment.” The following provides an overview of the NAM Board of Directors training:

*Nonprofit boards need strong skills and a thorough understanding of their role to serve effectively. The purpose of the Board Masters workshop is to provide guidance & skills-building opportunities for people who want to be better members of nonprofit boards of directors. Board Masters was created for board members, nonprofit board veterans and those new to board service. We cover the most important aspects of board governance in this interactive, intensive program. At the end of this training, you will be able to describe how effective boards function, tackle the essential tasks of nonprofit board members, and create a plan of action to address opportunities to improve.*

The cost to attend the training is \$20.00 for representatives from Columbus Area United Way partner agencies and \$25.00 for community members which includes lunch. Please reach out to Columbus Area United Way by February 25<sup>th</sup> to register at 402-564-5661 or email [hfreshour@columbusunitedway.com](mailto:hfreshour@columbusunitedway.com) for more information.

#####

# REGISTRATION & AGENDA

## APRIL 7 - WEST POINT

Nielsen Center - 200 Anna Stalp Avenue  
Registration Deadline - April 1

## APRIL 12 - GERING

Gering Civic Center, 1050 M Street  
Registration Deadline - April 6

## APRIL 13 - KEARNEY

Holiday Inn, 110 2nd Avenue  
Registration Deadline - April 6

### TO REGISTER

Go to [www.NASBonline.org](http://www.NASBonline.org), and log in using your email and password. If you do not have an email and password to log in or have forgotten it, please contact NASB at 800-422-4572 for assistance. \$20 cancellation fee by the registration deadline. No refunds after the deadline.

Registration fees for each event are as follows:

Budget & Finance Workshop	\$75
Cancellation Fee	\$20

### AGENDA

5:00 PM	REGISTRATION
5:30 PM	DINNER, FOLLOWED BY THE WORKSHOP
8:30 PM	ADJOURN

# MAKE YOUR MEETINGS MATTER

## BUILDING EFFECTIVE BOARD MEETINGS FOR YOUR DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY

School board meetings are changing at a rapid pace. These unique meetings where boards and superintendents conduct the business of the district are governed by the Nebraska Open Meetings Law. Community interest in and attendance at school board meetings has greatly increased in recent months. Attend this workshop to learn how to best educate your community about your meetings and how you can include them while still adhering to the Open Meetings Law.

Topics covered in this workshop will be:

- Supporting the community voice being heard 
- Open Meetings Act and recent changes 
- Public Comment 
- Creating your Agenda 
- Scenario based learning opportunity
- Board Meeting Protocols and Procedures 

### PRESENTERS

John Spatz, Executive Director - NASB  
Marcia Herring - Director of Board Leadership - NASB

### SUGGESTED AUDIENCE

School Board Members; Superintendents/ESU Administrators  
15 AWARDS OF ACHIEVEMENT POINTS WILL BE EARNED FOR ATTENDING





# ESU 7 Goals

## Board of Directors

- Goal 1: By July 2024 the ESU 7 board will create, roll out, and operationalize a formalized process for board recruitment, onboarding, mentoring, and boardsmanship.
  - Pre-Post engagement survey
  - Pre-Post process survey
- Goal 2: By July 2024 the ESU 7 board will attend at least two professional/personal learning events annually.
  - Pre-Post data
- Goal 3: By July 2024 the ESU 7 board will attend the corresponding school district board meetings at least once every two years to report the tailored services provided by ESU 7 and the outcomes measured.
  - Pre-Post data
- Goal 4: By July 2024 the ESU 7 board will create, roll out, and operationalize communication materials detailing tailored services and outcomes.
  - Pre-Post data

## Administrator

- Goal 1: Administrator will research and present drafted processes for recruitment, onboarding, mentoring, and boardsmanship for board consideration, revision, and adoption.
- Goal 2: Administrator will provide the board with an ongoing menu of available learning opportunities at each board meeting aligned to the ESU 7 vision, mission, and/or beliefs.
- Goal 3: Administrator will coordinate the scheduling of regular board visits over a rolling two year period and will organize a board member summit for ESU 7 area boards to participate in professional learning.
- Goal 4: Administrator will determine the data to best communicate to school boards their utilized services and outcomes and will draft communication materials for the board to consider, revise, and finalize.

## Directors

- Goal 1: By July 31, 2022, Directors will identify different methods of measurement and visualization of key data points on service performance and service selection.

## Agency Team

- Goal 1: By May 20, 2022, Agency Team will coordinate the implementation of agency wide processes by documenting progress on all topics
- Goal 2: In order to meet our vision, Agency Team will develop processes to enable staff to provide innovative services and to grow as professionals.



*Serving the schools of Boone, Butler, Colfax, Merrick, Nance, Platte, and Polk counties*

## Departments

- Administration: By July 31, 2022 ESU 7 will fully implement a document management system across departments.
- Cen7ter: Cen7ter staff will increase their team mentality and get to know each other better by implementing a team building exercise at least once per month in order to collaborate more effectively.
- Early Childhood: By May 2022, Early Childhood team will develop and clarify roles, responsibilities and expectations amongst service providers from different agencies or districts.
- Grants: By May 2022, the Grants Department will have a document prepared to be disseminated to districts (Google Doc & Hardcopy) which outlines services and resources available.
- Learning Academy: By May 2022, Learning Academy staff will learn how to navigate and implement Acellus to effectively support our students in progressing academically as evidenced by student progress and grades.
- Mental Health: By May 2022, the Mental Health Department will formalize a belief system and solidify service delivery across districts utilizing consistent protocols.
- Migrant: By the end of the 21-22 MEP performance period, we will increase the communication, engagement, and participation among migrant families and students.
- Network Operations: During the 21-22 school year, the Technology Department will work toward equalizing technology knowledge and abilities among team members.
- Production: By July 2022, ensure that every staff member is trained and proficient in every area of the department.
- Professional Development: By May 2022, we will develop and implement a process to maximize and optimize our service planning and delivery.
- Psychology: By May of 2022, members of our department will intentionally select, participate in, and apply professional development learning to meet the needs of our districts.
- Speech: By May 20, 2022, the Speech Department will share a presentation with current districts and ESU 7 Administrators about the roles and responsibilities of Speech Language Pathologists in schools.
- Vision: By May 2022, the Vision Team will explore ways to efficiently serve districts, families and students with visual impairments in underserved areas of the state, in addition to students in the ESU 7 area as measured by number of students served.

School	Day of Board Meeting	Meeting Location	Board Members in District
Boone Central Public School	2nd Monday of the month at 7:30pm	Boone Central High School Art Room, 605 South 6th Street, Albion, NE 68620	Richard Stephens
Central City Public Schools	3rd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 8:00 p.m	Central City High School Conference Room at 1510 28th Street in Central City, NE 68826	Marni Danhauer,
Clarkson Public School	2nd Wednesday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 6:00pm	Media Center, 649 Cherry St., Clarkson, NE 68629	Gary Wieseler, Doug Pauley,
Columbus Public School	3rd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 5:30pm.	ESU7/CPS Student Services Building, 2563 44th Avenue, Columbus, NE 68601	Jennifer Miller, Richard Luebbe, Jack Young, Bob Arp, Dan Hoesly,
Cross County Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:00pm.	CC Media Center, 1270 123rd Road, Stromsburg, NE 68666	Donald Ellison,
David City Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:00pm.	Board Meeting Room at the High School 750 D Street David City, NE 68632	Dan Hoesly, Doug Pauley, Donald Ellison, Dawn Lindsley
East Butler Public Schools	2nd Wednesday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 6:30pm	East Butler School, 212 South Madison Street, Brainard, NE 68626	Dawn Lindsley
Fullerton Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 5:00pm	Superintendent Office, 606 4th Street, Fullerton, NE 68638	Jennifer Miller,
High Plains Public Schools	Typically 2nd Monday of the month (some were on 2nd Wednesday). Meeting times seem to vary between 6:00pm, 6:30pm, 7:00pm, or 7:30pm.	June-Nov. @ Clarks BOE Room/Dec.-May @ Polk BOE Room, 260 S Pine, Polk, Ne 68654	Jennifer Miller, Marni Danhauer, Donald Ellison,
Howells-Dodge Public School	Typically 1st Wednesday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:30pm.	Meetings rotate between Howells and Dodge. Howells Library, Howells Attendance Center, 417 Center St, Howells, NE 68641. Dodge Elementary Lunch Room, Dodge Attendance Center, 209 Ash Street, Dodge NE 68633.	Gary Wieseler
Humphrey Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:30pm	Humphrey Public School Music Room #107, 405 South 7th Street, Humphrey, NE 68642	Richard Stephens, Gary Wieseler, Jennifer Miller,
Lakeview Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 8:00pm	Lakeview District Office, 3744 83rd St., Columbus, NE 68601	Gary Wieseler, Jennifer Miller, Richard Luebbe, Dan Hoesly, Doug Pauley,
Leigh Public School	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 6:30pm	Leigh Community Schools STEM Room, 222 W 4th Street, Leigh, NE 68643	Gary Wieseler
Osceola Public School	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 6:00pm	Middle School/High School Media Center, 565 S. Kimmel, Osceola, NE 68651	Donald Ellison,

Palmer Public School	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:00pm	Palmer Schools, Conference Room, 202 Commerical St., Palmer, NE 68864	Jennifer Miller, Marni Danhauer,
Schuyler Community Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 6:30pm	Schuyler Community Schools Board Room, 120 W. 20th Street, Schuyler, NE 68661	Gary Wieseler, Dan Hoesly, Doug Pauley, Joyce Baumert
Shelby/Rising Public Schools	Meetings seem to vary between the 2nd and 3rd Mondays of the month. Meeting times vary between 7:00pm, 7:30pm, or 8:00pm.	Shelby-Rising City School Room 402 or Library, 650 N. Walnut, Shelby, NE 68662	Donald Ellison,
St. Edward Public Schools	2nd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:00pm	St. Edward School Science Room, 601 Clark St, St Edward, NE 68660	Richard Stephens, Jennifer Miller,
Twin River Public School	3rd Monday of the month. The meetings are generally scheduled for 7:30pm.	Media Center - Twin River Elementary School Building 816 Willard Avenue Genoa, NE 68640	Richard Stephens, Jennifer Miller, Donald Ellison,

# ESU 7 AND EAST BUTLER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Strong Partnerships Strong Outcomes



## 2020- 2021



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**\$39,001**

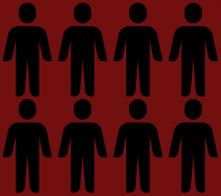
Dollars Saved  
Professional  
Development and  
Tech Support

+



**\$19,645**

Dollars Saved  
Cooperative  
Purchasing (Supplies)



**434**

Staff Participation



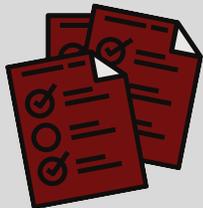
**573**

PD Service Hours

### Services Planned and Accessed

- Autism Spectrum Disorders Grant
- Behavior Analyst
- Classroom Coaching
- Continuous Improvement Process
- Coop Purchasing
- Coordinating Computer Repair Partnership
- Crisis/ School Safety
- Datacenter Services
- Distance Learning Consortium
- E-Rate Filing & Consultation
- Early Childhood
- Electronics Recycling
- Group Purchasing
- Instructional Materials Adoption
- Instructional Models
- Instructional Strategies
- LAN Manager Program
- LanMan Partnership
- Learning Academy
- Math Content Training
- Media Lending Library
- Mental Health
- Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/RDA)
- New Teacher Academy
- NWEA Training/Support
- Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings
- PEaK

- Perkins Grant
- Planning Region Team
- Principal Coaching
- Principal Development
- Principal/Teacher Evaluation
- Production/Art Media
- Products and Subscriptions
- Program Supervision
- Psychology
- Reading Content Training
- Science Content Training
- Speech Language
- Superintendent Development
- Tech Integration Specialist program meetings
- Technical Support
- Technology Integration
- Title 1 COOP
- Title IC Migrant Education Program
- Title II-A Consortium
- Title III - English Learners
- Title IV
- Transition
- Transition Grant
- Virtual Field Trips
- Vision
- Zoom, Scopia



**98%**

Services Accessed



# Providing leadership and support by delivering customized and innovative services.

## Agency Team

- Larriane Polk, Administrator - [lpolk@esu7.org](mailto:lpolk@esu7.org)
- Tami Clay, Special Education Director - [tclay@esu7.org](mailto:tclay@esu7.org)
- Dan Ellsworth, Network Operations Director - [ellsworth@esu7.org](mailto:ellsworth@esu7.org)
- Marci Ostmeyer, Professional Development Director - [mostmeyer@esu7.org](mailto:mostmeyer@esu7.org)
- Cynthia Alarcon, Migrant Education Program Coordinator - [calarcon@esu7.org](mailto:calarcon@esu7.org)
- Leanne Blanchard, Student Services Principal - [lblanchard@esu7.org](mailto:lblanchard@esu7.org)
- Lisa Duranski, Special Education Teacher - [lduranski@esu7.org](mailto:lduranski@esu7.org)
- Amy Mazankowski, Resource Coach/Transition Coordinator - [amymaz@esu7.org](mailto:amymaz@esu7.org)
- Tricia Spieker, Speech Language Coordinator - [tspieker@esu7.org](mailto:tspieker@esu7.org)
- Jackie Ternus, School Psychologist - [jternus@esu7.org](mailto:jternus@esu7.org)
- Wendy Wolfe, Special Education Teacher - [wwolfe@esu7.org](mailto:wwolfe@esu7.org)
- Judy Zadina, Vision Coordinator - [jzadina@esu7.org](mailto:jzadina@esu7.org)

## Board of Directors

- Doug Pauley, President, District 8
- Jack Young, Vice President, District 5
- Jennifer Miller, Secretary, District 3
- Richard Stephens, District 1
- Gary Wieseler, District 2
- Richard Luebbe, District 4
- Bob Arp, District 6
- Dan Hoesly, District 7
- Joyce Baumert, District 9
- Marni Danhauer, District 10
- Donald Ellison, District 11
- Dawn Lindsley, District 12

### Leadership §79-1204(1)(d)

ESU 7 Leadership works to stay informed on current trends and training while promoting growth to foster an environment where service and support can take place. Through purposeful leadership and partnerships with school districts, we support schools in identifying their strengths, analyzing their priorities, setting and reaching their improvement goals.

### Professional Development §79-1204(3)(b)

ESU 7 Professional Development provides services to support improvement of teaching and student learning by focusing on enhancing continuous improvement efforts, and support for achieving district goals.

### Technology/Infrastructure §79-1204(2)(a)(ii)

ESU 7 provides technology support, consultation, assistance, training and skill development for hardware and software, in addition to cost savings for internet services and software purchases. ESU 7 coordinates distance learning courses for K-12 students and professional development for educators using an alternative method of delivery.

### Instructional Materials §79-1204(2)(a)(iii)

ESU 7 provides instructional materials through tangible and online content to support curriculum and instruction.

### Other §79-1204(5)

ESU 7 offers efficient and cost-effective print shop art media services including copying, collating, stapling, laminating, binding, folding, letters and symbols, full color poster printing, as well as lamination of materials to support instruction.

### Grants §79-1204(2)(e)

ESU facilitates state and federal grants including: Title IA, Migrant Education (Title IC), Title IIA, Title III, Title IV, Carl Perkins, Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Early Learning Connection (ELC), Planning Region Team (PRT), Transition, Regional 4 Behavioral Health System Prevention, and PEaK (Promoting Engagement and Knowledge).

### Student Services §79-1204(5)

ESU 7 provides contracted special education services to districts including: Psychology, Speech and Language, Vision, Hearing, Early Childhood, Resource Coach, Mental Health, Transition, Behavior Analyst and Program Supervision.

The ESU 7 Learning Academy supports students in unlocking their potential by working collaboratively with stakeholders and meeting students where they are academically, behaviorally, and socially to build on their strengths in order to successfully transition back to their prior educational environment.

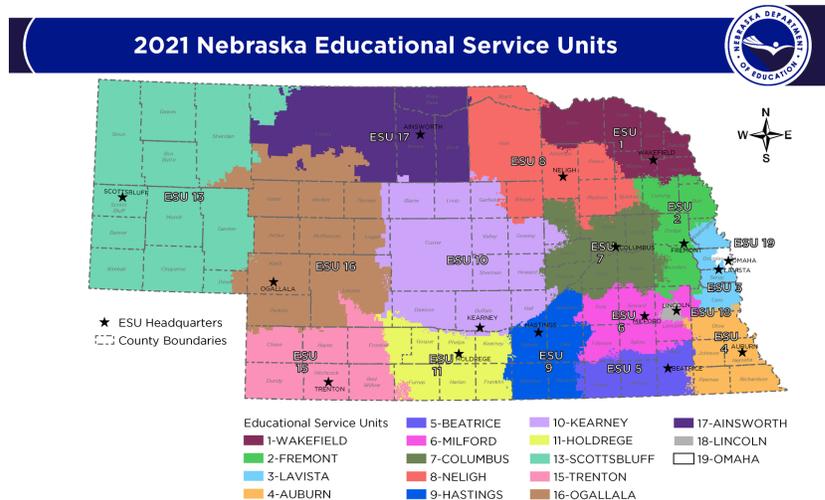
ESU 7 Cen7ter builds on student's strengths to prepare each for independence in school, their communities, employment, leisure and social environments.

**Main Office**  
 2657 44th Avenue  
 Columbus, NE 68601  
 402-564-5753  
 Fax: 402-563-1121  
[www.esu7.org](http://www.esu7.org)

**Student Services**  
 2563 44th Avenue  
 Columbus, NE 68601  
 402-564-0815  
 Fax: 402-563-1121  
[www.esu7.org](http://www.esu7.org)



### ESU 7 Policy Manual



It is the policy of ESU 7 to not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, gender identity or sexual orientation, or other protected status in its educational programs, admission policies, employment policies or other administered programs. Persons requiring accommodations to apply and/or be considered for positions are asked to make their request to the Chief Administrator.

**107th Legislative Session  
Update to the ESU 7 Board  
2.21.2022**

**Legislative Session Convened January 5, 2022**  
**Bills introduced until 10th day, January 20, 2022**  
**Hearings begin January 18, 2022**  
**Adjourn sine die, April 20, 2022**

**615 Bills introduced, 85 related to education**

[Link to Bill Tracker](#)

<b>Speaker of the Legislature:</b> Senator Mike Hilgers of Lincoln, 2-year term	
<b>Education Committee Members:</b> Walz (Chair), Fremont (D) Day, Gretna (D) Linehan, Millard (R) McKinney, Omaha (D) Morefeld, Lincoln (D) Murman, Holdrege (R) Pansing-Brooks, Lincoln (D) Sanders, Bellevue (R)	<b>Appropriations Committee:</b> Stinner (Chair) Wishart Vargas Erdman Clements McDonnell Dorn Kolterman Hilkemann
<b>Revenue Committee:</b> Linehan (Chair) Albrecht Flood Lindstrom Briese Bostar Pahls Friesen	<b>Retirement Committee:</b> Kolterman (Chair) Lindstrom Slama Clements McDonnell Stinner

*~Each senator may select one priority bill, each committee may select two priority bills, and the speaker may select up to 25 priority bills.*

## **Rules**

- In order to have a full and fair debate on legislation, 8 hours of debate before a cloture motion for General File, 4 hours on Select File, and 2 hours on Final Reading. However, if no filibuster occurred in either the first or second rounds, the threshold for a full and fair debate could be four hours on Final Reading. (A cloture motion, if successful, would cease debate on a bill and require an immediate vote on the pending matter. The cloture motion currently requires an affirmative vote of 33 members.)

Each bill summary is organized as:

**Bill Number/Amendment Number (Senator's last name), Sponsor Committee - One-liner**  
Summary Description. [New info in blue.](#)

[Action \(new action in bold\)](#)

[Orange is the link to Slip Law](#)

[Red means in opposition](#), [Green means proponent](#), regular type is neutral or monitor

**\*\*Carryover Bill\*\*LB 361 (Dorn) Appropriations - Appropriate money to ESUs to get the back to where they were**

ESUCC Will not advance any work this legislative session

**[LB 696 \(Blood\), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State DOE for school employee retention payments](#)**

[NASB](#)

[ESUCC with amendment to include ESU](#)

[January 5, 2022 Introduced.](#)

[January 10, 2022 Referred to the Appropriations Committee](#)

[February 28, 2022 Hearing](#)

**[LB 723 \(Briese\), Change provisions relating to the calculation of tax credits under the Nebraska Property Tax Incentive Act](#)**

Raises the floor of how much money goes into Property Tax Credit Fund (from LB 1107 last year). Will impact LB 890/891.

ESUCC

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to the Revenue Committee

January 19, 2022 Hearing

January 20, 2022 Murmans priority

January 20, 2022 General File

January 27, 2022 Select File

**LB 743 (Erdman), Gov, Mil, and Vet Affairs - Change provisions relating to when closed sessions may be held under Open Meetings Act**

All to do with the subcommittee moving into closed session.

NASB

ESUCC

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 9, 2022 Hearing

**LB 758 (Brant), Education - Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act**

ESUCC

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred

January 18, 2022 Hearing

January 27, 2022 General File

February 9, 2022 Select file

February 14, 2022 E&R for Engrossment

**LB 768 (Albrecht), Education - Change provisions related to establishment of academic content standards for school districts**

Prohibits NDE from developing curriculum on anything other than reading, writing, math, science and social studies

NASB

ESUCC

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 15, 2022 Hearing

**LB 852 (Day), Education - Required behavioral health points of contact for school districts**

ESUCC

NASB

January 6, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 22, 2022 Hearing

**LB 890 (Walz), Education - **Change the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act.****

This is the Columbus Plan as it has come out in a bill. LB 891 is the revenue companion bill.

NASB

ESUCC

January 7, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

January 25, 2022 Hearing

January 27, 2022 Committee Priority

February 3, 2022 General File, now holding

**LB 891 (Lindstrom), Revenue - **Change the distribution of sales tax revenue, school levy limitations, and other tax and school provisions****

NASB

ESUCC

January 7, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Revenue Committee

January 26, 2022 Hearing

**LB 908 (McDonnell), Gov, Mil and Vet Affairs - **Provide additional requirements for virtual conferencing under the Open Meetings Act****

If we hold any full virtual meetings, no decisions could be made until next in person meeting  
ESUCC watch, will reach out to him.

ESUCC monitor

January 10, 2022 Introduced

January 12, 2022 Referred to Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 16, 2022 Hearing

**LB 912 (Morfeld), Education - **Provide for mental health first aid training for school districts and change provisions relating to the use of lottery funds.****

ESUCC for now

January 10, 2022 Introduced

January 11, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 945 (Linehan), Education - Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act, provide for student loan repayment assistance, and appropriate General Funds**

NASB

ESUCC

January 10, 2022 Introduced

January 11, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 986 (Briese), Revenue - **Adopt the School District Property Tax Limitation Act****

Puts a cap on how much valuations can grow. LB 986 would prohibit school districts from raising property taxes beyond the greatest of 2.5%, Consumer Price Index inflation, 40% of student enrollment growth, 25% of LEP student growth, or 25% of poverty student growth. A 60% majority of voters could vote to exceed the limit.

NASB

ESUCC watch because we are not in it yet

January 12, 2022 Introduced

January 13, 2022 Referred to Revenue Committee

January 20, 2022 Hearing

January 27, 2022 Prioritized

January 28, 2022 General File

**LB 987 (Briese), Revenue - Adopt the School District Property Tax Limitation Act**

NASB

January 12, 2022 Introduced

January 13, 2022 Referred to Revenue

January 20, 2020 Hearing

**LB 997 (Day), Education - **Change school entrance requirements****

Do an autism screen outside of school prior to entrance.

ESUCC watch

January 12, 2022 Introduced

January 13, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 8, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1001 (Erdman), Education - Limit the school term for school districts and ESUs**

Labor Day to Memorial Day

NASB

ESUCC monitor

January 12, 2022 Introduced

January 13, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February, 8, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1034 (Pahls), Education - Provide for designation of progress schools and progress plans and state intent to appropriate federal funds.**

Pahls teased about this bill when he testified against Linehan's Scholarship bill. Will likely not come out of committee. Wants to attack more schools than the current bill does now (3).

ESUCC monitor, want to be a part of the conversation

January 13, 2022 Introduced

January 19, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1057 (Brewer), Education - Change provisions relating to Class III class districts**  
ESUCC

January 18, 2022 Introduced

January 20, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 8, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1077 (B. Hansen), Gov, Mil, and Vet Affairs - Prohibit public schools, public postsecondary institutions, and governmental entities from training or teaching certain concepts relating to race and sex and provide for withholding of state funds**

Make it impossible for schools to partner with ESUs for the purposes of bonding. Interlocals are still allowable.

ESUCC watch

January 18, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 15, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1078 (B. Hansen), Education - Prohibit possession of personal electronic devices by students in public school classrooms**

NASB

ESUCC watch

January 18, 2022 Introduced

January 20, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1085 (Pansing-Brooks), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education for career and technical educational student organizations**

ESUCC Monitor

January 18, 2022 Introduced

January 20, 2022 Referred to the Appropriations  
February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1105 (Day), Transportation and Telecommunications Committee - Provide for Autism Awareness Plates**

Would like the additional money to the ASD grants  
ESUCC watch

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Trans & Telecom Committee

February 22, 2022 Hearing

**LB1106 (Day), Health and Human Services - Change provisions of the Mental Health Practice Act**

ESUCC monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to HHS Committee

February 25, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1112 (McKinney), Education - Adopt the Computer Science and Technology Act and provide graduation requirements and academic content standards  
Required 5 credit hour course. May be difficult for small schools**

**NASB**

ESUCC monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 15, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1128 (DeBoer), Education - Adopt the Student Loan Repayment Assistance for Teachers Act**

**NASB**

**ESUCC**

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1131 (Morfeld) - State intent to appropriate federal funds for bonus payments for teachers, childcare workers, and health care workers**

ESUCC monitor

**NASB**

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Appropriations Committee

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1143 (Linehan, Bostelman added), Education - Required approval by the voters of a school district or educational service unit for the issuance of certain bonds under the Interlocal Cooperation Act.**

This is likely in response to the ESU 5/BPS and ESU 2/WPS cooperative agreements for buildings. Still allows interlocal agreements, simply eliminates bonding authority. The bill would require a vote on any bonding agreement.

NASB

ESUCC

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1146 (Friesen), Gov, Mil, and Vet Affairs - Change provisions relating to the Interlocal Cooperation Act**

This is broad and will impact ANY interlocal. Municipalities included. Directly a result of WPS and BPS.

NASB

ESUCC

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 11, 2022 Hearing

**LB 787 (Groene) Gov, Mil, and Vet Affairs - Redefine a term and change applicability provisions under the Nebraska Budget Act**

More focus on NRDs and how they report accountability when in interlocals. Not intended to address ESUs.

ESUCC watch

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Government, Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 9, 2022 Hearing

February 15, 2022 General File

**LB 1157 (Linehan), Education - Require the State Department of Education to submit reports on federal funds.**

ESUCC monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1161 (Wishart), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education for programs and interpreters that provide services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing**

ESUCC Monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Appropriations

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1165 (Sanders), Gov, Mil and Vet. Affairs Committee - Change provisions of the Nebraska Budget Act**

Has to do with the interlocal agreements

ESUCC Monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Gov, Mil and Vet. Affairs Committee

February 10, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1169 (Linehan), Education - Require the State Department of Education to create a loan forgiveness grant program**

NASB

ESUCC monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Education

February 1, 2022 hearing

February 3, 2022 Indefinitely Postponed

**LB 1170 (Sanders), Education - Require schools to allow certain youth organizations to provide information, services, and activities.**

NASB

ESUCC monitor

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 8, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1179 (Groene), Education - Adopt the Classroom Safety Intervention and Behavioral Awareness Training Act**

ESUCC

January 19, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to Education Committee  
February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1198 (McDonnell), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education to provide grants to nonprofit organizations providing programming**

ESUCC monitor, ask if includes ESUs

January 20, 2022 Introduced  
January 24, 2022 Referred to Appropriation  
February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1207 (Groene), Revenue - Change taxation and school funding provisions**

Reduce taxable value of ag and for all school funding purposes.

ESUCC monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced  
January 24, 2022 Referred to Revenue Committee  
February 17, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1211 (Linehan), Education - Change provisions relating to option enrollment for students**

ESUCC watch

NASB

January 20, 2022 Introduced  
January 24, 2022 Referred to Education Committee  
February 22, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1212 (Linehan), Education - Change provisions relating to individualized education plans under the Special Education Act**

ESUCC monitor closely

January 20, 2022 Introduced  
January, 24, 2022 Referred to Education Committee  
February 22, 22 Hearing

**LB 1213 (Albrecht), Judiciary - Provide requirements regarding access to digital and online resources provided by school districts, schools, and Nebraska Library Commission for students**

ESUCC Monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced  
January 24, 2022 Referred to Judiciary Committee  
January 31, 2022 Albrecht Prioritized

February 9, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1217 (Walz), Appropriation - Appropriate federal funds to the Department of Administrative Services for incentive payments to eligible school employees**

ESUCC monitor, ask to include ESUs

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to Appropriation

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1218 (Walz), Education - **Change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness.****

There are others about teacher certification. This one looks interesting.

NASB

ESUCC

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

January 27, 2022 Committee Priority

January 31, 2022 Hearing

**LB 960 (Vargas), Education - Eliminate certain basic skill and content test requirements for eligibility for teaching certificates**

NASB

ESUCC

January 11, 2022 Introduced

January 12, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

January 31, 2022 Hearing

**LB 690 (Blood), Education - Redefine basic skills competency for purposes of teachers' and administrators' certificates or permits**

NASB

ESUCC

January 5, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

January 31, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1219 (Sanders), Education- Adopt the Extended Learning Opportunities Act**

ESUCC Monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to Education Committee

February 8, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1220 (Morfeld), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education for premium payments for teachers working in underserved communities**

Federal Funds

ESUCC Monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to Appropriation

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**\*\*Carryover Bill\*\*LB 364 (Linehan), Revenue - Adopt the Opportunity Scholarship Act and provide tax credits**

Tax credit program for private schools.

**NASB**

January 13, 2021 Introduced

January 15, 2021 Referred to Committee

January 28, 2021 Hearing

March 10, 2021 Linehan Priority

March 25, 2021 General File

April 28, 2021 Cloture Failed

January 5, 2022 Carryover

January 6, 2022 Linehan Priority

January 12, 2022 Cloture Failed

**LB 1237 (Brewer), Revenue - Opportunity Scholarships Act and the Nebraska Child Care Contribution Tax Credit Act**

This is reiteration of the bill above, introduced this legislative session.

**NASB**

ESUCC monitor with opposition

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to Revenue Committee

February 9, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1251 (B. Hansen), Education -Adopt the Equal Opportunity Scholarships for Students with Special needs Program Act and change provisions relating to the distribution of lottery funds**

Provides scholarships to special needs students to be used on school of their choice, including non-public k-12

**NASB**

ESUCC monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1240 (Albrecht), Appropriations - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education to provide family-directed education recovery accounts for low-income children and families**

Federal funds

ESUCC monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

February 28, 2022 Hearing

**LB 1242 (Murmans), Revenue - Change the valuation of certain real property for purposes of property taxes levied by school districts**

ESUCC heavily monitor

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 24, 2022 Referred to the Revenue Committee

February 3, 2022 Hearing

**\*\*Carryover Bill\*\* LR 14 (Halloran), Gov, Mil, and Vet Affairs - Resolution to congress for convention of the states to propose amendments to the US Constitution**

ESUCC Monitor

January 8, 2021 Introduced

January 12, 2021 Referred to the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee

February 10, 2022 Hearing

March 31, 2021 General File

January 5, 2022 Carryover

January 18, 2022 Select File

January 24, 2022 Final Reading

January 28, 2022 Passed, presented to Sec. of State

**Slip Law**

**LR 278CA (Linehan), Education - Constitutional amendment to eliminate the State BOE and provide for the Governor to appoint the Commissioner of Education.**

Will likely get a late hearing date.

**NASB**

ESUCC Monitor with caution

January 20, 2022 Introduced

January 21, 2022 Referred to the Education Committee

March 1, 2022 Hearing

**LR 264CA (Erdman), Revenue - Constitutional amendment to prohibit the imposition of taxes other than retail consumption taxes and excise taxes**

**ESUCC**

January 05, 2022 Introduced

January 10, 2022 Referred to the Revenue Committee

January 13, 2022 Erdman priority

February 3, 2022 Hearing

# 2022 Legislative Session\*

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>January</b>						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>February</b>						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>March</b>						
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
<b>April</b>						
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

### Federal & State Holidays

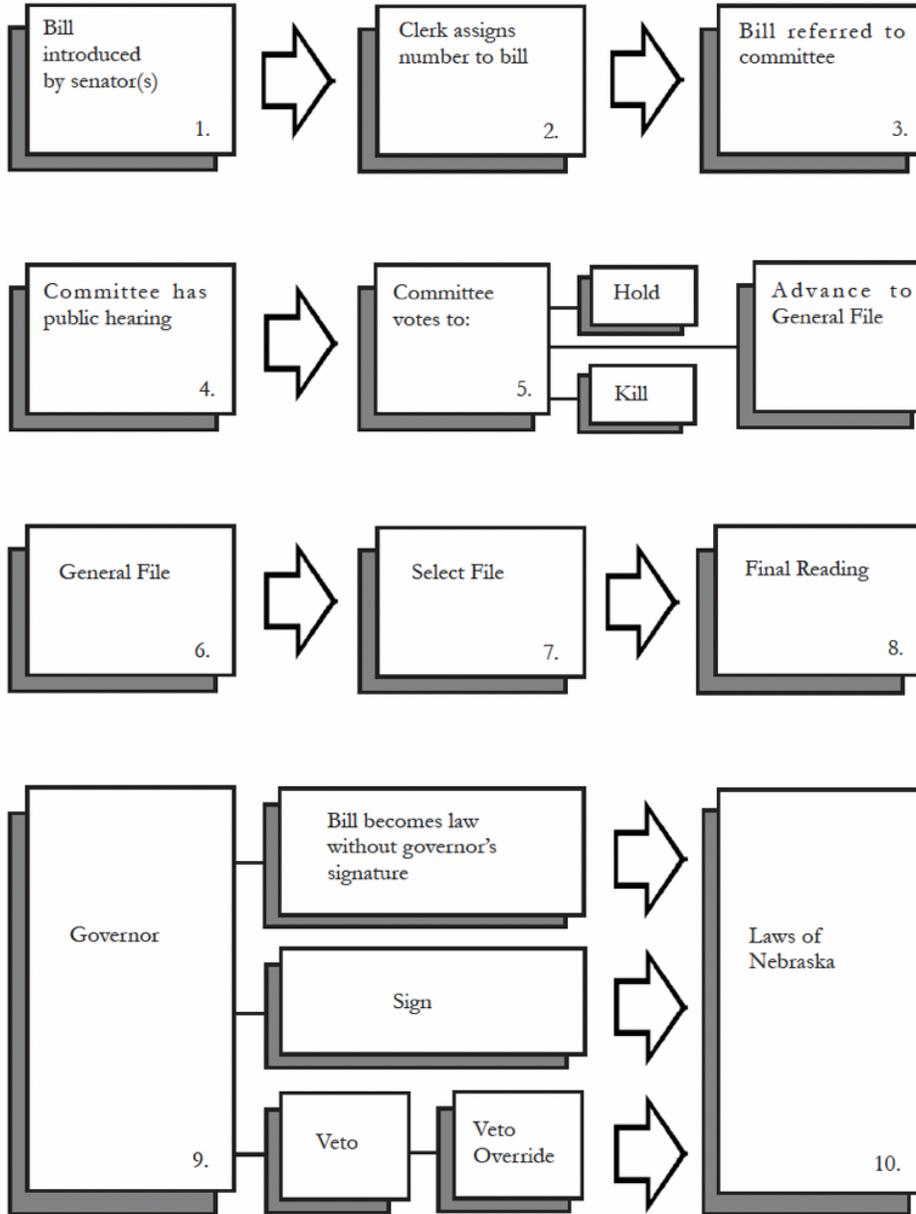
January 17 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
 February 21 - Presidents' Day

### Legislative Recess Days

January 14  
 February 4, 7, 18  
 March 4, 7, 18, 21  
 April 1, 4, 14, 15, 18, 19

\*The Speaker reserves the right to revise the session calendar.

### How a Bill Becomes a Law



(Unicameral Clerk of the Legislature, 2017, p. 281)

*Nebraska Council of School Administrators*

— *An Overview* —

**The Historical Evolution of the Nebraska Chief Education Officer,  
Department of Education, and the State Board of Education  
1855 to 1966**

*By Dr. Michael Dulaney  
NCSA Executive Director  
January 22, 2022*

The position of Nebraska’s chief education officer evolved slowly throughout the history of its territorial years and into the decades after statehood. The emphasis of responsibilities and duties also evolved over time in relation to the importance of K-12 education as a government priority. The historical record indicates a long debate over whether the position should be an elected office, a partisan office, an appointed position, a statutorily created position, or a constitutional office.

The first constitutional reference for a chief education officer was approved by the state’s electorate in the adoption of the Nebraska Constitution of 1875 as a partisan-elected member of the “executive department.”<sup>1</sup> The current constitutionally-prescribed, appointed position of Commissioner of Education was set forth in 1952 through the efforts of a legislatively appointed Constitutional Commission and approved by the state’s electorate through a constitutional amendment.

Also evolving over time was the staffing for what was the Office of Public Instruction and now is recognized as the Department of Education. Today the department employs over 500 staff, but for many decades in the past, previous chief education officers had to continually plea for the most basic support staff. Even an immediate deputy to the chief education officer took time to develop and remain as a fixture within the office.

The following examination of the historical evolution of the Nebraska chief education officer, an education agency, and an elected board of education was based upon review of the following:

- Otto George Ruff, “The Development of State School Administration in Nebraska,” PhD diss., (University of Nebraska-Lincoln, 1959).
- Ginger Jensen, “Development of Nebraska Education, 1854-1967,” Prepared for Dr. Floyd A. Miller, Commissioner of Education, January 1968.
- The Nebraska Constitution, 1866-2016, A Legislative Research Office Backgrounder, Research Report 2017-1, <https://nebraskalegislature.gov/pdf/reports/research/constitution2017.pdf>.
- Nebraska Blue Book, dating from 1889 to the present, Nebraska Library Commission, Government Information Services, <http://govdocs.nebraska.gov/epubs/13000/d001.html>.
- Historical transcripts from relevant legislative public hearings and floor debate, copies of past introduced legislation, committee records, and session laws.

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<sup>1</sup> The first Nebraska Constitution, approved by the voters on June 2, 1866, did not provide for a chief education officer. The position remained a statutorily created office until 1875.

*The timeline below provides an overview of the historical development of the position of chief education officer, the office/department and staffing, and a board of education.*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Chief Education Officer</i>	<i>Appointed/ Elected</i>	<i>Office/Department and Staff</i>	<i>Board of Education</i>
1855	(Territorial) Librarian and Superintendent of Public Instruction <sup>2</sup>	Appointed	The Office of Librarian and Superintendent of Public Instruction was not afforded staff.	The institution of a government during the Nebraska territorial years was organized according to the Organic Act of Nebraska Territory, May 30, 1854. This act was the charter that guided and limited the deliberations of the legislature throughout the territorial period.
1858	(Territorial) Commissioner of Common Schools <sup>3</sup>	Partisan Elected 2-year term	The recreated Office of Territorial Librarian was directed to discharge the duties of Secretary to the Commissioner of Common Schools.	
1861	(Territorial) Auditor and School Commissioner <sup>4</sup>		The Auditor and School Commissioner was allowed to hire a deputy beginning in 1864. <sup>5</sup>	The Organic Act did not provide for the establishment of a board of education.
1866	(State) Superintendent of Public Instruction <sup>6</sup>		Deputy and one staff member.	The Nebraska Constitution of 1866 did not provide for a board of education.

Statehood, March 1, 1867
--------------------------

<sup>2</sup> During the first session of the Nebraska Legislative Assembly (1855), an act was established, known as “The Common School System,” comprising of seven sections. During the same legislative session, the Office of Territorial Librarian was created, which was additionally designated, “Superintendent of Public Instruction,” with an annual salary of \$200.

<sup>3</sup> During the fifth session of the Legislative Assembly (1858) an act was passed entitled, “An Act Providing for the Better Regulation of Schools in Nebraska,” which was adapted from the Iowa School laws. One of the more significant aspects of the 1858 Act was to provide that each township in the Territory was to constitute a school district. The Act also placed administration of the schools in the hands of a newly designated officer and titled, “Territorial Commissioner of Common Schools,” who was to be elected on a partisan basis for a two-year term.

<sup>4</sup> In the seventh session of the Nebraska Legislative Assembly (1860), the duties of the Commissioner of Common Schools were merged with the Office of Territorial Auditor, to reduce the expenses of the territorial government.

<sup>5</sup> During the ninth session of the Nebraska Legislative Assembly (1864), legislation was adopted authorizing the Auditor and School Commissioner to appoint a deputy.

<sup>6</sup> The first Nebraska Constitution was submitted to the voters on June 2, 1866, and upon electoral approval was submitted to Congress for final approval. The official proclamation for statehood occurred on March 1, 1867. The 1866 Nebraska Constitution did not list the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a member of the executive department. The position remained a statutorily created office until 1875.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Chief Education Officer</i>	<i>Appointed/Elected</i>	<i>Office/Department and Staff</i>	<i>Board of Education</i>
1869	(State) Superintendent of Public Instruction <sup>7</sup>	Partisan Elected 4-year term	The Office of Public Instruction. Eventually permitted to hire a deputy.	The first board was created by an act approved June 20, 1867. The board was comprised of the treasurer, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and five persons appointed by the Governor.  The board's sole duty was oversight of the normal schools, the first of which was established at Peru.
1875	(State) Superintendent of Public Instruction <sup>8</sup>	Partisan Elected 2-year term <sup>9</sup>	Art. V, Sec. 24 of the Nebraska Constitution of 1875 provided that "there shall be no allowance for clerk hire in the offices of the superintendent and attorney general."	
1889			Minimal staff to include deputy and stenographer <sup>10</sup>	
1917	(State) Superintendent of Public Instruction	Non-partisan Elected 2-year term <sup>11</sup>	As noted in Appendix A, the Department of Public Instruction had grown from three staff in 1902 to 15 in 1924, not including the state superintendent.	Normal Schools derive their name from the French phrase <i>ecole normale</i> . These were the first teacher-training institutions.
1920		Non-partisan Elected 4-year term <sup>12</sup>	In 1920 the total payroll for the department was \$25,400, which included the state superintendent's salary of \$5,000. The staff included a deputy, a head of certification, stenographers, a rural school inspector, three clerks of examinations, and one secretary. <sup>13</sup>	

<sup>7</sup> During the fifth session of the Nebraska State Legislature, which was for the first time convened in Lincoln, the Office of State Superintendent of Public Instruction was created in an act approved on February 15, 1869. A provision was made for the Governor to appoint this officer to hold office until his successor could be elected at the next general election. *The term of office thereafter was to be four years.*

<sup>8</sup> The Nebraska Constitution of 1875 specified the Superintendent of Public Instruction as a member of the executive department, which also included the governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary of state, auditor of public accounts, treasurer, attorney general, and commissioner of public lands and buildings. Art. V, Sec. 1.

<sup>9</sup> Id. Contrary to the legislation adopted in 1869, the term of office was reduced to two years under the 1875 Nebraska Constitution.

<sup>10</sup> Under the decision of the Nebraska Supreme Court (*25 Neb. 669*), issued in 1889, it was held that "clerk" had its common-law meaning and did not include deputy or stenographer. *Neb. Blue Book, 1922.*

<sup>11</sup> The legislature of 1917 passed House Roll No. 23 to place the election of state superintendent on a non-partisan basis. The legislation also applied to county superintendents, regents of the University of Nebraska, district court and county judges, and was approved on April 24, 1917. *Session Laws, 1917.*

<sup>12</sup> Approved amendment No. 13 of the Nebraska Constitutional Convention of 1919-20 changed the term of office from two years to four years effective in 1923.

<sup>13</sup> *Neb. Blue Book, 1920, p. 158.*

<sup>14</sup> A "normal school," referred to now as a teacher college, is an institution to train high school graduates to be teachers by instructing them in the norms of pedagogy.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Chief Education Officer</i>	<i>Appointed/Elected</i>	<i>Office/Department and Staff</i>	<i>Board of Education</i>
1952	(State) Commissioner of Education	Appointed by State Board of Education	<p>An approved constitutional amendment required the newly created Board of Education to appoint all employees of the State Department of Education on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Education.</p> <p>In 1952, the then statutorily created Department of Education had a total of 50 employees.<sup>15</sup></p>	<p>A legislatively referred constitutional amendment was adopted in 1952 to create a State Board of Education, the office of Commissioner of Education, and the Department of Education.<sup>16</sup></p> <p>The State Board of Education would be comprised of six elected members, elected to six-year terms on a nonpartisan ballot.</p> <p>The amendment also eliminated all references to the “Superintendent of Public Instruction.”</p>
1966			By 1966 the Department of Education employed well over 100 staff within multiple divisions of supervision, a deputy commissioner and several assistant commissioners. <sup>17</sup>	The electorate approved a legislatively referred constitutional amendment in 1966, which increased the number of board members from six to eight and reduced the term of office from six to four years. <sup>18</sup>

*Note:* The Legislature passed LB 1023 (1971) to propose a constitutional amendment, which was adopted by the electorate at the November 1972 General Election, providing editorial changes and re-arrangement of language in Art. VII relating to education provisions.<sup>19</sup>

LB 212 (1951), which resulted in the approved 1952 constitutional amendment, placed into the Nebraska Constitution what had already existed by virtue of legislative action. The legislatively referred amendment was designed to depoliticize public education. During the Education Committee’s public hearing for LB 212, on March 20, 1951, Senator Walter J. Williams, who

<sup>15</sup> Neb. Blue Book, 1952, p. 146.

<sup>16</sup> During the 1951 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed LB 212, which proposed a constitutional amendment to institutionalize the State Board of Education, which would appoint a Commissioner of Education who would have administrative authority over a Department of Education. The measure appeared on the 1952 General Election ballot and was approved by a 243,116 to 144,426 vote. The State Department of Education was officially established within the Nebraska Constitution on December 2, 1952.

<sup>17</sup> Neb. Blue Book, 1966, pp. 431-436.

<sup>18</sup> During the 1965 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed LB 254, which proposed a constitutional amendment to increase the number of board members from six to eight and to reduce the term of office from six years to 4 years. The measure appeared on the 1966 General Election ballot and was approved by a 268,029 to 141,722 vote.

<sup>19</sup> Committee Statement, Education Committee, LB 1023 (1971), April 22, 1971. Approved at the 1972 General Election, 320,909 to 126,737.

introduced LB 212, stated that the bill derived from the Committee on the Reorganization of State Government. He said authorities on state school administration for the past 30 years had urged a State Board of Education for elementary and secondary schools. At the time, there were 39 states that had similar state boards. He noted that many national organizations had recommended the establishment of such boards, including the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Council of State Government, National Education Association, and American Association of School Administrators.<sup>20</sup>

Senator Williams stated that, following the 1949 Legislature, the Legislative Council made a study of the structure of education throughout the State of Nebraska. As a result, the Committee on the Reorganization of State Government proposed to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted for the establishment of a State Board of Education. Senator Williams said it was more desirable to have the members of the board elected by the people instead of having them appointed by the Governor and noted that education is kept closer to the people in this way.<sup>21</sup>

Perhaps the most illuminating proponent testimony on LB 212 was presented by Freeman (“Free”) Decker, the then State Superintendent of Public Instruction, who said he felt that he had too much authority in establishing policies. Under the existing system, he said, it was possible to have a complete turnover of policy every four years (referring to the term of office for the state superintendent). If there was a board of six members, he said, they would have overlapping terms, and the turnover in policy would not likely happen. He concluded that the proposed amendment is educationally sound.<sup>22</sup>

Other proponents of the measure included Dean F.E. Henzlik, University of Nebraska, the Nebraska Congress of Parents and Teachers, the Nebraska Association of University Women, and the League of Women Voters.

Archer Burnham, Executive Secretary for the Nebraska State Education Association, stated the bill was endorsed by his profession, and felt the bill would keep education in the hands of the people.<sup>23</sup>

G.E. Colterman, representing the Rural School Board Association of Pierce County stated the bill would lead to centralization in the educational system. Colterman’s group was in favor of maintaining the Office of State Superintendent as an elected position.

Subsequent to the successful passage of the 1952 constitutional amendment, the issue of whether to appoint or elect the state superintendent would rise to the level of electoral challenge several times. In both 1960 and 1964, legislatively referred constitutional amendments with the intent to return the office to an elected position met with identical fates on election day. Both measures were defeated by the voters.<sup>24</sup>

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<sup>20</sup> Minutes of Public Hearing, LB 212 (1951), Committee on Education, March 20, 1951, Lincoln, Neb.

<sup>21</sup> *Id.*

<sup>22</sup> *Id.*

<sup>23</sup> *Id.*

<sup>24</sup> The 1960 proposal was defeated by a 57% to 43% margin. The 1964 proposal was defeated by a 59% to 41% margin. Neb. Blue Book, Vote on Constitutional Amendments, 1882-2020, p. 240.

In recent years, various attempts have been made to undo the 1952 constitutional amendment. Senator Scott Lautenbaugh introduced LR 421CA in 2014, proposing to outright repeal Art. VII, Sec. 2-4, and thereby eliminating all provisions instituted in 1952.<sup>25</sup> Under LR 421CA the State Board of Education, Commissioner of Education, and Department of Education would have been removed from the Constitution with the presumption that the Legislature would enact legislation to permit the Governor to appoint a chief state education officer.

At the public hearing for LR 421CA, Brent Smoyer, representing Senator Lautenbaugh, felt the measure would help to increase local control. “Senator Lautenbaugh felt by having a single commissioner to sort of regulate and unify policy among the local school boards, it would provide greater local control and allow folks to know exactly who to contact when they had a concern about their school system.”<sup>26</sup>

There were no proponents to the measure, aside the sponsor, and the remainder of the public hearing was dominated by opponents. “We believe this is about keeping education in the hands of our citizens at a local level and subsequently at the state level,” said State Board member, Dr. Rachel Wise. “As State Board members, we represent eight different geographic locations and regions,” she said.<sup>27</sup>

Commissioner of Education, Dr. Matt Blomstedt agreed with Dr. Wise’s testimony. “[E]lected board members serve as the voice of...as they represent areas of the state, they represent the voice of school districts. They represent ultimately the voice of students in their respective areas,” Blomstedt said.<sup>28</sup>

LR 421CA was indefinitely postponed by the Education Committee, under the leadership of Senator Kate Sullivan, by a 7-0 vote.<sup>29</sup>

In 2018 Senator John Murante introduced LR 285CA, a constitutional amendment to remove the State Board of Education, at least as a constitutional entity. It retained the constitutional basis for the Department of Education and the Commissioner of Education, but required the Governor to appoint the commissioner and presumably have oversight over the Department of Education.<sup>30</sup>

Senator Murante stated his intent for LR 285CA as:

[A] proposed amendment to the state constitution which would allow teachers greater autonomy in the classroom by removing the Nebraska Board of Education and placing the Commissioner of Education under the direction of the Governor of the State of Nebraska. The Nebraska State Board of Education has failed Nebraska students. LR 285CA would remove this stumbling block to responsive education.<sup>31</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> Introduced Resolution, LR 421CA (2014), Read first time January 22, 2014.

<sup>26</sup> Transcripts of Public Hearing, LR 421CA (2014), Committee on Education, Feb. 11, 2014, Lincoln, Neb., p. 2.

<sup>27</sup> *Id.*, p. 7.

<sup>28</sup> *Id.*, p. 9.

<sup>29</sup> Committee Statement, LR 421CA (2014), p. 1.

<sup>30</sup> Introduced Resolution, LR 285CA (2018), Read first time January 16, 2018.

<sup>31</sup> Statement of Intent, LR 285CA (2018), Senator John Murante.

During the public hearing for LR 285CA, on February 20, 2018, Senator Murante alluded to the central reason for the measure as resting authority for public education in the hands of the Governor.

And everyone knows who the Governor of the State of Nebraska is. You may like him, you may hate him, but you know who he is. And if there's something...if you adopt this resolution and it goes before the people of Nebraska, and the people of Nebraska vote for it; if there is something that happens within the Department of Education with which the people of this state take exception, they will know exactly who to go to hold accountable, because everyone knows who the Governor of the State of Nebraska is.<sup>32</sup>

There was no proponent testimony for LR 285CA at the public hearing, except for the sponsor, but many opponent testifiers appeared that day, including John Witzel, State Board member, and the Commissioner of Education, Dr. Matt Blomstedt.

The measure did not advance from committee.

As noted in Appendix E, Nebraska is one of seven states wherein a majority or all the members of the state board of education are elected, and the board appoints the chief state school officer. The other six states are Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, and Utah.<sup>33</sup>

In fourteen states, the governor appoints the majority or all of the members of the state board of education. The state board then appoints the chief state school officer.<sup>34</sup> In nine states, the governor appoints the majority or all of the members of the state board of education. The chief state school officer is elected.<sup>35</sup> In eleven states, the governor appoints the majority or all of the state board of education members and the chief state school officer.<sup>36</sup>

The remaining nine states provide for unique systems. For example, in Minnesota and Wisconsin there is no state board of education, while in New Mexico the state board of education is advisory only.

Overall, 23 states require the state board of education to appoint the chief state education officer, 15 states require the governor to appoint the chief state education officer, and 12 states have an elected chief state education officer.

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<sup>32</sup> Transcripts of Public Hearing, LR 285CA (2018), Committee on Education, Feb. 20, 2018, Lincoln, Neb., p. 19.

<sup>33</sup> Education Commission of the States, Governance: State Boards/Chiefs/Agencies, "State Education Governance Models", August 2013.

<sup>34</sup> Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Missouri, Oregon, Rhode Island, and West Virginia. In Mississippi, the governor appoints five of the nine voting members, and the remaining four voting members are evenly appointed by the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house. In Oregon, the governor appoints seven of the nine voting members of the Oregon state board of education. In Rhode Island, all 11 voting members of the state board of education are appointed by the governor.

<sup>35</sup> Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Oklahoma. In five of these states, Arizona, Idaho, Indiana, North Dakota, and Oklahoma, the chief state school officer also is a voting member of the state board of education.

<sup>36</sup> Delaware, Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming.

## Appendix A

### Department of Public Instruction, Staff and Salaries 1902, 1915, 1924

#### 1902

	<i>Salary</i>
Superintendent of Public Instruction-William K. Fowler, Blair .....	\$2,000
Deputy Superintendent-J. L. McBrien, Geneva .....	1,600
Stenographer-Jennie B. Adams, Fullerton .....	800
Clerk-L. C. Harnly, Crab Orchard .....	NA

#### 1915

	<i>Salary</i>
State Superintendent-James E. Delzell, University Place .....	\$2,000
Deputy State Superintendent-Robert I. Elliott, Lincoln .....	1,800
Assistant State Superintendent-Anna V. Day, Beatrice .....	1,800
Normal Training Inspector-G. A. Gregory, Crete .....	2,000
Rural School Inspector-Edith A. Lathrop, Clay Center .....	1,800
Secretary and Compiler-Jennie B. Adams, Pierce .....	1,800
Stenographer-Pansy O. Myers, Lincoln .....	840
Assistant-Effie D. Hulbert, University Place .....	900
Assistant-Anna L. O'Donnell, O'Neill .....	1,080
Assistant-Stella R. Trotter, Lincoln .....	1,000
Assistant-Ruth E. Wheeler, Lincoln .....	900
Assistant-Martha C. Woods, Lincoln .....	900

#### 1924

	<i>Salary</i>
State Superintendent-John M. Matzen, Fremont .....	\$5,000
Deputy State Superintendent-John Speedie .....	2,640
Director Rural Education-I. N. Clark .....	2,500
Director Secondary Education-Archer L. Burnham .....	3,000
Assistant Director Secondary Education-Frank R. Beers .....	2,700
Assistant Superintendent-Lulu S. Wolford .....	2,250
Secretary and Bookkeeper-Cecile Snapp .....	1,380
Stenographer-Gertrude Haldiman .....	1,140
Clerk of Examinations-Alta H. Chapman .....	1,200
Clerk of Examinations-Etta Brown .....	1,440
Clerk of Examinations-Julia Heine .....	1,200
Clerk of Examinations-E. Pharaly Boileau .....	1,080
Stenographer-Helen Erb .....	1,200
Stenographer-Verneda Whitney .....	1,200
Stenographer-Lena Gillain .....	1,200
Stenographer-Dorothy Crawford .....	1,080

*Sources:* Neb. Blue Book, 1902, p. 425, Part III Statistical;  
Neb. Blue Book, 1915, p. 201;  
Neb. Blue Book, 1924, p. 137.

## Appendix B

### Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of the State of Nebraska as adopted by the Constitutional Convention, 1919-20

#### Proposed Amendment No. 25

The purpose of the amendment is to permit courts to send unfortunate and incorrigible children under eighteen years of age to such schools instead of sending them to the penitentiary after they are sixteen and before they are eighteen years of age.

#### PRESENT CONSTITUTION (NEW SECTION)

#### PROPOSED AMENDMENT

Submitted as No. 25 on the ballot.  
Sec. 13. The general government of the state normal schools, as now existing, and such other normal schools as may be established by law, shall be vested, under the direction of the Legislature, in a board of seven members to be styled Board of Education of State Normal Schools, six of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, two each for a term of two, four, and six years, and two each biennium thereafter for a term of six years, and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be a member ex-officio. The duties and powers of said board shall be prescribed by law, and the members thereof shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties, but may be reimbursed their actual expenses incurred therein.

Sources: Library of Congress, <https://www.loc.gov/resource/dcmsiabooks.proposedamendmen00nebr/?sp=1&r=0.974,-0.003,2.947,1.793,0>, p. 30.

Amendment No. 25 was adopted by the Constitutional Convention, 1919-20, and approved by the electorate at the 1920 General Election by a 59,024 to 17,084 vote. Neb. Blue Book, 1922, p. 125.

## Appendix C

*Note: In modern legislative proceedings, hearings and floor debate are recorded and transcribed for the official record. In 1951 the official record was in the form of minutes that were taken during legislative proceedings. What follows are the minutes of the public hearing for LB 212 (1951) before the Education Committee.*

### MINUTES

The Committee on Education met March 20, 1951 at 2 p.m. in the West Senate Lounge with all members present.

Chairman Glenn Cramer, presided over the meeting.

### HEARING ON LB 212

Senator Williams, introducer of the bill, stated that the bill creates a State Department of Education and a State Board of Education. This bill came out of a committee on the reorganization of State Government. Authorities on state school administration for the past 30 years have urged a State Board of Education for elementary and secondary schools. There are 39 states which have such boards. Many national organizations have recommended the establishment of such boards – U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Council of State Government, National Education Association, American Association of School Administrators, etc.

Following the 1949 Legislature, the Legislative Council made a study of the structure of education throughout the State of Nebraska. As a result, the committee on reorganization of State Government proposed to the Legislative Council that a bill be drafted for the establishment of a State Board of Education. It is more desirable to have the members of the board elected by the people instead of having them appointed by the Governor. Education is kept closer to the people in this way. He feels it will be a better system because they will probably be able to get some of the outstanding educators of the State interested and will receive better results.

Dean F.E. Henzlik, University of Nebraska, stated if the bill passed it would allow the people of Nebraska to vote on a constitutional amendment in 1952 for the establishment of a department of education to be composed of a State Board and a State Superintendent. The board would be composed of six members elected from six districts. It would determine the basic policies for the control and give a sense of direction for the elementary and secondary schools. It would serve to help the State Superintendent to develop a sound policy for the schools. The State Superintendent would act as an administrative head. The establishment will mean a more efficient and more economical program than we have now. He is highly in favor of this bill.

Freeman Decker, State Superintendent, feels that he has too much authority in establishing policies. It would make it possible to have a complete turn over of policy every four years. If there is a board of six members, they will have overlapping terms, and this would not be likely to happen. He thinks it is educationally sound.

Archer Burnham, Executive Secretary, Nebraska State Education Association, stated this bill was endorsed by his profession, and feels the bill will keep education in the hands of the people.

Mrs. A.E. Hanneman, Nebraska Congress of Parents and Teachers, believes the office of the State Superintendent should be taken out of politics and believes the Superintendent should be chosen on his merits and qualifications.

Mrs. Fern Hubbard Orme, President, Nebraska Association of University Women, stated her organization feels it would strengthen education in the State of Nebraska.

Mrs. Fritz Craig, State President of the League of Women Voters, stated their membership feels that this Board of Education would put the responsibility for the schools in the hands of citizens where it belongs.

G.E. Colterman, Rural Schools Board Association of Pierce County, stated the bill would lead to centralization in the educational system. They are in favor of keeping the superintendent elected.

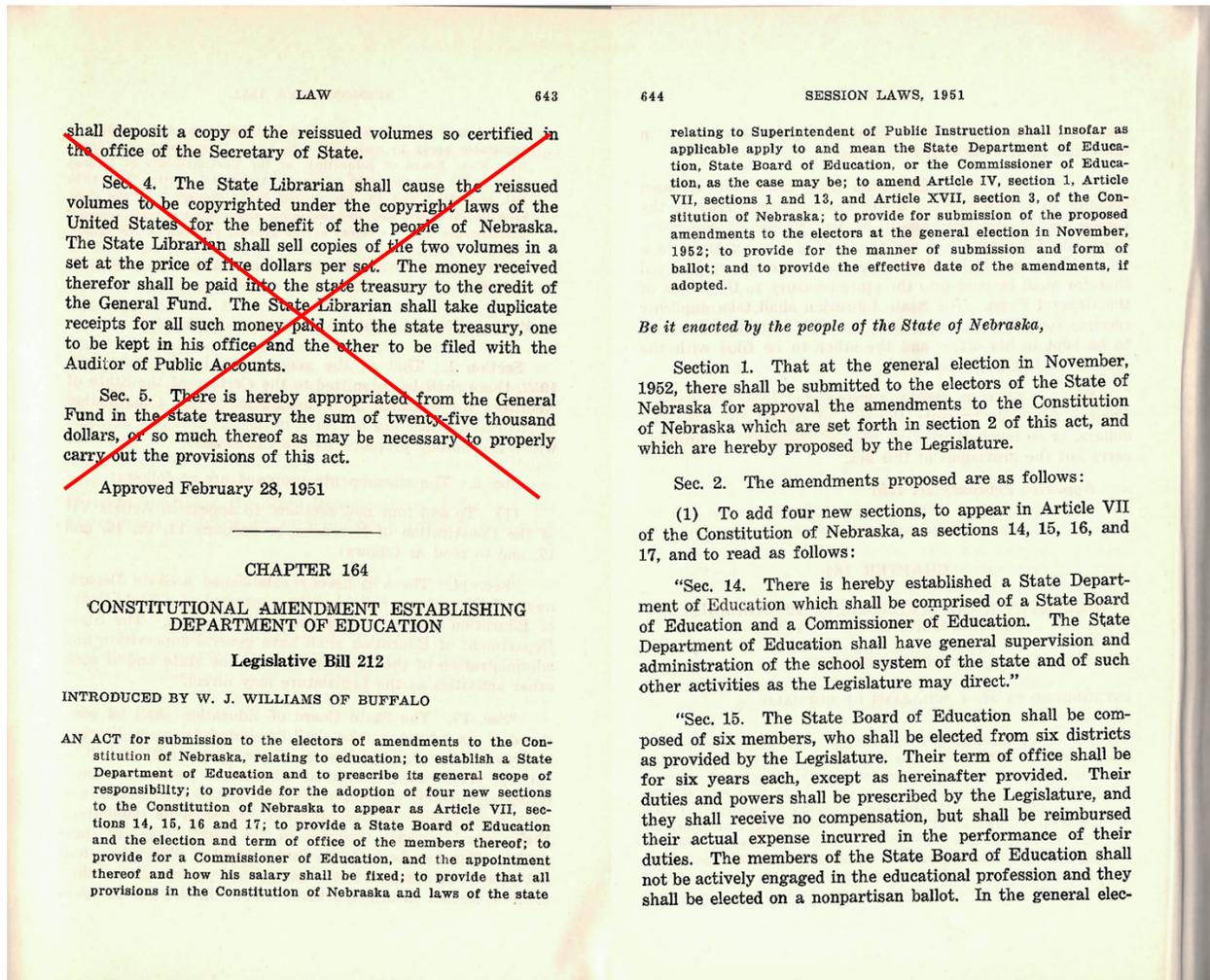
#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Senator Duis moved that LB 212 be advanced to General File. Senator Adams seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Senator Hern opposing.

# Appendix D

LB 212 (1951)

## Constitutional Amendment Establishing a State Board of Education, Commissioner of Education, and a Department of Education



tion of 1954, six members shall be elected to the board, one from each of the six districts; two members shall be elected for two years, two or four years, and two for six years. In each general election thereafter two members shall be elected for six year terms from districts as prescribed by the Legislature."

"Sec. 16. The State Board of Education shall appoint and fix the compensation of the Commissioner of Education, who shall be the Executive Officer of the State Board of Education and the administrative head of the State Department of Education, and who shall have such powers and duties as the Legislature may direct. The board shall appoint all employees of the State Department of Education on the recommendation of the Commissioner of Education."

"Sec. 17. All provisions in the Constitution of Nebraska and laws of the state relating to the Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, insofar as such provisions are applicable, apply to and mean the State Department of Education, the State Board of Education, or the Commissioner of Education as the case may be."

(2) To amend Article IV, section 1, to read as follows:

"Sec. 1. The executive officers of the state shall be the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, Treasurer, Attorney General, and the heads of such other executive departments as set forth herein or as may be established by law. The Legislature may provide for the placing of the above named officers as heads over such departments of government as it may by law establish. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, Auditor of Public Accounts, and the Treasurer shall be chosen at the general election held in November, 1954, and in each even-numbered year thereafter, and their term of office shall be two years and until their successors shall be elected and qualified. The records, books, and papers of all executive officers shall be kept at the seat of government, and such officers, excepting the Lieutenant

Governor, shall reside there during their respective terms of office. Officers in the executive department of the state shall perform such duties as may be provided by law. The heads of all executive departments established by law, other than those to be elected as provided herein, shall be appointed by the Governor, with the consent of a majority of all members elected to the Legislature, but officers so appointed may be removed by the Governor. Subject to the provisions of this Constitution, the heads of the various executive or civil departments shall have power to appoint and remove all subordinate employees in their respective departments."

(3) To amend Article VII, section 1, to read as follows:

"Sec. 1. The Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, and Commissioner of Education shall, under the direction of the Legislature, constitute a board of commissioners for the sale, leasing, and general management of all lands and funds set apart for educational purposes, and for the investment of school funds in such manner as may be prescribed by law."

(4) To amend Article VII, section 13, to read as follows:

"Sec. 13. The general government of the state normal schools as now existing, and such other normal schools as may be established by law, shall be vested, under the direction of the Legislature, in a board of seven members to be styled Board of Education of State Normal Schools, six of whom shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Legislature, two each for a term of two, four, and six years, and two each biennium thereafter for a term of six years, and the Commissioner of Education shall be a member ex officio. The duties and powers of the board shall be prescribed by law, and the members thereof shall receive no compensation for the performance of their duties, but may be reimbursed their actual expenses incurred therein."

(5) To amend Article XVII, section 3, to read as follows:

LAW 647

“Sec. 3. Until otherwise provided by law the salary of the Lieutenant Governor shall be twice the salary of a member of the Legislature.”

Sec. 3. That the proposed amendments shall be submitted to the electors upon a ballot separate from that upon which the names of candidates appear, after publication once each week for four weeks in at least one legal newspaper in each county where a newspaper is published immediately preceding the general election in 1952. The ballot for the submission of the proposed amendments shall be as follows:

“Proposed Constitutional Amendments

“For amendments to establish a State Department of Education; to provide for a State Board of Education and the election and term of office of the members thereof; to provide for a Commissioner of Education, and the appointment thereof, and how his salary shall be fixed; to provide that all provisions in the Constitution of Nebraska and laws of the state relating to Superintendent of Public Instruction shall insofar as applicable apply to and mean the State Department of Education, State Board of Education, or the Commissioner of Education, as the case may be; and to amend Article IV, section 1, Article VII, sections 1 and 13, and Article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of Nebraska,”  and

“Against amendments to establish a State Department of Education; to provide for a State Board of Education and the election and term of office of the members thereof; to provide for a Commissioner of Education, and the appointment thereof, and how his salary shall be fixed; to provide that all provisions in the Constitution of Nebraska and laws of the state relating to Superintendent of Public Instruction shall insofar as applicable apply to and mean the State Department of Education, State Board of Education, or the Commissioner of Education, as the case may be; and to amend Article IV, section 1, Article VII, sections 1 and 13, and Article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of Nebraska.”

648 SESSION LAWS, 1951

Sec. 4. That the proposed amendments, if adopted, shall be in force and take effect immediately upon completion of the canvass of the votes, at which time it shall be the duty of the Governor to proclaim the amendments adopted as a part of the Constitution of Nebraska.

Approved May 21, 1951

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CHAPTER 165  
PREPARATION OF PAMPHLET LAWS FOR  
STATE DEPARTMENTS  
**Legislative Bill 233**  
INTRODUCED BY JOHN P. MCKNIGHT OF NEMARA

AN ACT to impose upon the Revisor of Statutes the duty of preparation of pamphlet laws and annotations to Supreme Court decisions construing such laws pertaining to any department, agency, or institution of the state government, at the request of any such department, agency, or institution; to provide a salary for the performance of such duties; and to provide when the same shall become operative.

*Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,*

Section 1. The Revisor of Statutes shall, at the request of any department, agency, or institution of the state government, prepare for printing in pamphlet form the laws of Nebraska pertaining to such department, agency, or institution, and prepare annotations to the decisions of the Supreme Court of Nebraska construing such laws. For his services, the Revisor of Statutes shall receive an annual salary of six hundred dollars, payable monthly, in addition to the salary provided by section 49-703, Revised Statutes Supplement, 1949.

Sec. 2. Section 1 of this act shall be so interpreted as

# Appendix E



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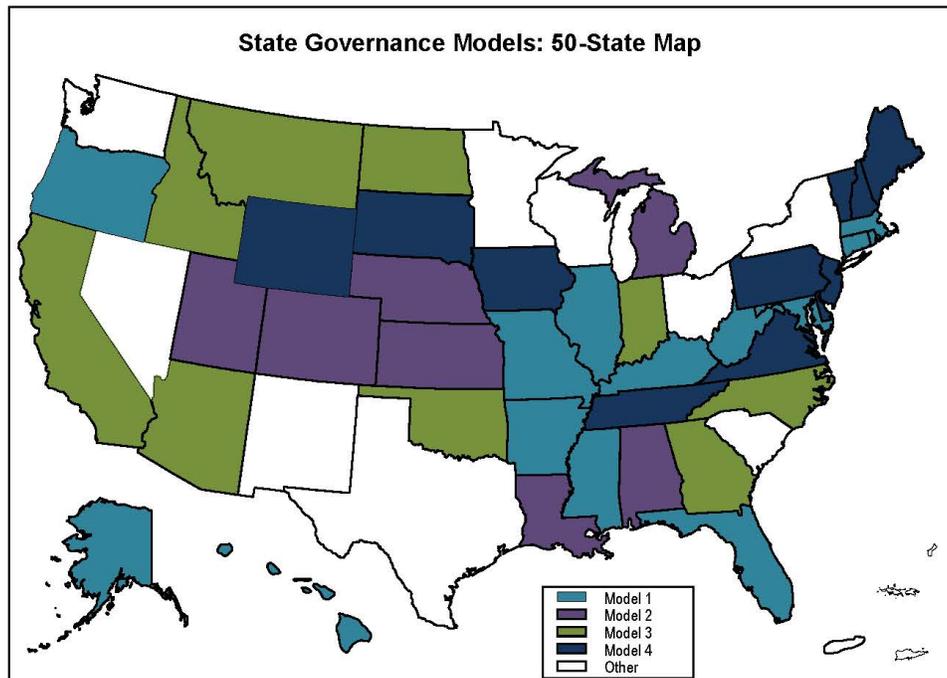
## State Education Governance Models

*Revised by Vincent Scudella*

August 2013

Education governance structures differ from state to state and directly affect how education policy leaders interact. Understanding the differences between structures can help explain the education policy process in terms of how decisions are made and the how authority is divided.

State education governance structures can be categorized into one of four general models that describe how state boards of education are constituted and whether the chief state school officer is appointed or elected. Forty-one of the 50 states fall into one of these categories; the other nine states, plus the District of Columbia, have governance structures that are modified versions of the four general models.



### Model One

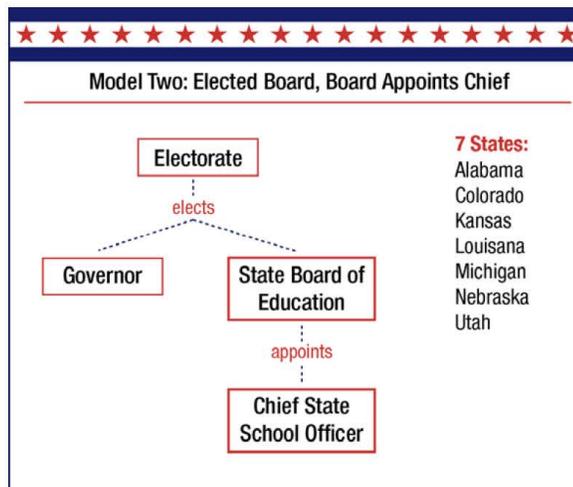
In this model, the governor appoints the majority or all of the members of the state board of education. The state board, in turn, appoints the chief state school officer. Model One includes 14 states: **Alaska, Arkansas, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi<sup>1</sup>, Missouri, Oregon<sup>2</sup>, Rhode Island<sup>3</sup>, and West Virginia.**



1. In Mississippi, the governor appoints five of the nine voting members, and the remaining four voting members are evenly appointed by the lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house.
2. The governor appoints 12 of the 13 voting members of the Oregon Education Investment Board (OEIB) and seven of the nine voting members of the Oregon state board of education. The OEIB appoints the chief education officer.
3. Rhode Island has 11 voting members of the state board of education, which is a K-20 board. All 11 are appointed by the governor.

### Model Two

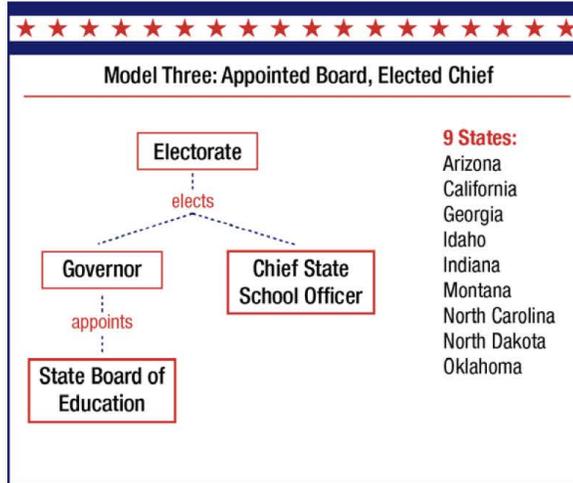
In this model, a majority or all of the members of the state board of education are elected, and the board appoints the chief state school officer. Seven states fall into Model Two: **Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Michigan, Nebraska, and Utah.**



### Model Three

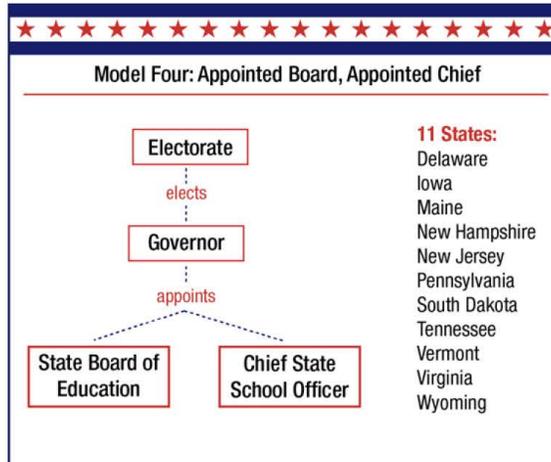
In this model, the governor appoints the majority or all of the members of the state board of education. The chief state school officer is elected. Model Three includes nine states: **Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, and Oklahoma**. In five of these states—Arizona, Idaho, Indiana, North Dakota, and Oklahoma\*—the chief state school officer also is a voting member of the state board of education.

*\*Oklahoma state board oversees the state system of education, but not the agency.*



### Model Four

In this model, the governor appoints the majority or all of the state board of education members and the chief state school officer. There are 11 Model Four states: **Delaware, Iowa, Maine, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming**.



### Other Governance Models

The remaining nine states plus the **District of Columbia** function under modified versions of the above four models.

The nine states include: Minnesota, Nevada, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, and Wisconsin.

**A. *Elected/Appointed State Board; Board-Appointed Chief***

In **Ohio**, 11 of 19 board members are elected and the governor appoints eight members. The chief is appointed by the state board. Technically, Ohio fits within Model Two, but we include it here because of the fairly even balance of appointed and elected members.

**B. *Elected/Appointed State Board; Governor-Appointed Chief***

In **Nevada**, four of seven voting members are elected from the four congressional districts, and three voting members are appointed by the governor (one of these members is appointed by the senate majority leader and the other by the speaker of the assembly). There are four nonvoting members (11 total). The chief is appointed by the governor.

**C. *Joint Elected/Appointed State Board; Elected Chief***

In the state of **Washington**, the board of education is made up of 16 members—none of whom is elected by the voters, and the chief state school officer is elected.

- Five elected by district directors (from western and eastern Washington)
- One elected by members of state-approved private schools
- Superintendent of public instruction
- Seven members appointed by the governor
- Two student members (non-voting)

**D. *Legislature Appoints State Board; Appointed or Elected Chief***

In **New York**, the state legislature appoints the majority of board members, and the chief state school officer is appointed by the board.

In **South Carolina**, the governor appoints one member of the board, and the legislature appoints 16 of the 17 members. The chief is elected.

**E. *Elected Board; Governor-Appointed Chief***

In **Texas**, the state board of education is elected, but the governor appoints the chief state school officer, who also serves as the executive secretary of the state board.

**F. *No State Board or Advisory Only; Elected or Appointed Chief***

**Minnesota** and **Wisconsin** do not have a state board of education. **New Mexico** has an elected body (Public Education Commission), but it is advisory only. The **District of Columbia** has an elected board of education created by the District of Columbia Public Education Reform Amendment Act of 2007 that advises the state superintendent but otherwise lacks authority. Previously, the board oversaw day-to-day operations of schools. This act also gave the mayor primary responsibility for public education, including the authority to appoint the school superintendent and chancellor.

- **Minnesota** and **New Mexico**: Chief state school officer is appointed by governor, but in New Mexico, must be confirmed by the senate.
- **Wisconsin**: Chief state school officer is elected.

***Territories***

**Guam** has a joint elected/appointed board of education. The governor appoints three of the voting members with the advice and consent of the legislature, and the remaining six voting members are elected. The board of education elects the chief state school officer. **Puerto Rico** currently maintains an educational model in which the chief state school officer is appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate but does not have a board of education. In the **Virgin Islands**, the board of education is elected and the chief state school officer is appointed by the governor.

**Summary: State Boards of Education**

**All voting members appointed by governor** (24 states)

Alaska, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Maine, Maryland, Missouri, Montana, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming

**Some voting members appointed by governor** (eight states)

Arizona, Idaho, Indiana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

**All or majority of voting members elected** (seven states)

Alabama, Colorado, Kansas, Michigan, Nebraska, Texas, and Utah

**Appointed and elected** (four states and D.C.)

Louisiana, Massachusetts, Nevada, Ohio, and District of Columbia (advisory only)

**Appointed by legislature** (one state)

New York

*Note: Although Pennsylvania is listed in “Some voting members appointed by the governor” category, four of 21 voting members are appointed by the Pennsylvania legislature.*

**Appointed by multiple authorities** (three states)

Mississippi, South Carolina, and Washington

**No state board or advisory only** (three states and D.C.)

Minnesota and Wisconsin (no board); New Mexico and District of Columbia (advisory only)

**Summary: Chief State School Officers**

**Appointed by governor** (15 states and D.C.)

Delaware, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Wyoming. In the District of Columbia, the mayor appoints the chief state school officer.

**Appointed by state board of education** (23 states)

Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Utah, and West Virginia

**Elected** (12 states)

Arizona, California, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Montana, North Carolina, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Washington, and Wisconsin

**Dual Offices for Education**

In five states and the District of Columbia, the governor (or mayor, in D.C.) appoints a cabinet-level secretary of education.

State	Titles	Citation
<b>Kentucky</b>	Secretary of Education and Workforce Development and Commissioner of Education	KY. STAT. ANN. §§151B.020 and 156.148
<b>Massachusetts</b>	Secretary of Education and Commissioner of Education	MASS. ANN. LAWS ch.6A§14A and 15§1F
<b>Oklahoma</b>	Secretary of Education and State Superintendent of Education	OKLA. STATE. ANN. tit.70, §3-118 and OKLA. CONST. ART. VI SEC. 1
<b>Oregon</b>	Superintendent of Public Instruction (the governor) and Chief Education Officer	OR. REV. STAT. §326.300(1) and §326.010 Section 2(1)
<b>Virginia</b>	Secretary of Education and Superintendent of Public Instruction	VA CODE ANN. §22.1-21 and §2.2-200
<b>District of Columbia</b>	State Superintendent of Education and Chancellor of D.C. Public Schools, both appointed by the mayor	D.C. OFFICIAL CODE ARTICLE VI. (C) and §38-174

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