MEETING AGENDA

**EDUCATION COUNCIL
of the
NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION**

Monday, November 2, 2009
1:00-4:00PM CT

Host site: Lincoln Executive Building #103, 521 S. 14th
Remote #1: Wayne State College, Lindahl Drive, NATS Building Conference Room
Remote #2: Scottsbluff Panhandle Education Center, 4502 Avenue I, High Plains Room
Remote #3: Kearney Public Library, 2020 1st Ave., 2nd Floor

1:00 PM	1.Call to Order, Electronic Posting, Location of Open Meeting Law Documents, Roll Call, Introductions	Co-Chair
1:05 PM	**2. Consider approval of the Agenda for the November 2, 2009 meeting**	**Co-Chair**
1:08 PM	**3. Consider approval of Minutes from the June 6, 2009 meeting**	**Co-Chair**
1:10 PM	4. Public Comment	Co-Chair
1:15 PM	5. Network Nebraska Phase III-IV Update	T. Rolfes
1:25 PM	6. Network Nebraska Advisory Group A. July 10, 2009 Meeting Notes B. September 18, 2009 Meeting Notes C. NNAG Charter D. Website	T. Rolfes
1:35 PM	7. Task Group Updates A. Funding/Erate B. Services Task Group C. Marketing Task Group D. Governance Task Group	Co-Chair & Task Group Leads
1:45 PM	8. Statewide Technology Plan **A. Consider approval and forwarding of the Network Nebraska Action Items to the NITC B. Consider approval and forwarding of the Digital Education Action Items to the NITC C. Consider approval and forwarding of the eGovernment Action Item to the NITC**	Co-Chair
3:15 PM	9. Other/Announcements	Co-Chair
3:25 PM	10. Agenda Items for the 12/XX/2009 Meeting	Co-Chair
3:30 PM	11. Consider location for the 12/XX/2009 Meeting	Co-Chair
3:35 PM	12. Adjournment	Co-Chair

(The Council will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed. Items marked in BOLD are expected action items.)

The NITC Education Council wishes to thank the Office of the CIO/NITC for helping host the November 2, 2009 meeting.

NITC/Education Council Homepage: http://www.nitc.state.ne.us
Meeting Notice Posted to the NITC Web site 09-16-2009
Meeting Notice Posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar 09-16-2009
Agenda Posted to the NITC Web site 10-29-2009

EDUCATION COUNCIL
of the
NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
Thursday, June 4, 2009, 1:00-4:00PM CT
Technology Park Auditorium
4701 Innovation Drive , Lincoln , Nebraska
PROPOSED MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Mr. Arnold Bateman, University of Nebraska
Mr. Clark Chandler, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Dr. Michael Chipps, Mid-Plains Community College
Ms. Lois Dietsch, Alt. for Mr. Art Tanderup, Tekamah-Herman Community Schools
Dr. Terry Haack, Bennington Public Schools
Mr. Stephen Hamersky, Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School
Mr. Ed Hoffman, Alt. for Mr. Stan Carpenter, Nebraska State College System
Ms. Yvette Holly, University of Nebraska Medical Center
Mr. Jeff Johnson, Centennial Public Schools
Mr. John Dunning, Alt. for Mr. Dennis Linster, Wayne State College
Mr. Craig Pease, Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Dr. Bob Uhing, Educational Service Unit 1

LIAISONS/ALTERNATE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kathleen Fimple, Alt. for Dr. Marshall Hill, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education; Ms. SuAnn Witt , Nebraska Dept. of Education, Alt. for Mike Kozak; and Steven Stortz, Norfolk Lutheran Schools , Alt. for Steve Hamersky

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT: Mr. Ron Cone, ESU 10; Dr. Eileen Ely, Western Nebraska Community College; Mr. Chuck Lenosky, Creighton University; Ms. Linda Richards, Ralston Public Schools; Ms. Brenda Decker, DAS-CIO; and Mr. Michael Winkle, NET

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

Dr. Chipps called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. There were 12 voting members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. It was stated that the meeting notice was posted to the NITC and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar web sites on May 8, 2009. The meeting agenda was posted to the NITC Web site June 1, 2009.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE JUNE 1, 2009 MEETING

Mr. Bateman moved approval of the June 1, 2009 meeting agenda. Mr. Pease seconded. Roll call vote: Bateman-Yes, Hoffman-Yes, Chandler-Yes, Chipps-Yes, Haack-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Holly-Yes, Johnson-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Pease-Yes, Dietsch-Yes, and Uhing-Yes. Results: Yes-12, No-0.   Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 16, 2009 MEETING

There was a correction to the meeting minutes. Dr. Uhing stated that he was at the Wayne State College videoconference site and not at the Kearney site as indicated in the minutes.

Dr. Uhing moved approval of the April 16, 2009 minutes with the video site information corrected. Mr. Hamersky seconded. Roll call vote: Uhing-Yes, Dietsch-Yes, Pease-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Johnson-Yes, Holly-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Haack-Yes, Chipps-Yes, Chandler-Yes, Hoffman-Yes, and Bateman-Yes. Results: Yes-12, No-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

EDUCATION PORTAL UPDATE
Jessica Zywiec, Project Manager, Nebraska.gov

The Education Portal was launched on May 27th – www.Nebraska.gov/education/index.shtml. Some of featured highlights of the web site include:

- "Latest Legislation and Initiatives" – Citizens will be able to learn about upcoming legislation or initiatives dealing with education.
- "Tell Us What You Think" – Citizens will be able to provide feedback about the web site.
- "Request from Colleges" – Potential students will be able to request information from any Nebraska higher education institution. The request will go directly to the institution.
- Information Tailored to Fit Your Needs – In this section, citizens will be able to enter a zip code and they will receive a list of educational institutions for all grade levels.

Originally, the 2002 Task Group decided to implement a "Request from Colleges" application rather than attempt to develop a universal common admissions application. A common application was difficult to accomplish due to the requirements needed for the wide variety of programs offered in Nebraska 's higher education institutions. It was recommended to include a disclaimer that the college is responsible for responding to the request for information.

Members had tried entering zip codes but not all educational entities were listed due to school consolidation. It did not provide adequate information. It was suggested that the Department of Education assist with the school zip codes. The Council also recommended listing all colleges, universities, technical, vocational schools together rather than trying to sort per category.

Ms. Zywiec stated that Nebraska.gov would like to develop a marketing plan to inform private citizens and educational entities about the new web site. It is hoped that the Governor will do a press release.

Maintenance and updating of web site links will still need to be addressed. Nebraska.gov will attempt to do their best but will need the assistance of the Council and educators. The question was asked whether this should be an action item for the Education Council. Mr. Rolfes recommended that the Education Portal become an action item under the NITC eGovernment Initiative with the Education Council taking a lead role.

Ms. Zywiec asked members to critique the web site and complete the user feedback to assist in the development. She will share any received feedback with the council.

Council members were impressed with the improvements and stated that it was a great tool.

MEMBERSHIP: CONSIDER FORWARDING THE SLATE OF MEMBERS TO THE NITC FOR THEIR APPROVAL

The slate (name and sector representation) for the 2009-11 membership renewals and/or replacements expiring on June 30, 2009 is as follows:

Higher Education (2009-11 term)
- Yvette Holly, UN System (Confirmed)
- Chuck Lenosky, Independent Colleges & Universities (Confirmed)
- Mike Chipps, Community College System (Confirmed)
- Ed Hoffman, State College System (Confirmed)

K-12 Education (2009-11 term)
- Bob Uhing, Educational Service Units (Confirmed)
- Craig Pease, Administrators (To be confirmed)
- Leonard Hartman, Public Teachers (Confirmed)
- Stephen Hamersky, Nonpublic Teachers (To be confirmed)
- Kent Gydesen, Board Members (Completing Linda Richard's 2008-10 term - To be confirmed)

Mr. Chandler moved to forward the slate of member nominations to the NITC for approval, pending the remaining confirmations. Mr. Bateman seconded. Roll call vote: Hamersky-Yes, Holly-Yes, Johnson-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Pease-Yes, Uhing-Yes, Bateman-Yes, Chandler-Yes, Chipps-Yes, Dietsch-Yes, Haack-Yes, and Hoffman-Yes.   Results: Yes-12, No-0. Motion carried.

The Nebraska Information Technology Commission and the Education Council wish to recognize Mr. Art Tanderup for his many years of distinguished service to the Education Council, in the interest of advising the Commission on matters of education technology initiatives, funding, and policy. We congratulate Mr. Tanderup on his retirement from education.

NETWORK NEBRASKA PHASE III UPDATE
Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager

The number of Network Nebraska participants has grown from 182 to 232 for the fall 2009 semester. Lincoln Public Schools , Omaha Public Schools , and Educational Service Unit 3 will also be joining. The membership fee will go from

$197.80/month to $192.47/month per entity which includes a packet shaper and access to network management software. These costs will continue to decrease as more participants join. There will be a Phase 4 to the project. In Phase 4, attempts will be made to invite southeast Nebraska schools as well as libraries, zoos, and museums to reach an additional 60 entities.

TASK GROUP UPDATE - *FUNDING/ERATE*
Steve Hamersky

The funding group met through e-mail to determine the next steps in terms of the assigned action items D3, N4D, N4E, and N4F.

D3 - Develop an affordable plan to provide access to learning management system software for every teacher and learner who uses synchronous video distance learning and to also train teachers in effective instructional design to integrate synchronous and asynchronous technologies.

The task group has been determining the extent to which they have responsibility for this action item with what other groups (myeLearning, Distance Education Council) are proposing. Mr. Hamersky posed the following question, "Does it seem the Funding Group will also become involved in cost allocation of learning management systems? At this time, it was determined that the funding task group will not be involved in cost allocation of learning management systems.

N4D - Develop a formula for E-rate cost allocation that allows affordable fees for adult education and other ineligible population services to take place in K-12 settings.

The Funding Group will work to support the E-rate advisory group which is working through the Distance Education Council and the Nebraska Department of Education. SuAnn Witt will be working on a cost allocation tool this summer and plans to meet with her E-rate advisory group in the fall. The tool will be ready for the 2010 filing year that begins sometime in late November. Ms. Witt has been working as the state e-rate coordinator to establish a Nebraska eRate Coordination Alliance.

N4E - Work to amend Nebraska Department of Education policies to include Pre-K as an eligible population for Universal Service Fund (E-Rate) purposes.

The Nebraska Department of Education rules and subsequent policies are derived from Statute and currently the State definition for public education does not include Pre-K. It seems the Obama administration may be interested in making Pre-K become part of public education. The Funding Group could consider pursuing advocacy efforts through the Ed Tech Action Network (ETAN) and formal letters, including a letter sent to the Secretary of Education from the NITC, which would be more affective in making this change. Mr. Hamersky asked if there should be a motion that the council should send a periodic letter, such as annually or bi-annually to our 5 federal representatives.

Mr. Rolfes stated that the NITC would have to approve any correspondence going out on behalf of the Education Council. The funding work group will draft a letter for the council's review and consideration.

A preview of any letters will be provided with the Education Council meeting agenda.

N4F - Work to change the federal E-rate policies that create impediments and financial disincentives for collaborative usage of networks and videoconferencing by ineligible populations (Pre-K, adults, telehealth, etc).

The work group has been discussing advocacy methods and timelines of federal E-rate decision making, as well as determining how schools across the state could be involved in advocacy for promoting the use of on-line tools like ETAN (Ed Tech Action Network) http://www.edtechactionnetwork.org/. With this on-line tool, it is easy to create communications to the representatives (congressional and senatorial). The Education Council could advocate for the use of this tool, for both E-rate and Title II-D, to other educational groups in Nebraska .

Currently the FCC is accepting comments on the E-Rate Eligible Services List (ESL). This is strictly about services and not other E-rate issues such as Pre-K or cost allocation. Interested parties may file comments on or before June 23, 2009, and reply comments on or before June 30, 2009. All pleadings are to reference CC Docket No. 02-6.

The work group has discussed a future possible E-Rate goal of supporting other community activities during non-school hours. Accredited K-12 schools can support other community activities during non-school hours without the need to factor out the community activity use time from their E-rate funding, if certain conditions are met. For example, accredited K-12 schools that operate an approved calendar of 1080 hours of on-site instruction where e-rate funded telecommunication services and internal connections are available to students, faculty, and staff to plan and deliver the approved calendar of instruction may use their facilities for other community activities during hours or days not used by K-12 instruction or planning and which may use the e-rate funded services and connections, without the need to factor out the time community activities may be using e-rate funded services and connections.

TASK GROUP UPDATE - *SERVICES TASK GROUP*

There were no members present to provide a report. Mr. Rolfes stated that the Services task group had forwarded a list of services to be posted on the Network Nebraska web site.

TASK GROUP UPDATE - *MARKETING TASK GROUP*
Arnold Bateman

The Marketing Task Group utilized the information gathered from the survey to develop the marketing plan. Due to the timelines associated with the implementation of Phase 4, it was recommended to move up the deadline to communicate with, and invite, the Southeast Nebraska schools. The "perceived costs" of Network Nebraska to prospective members has been an issue. Mr. Rolfes stated that the Network Nebraska membership and backbone costs that would have been paid by these southeast school districts for 2008-09, would easily have been offset by the equipment reimbursement, distance education incentives, and Internet cost savings, to the tune of approximately $1.2 million of additional revenue.

Mr. Chipps commended the Task Group on the development of the Marketing Plan. The Task Group would like the Council to discuss their recommendations at a future meeting, especially the establishment of a Membership Committee. The following changes to the Marketing Plan were recommended:
- Add 'Assist Nebraska.gov with the Education Portal' to the recommendations
- Change timeframes to accelerate Phase IV invitations

Dr. Uhing stated he would assist with the formation of a Membership Committee for Network Nebraska .

TASK GROUP UPDATE - *GOVERNANCE TASK GROUP*
Yvette Holly

Ms. Holly reported that Ms. Decker would like to have the first meeting of the Advisory Group to be held in July. The date has tentatively been scheduled for July 22nd. Ms. Holly requested names of individuals to serve as members. The information below regarding the Advisory Group was provided to members.

Ad Hoc Education Advisory Group for Network Nebraska - Education
- Representative members of the advisory group must utilize and be members of Network Nebraska .
- The advisory group should have equal and geographic representation.
- The advisory group should meet a minimum of six times per year. At the end of the first year, the Chief Information Officer - State of Nebraska and the NITC Education Council should re-evaluate the effectiveness of the advisory group and make recommendations as appropriate.
- As an advisory group and to foster communication, the members of the Network Nebraska Collaboration Aggregation Partnership (CAP) should be invited to attend a minimum of three of the six meetings per year.
- The Chief Information Officer - State of Nebraska should attend the first meeting.
- Each Network Nebraska Education Sector should have two representatives (one urban representative and one rural representative).
- Advisory group minutes must be shared in a timely manner with the NITC Education Council and the CAP.

Dr. Haack left the meeting.

Discussion followed regarding the Advisory Group's charge. It was not clear in the document so it is difficult for members to recommend individuals to serve on this advisory group. Some members questioned the purpose of the Advisory Group. As stated in the work group's document, it appeared that its role is similar to the Education Council's. Some members said that it would be another layer of bureaucracy. After discussion, the Council recommended the following wording be added for the Advisory Group:
> It is the charge of the Network Nebraska Advisory Group to assist the State CIO and the NITC Education Council with crafting a vision and strategic direction for Network Nebraska , and advise the CIO based on the marketing survey and participant input.

Mr. Holly stated that she does not have all the nominees and will work with Mr. Rolfes to determine them. The Higher Education section needs eight representatives. Dr. Uhing commented that he would like to see representation of the Educational Service Unit--Network Operations Committee be more represented on the advisory group and that K-12 should have 10 representatives, based on the total amount of funding and members that K-12 has, compared to higher education. The Education Council members took no action on this assertion.

CONSIDER FORWARDING THE NETWORK NEBRASKA MARKETING PLAN TO THE OCIO AND CAP

Mr. Chandler moved to approve and forward the Network Nebraska Marketing Plan **to the Office of the CIO and the CAP group. Mr. Hamersky seconded. Roll call vote: Dunning-Yes, Johnson-Yes, Holly-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Chipps-**

Yes, Chandler-Yes, Hoffman-Yes, Bateman-Yes, Uhing-Yes, Dietsch-Yes, and Pease-Yes.   Results: Yes-11, No-0. Motion carried.

NETWORK NEBRASKA ADVISORY GROUP
Structure and meeting dates

Consider Membership on the Network Nebraska Advisory Group. Members of this advisory group will be named by K-12 and Higher education in the next few days and then be invited to the Advisory Group meeting in July. The council took no formal action naming members to the advisory group. Dr. Uhing volunteered to assist K-12 to get its members named.

Dr. Chipps asked if a special Membership Committee could be established to help market Network Nebraska . Dr. Uhing volunteered to assist. Other persons recommended by the Council included: Craig Pease, Superintendent of Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools; Roy Baker, Superintendent of Norris District 160; Leonard Hartman, Technology Director for Alliance Public Schools; and Mr. Bill Heineman, Waverly Schools Superintendent .

NITC ACTION ITEMS (to be added)

Mr. Rolfes will develop an action item for the Education Portal under eGovernment. The Education Council will have an opportunity to review the action items again prior to the NITC's fall meeting.

OTHER/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no other announcements.

AGENDA ITEMS AND LOCATION FOR THE 8/XX/2009 MEETING AND ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the NITC Education Council will be held on August 6th with the location to be determined. The council requested Task Group Reports remain as an agenda item.

With no further business, Dr. Chipps adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

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

<![endif]>

Education Council Meeting
Lincoln, Wayne, Kearney, Scottsbluff
Monday, November 2, 2009

Report from the Office of the CIO & NITC
Tom Rolfes, 402.471.7969
tom.rolfes@nebraska.gov

<u>Office of the CIO K-12 Letter of Agency Response</u>

- ESU 03: 5-Yes, 4-No, 9-Not responding
    - Bennington, Elmwood-Murdock, Gretna, Millard, Ralston,
- ESU 04: 1-Yes, 3-No, 8-Not responding
    - Johnson-Brock
- ESU 05: 2-Yes, 5-No, 4-Not responding
    - Daniel Freeman, Fairbury
- ESU 06: 2-Yes, 0-No, 15-Not responding
    - Fillmore Central, Norris Dist 160
- ESU 16: 1-Yes
    - South Platte Public Schools @ Big Springs

Possible <u>Network Nebraska--Education Phase IV New Members</u>

- K-12 Entities
    - **South Platte Public Schools**
    - **Millard Public Schools**
    - Diocese of Lincoln
    - Diocese of Omaha
- Public and Nonpublic colleges/universities
    - Bellevue University
    - **Clarkson College**
    - **College of St. Mary**
    - **Creighton University**
    - Dana College
    - **Doane College**
    - **Metro Community College**
    - **Nebraska Wesleyan University**
    - Union College
- Tribal Colleges
    - Little Priest Tribal College @ Winnebago
    - Nebraska Indian Community College @ Macy, Niobrara, South Sioux City
- Public Libraries
    - Grand Island
    - Lincoln
- Science Centers/Museums
    - Durham Museum
    - Joslyn Art Museum
    - Sheldon Museum of Art
    - Others

Prior to the OCIO committing to backbone capacities, doing our backbone e-rate filing on or before Feb. 5, 2010, and setting the 2010-2011 Interregional Transport fees, I feel that we need the following information:

- New Internet access rates from the state contract
- How many new entities that will be joining Network Nebraska—Education in 2010-11
- Current peak Internet bandwidth demands reaching PKI from GNENC, NNNC, LPS, OPS, ESU 9 & higher ed partners
- Actual Internet2 K-20 traffic graphs between UNL and the Kansas City Gigapop
- Receptivity of ESU and school tech staff to the cautious "opening up" of blocked applications
- Anticipated Internet purchases for July 1, 2010 from GNENC, NNNC, LPS, OPS, ESU 9 & higher ed partners
- Projected inter-regional exchange of synchronous video classes for 2010-11

<div align="center"><u>Network Nebraska—Education Membership & Fees</u></div>

2007-08 (Phase I Entities)
Network Nebraska Participation Fee $200.00/entity/month (94 entities participating)
Interregional Transport Fee $ 0.00/entity/month

2008-09 (Phase I, II Entities)
Network Nebraska Participation Fee $197.80/entity/month (182 entities participating)
Interregional Transport Fee (Pre-Erate) $ 93.35/entity/month (Higher Ed Billed Amount)
Interregional Transport Fee (Post-Erate) $ 34.21/entity/month (K-12 Billed Amount)

2009-10 (Phase I, II, III Entities)
Network Nebraska Participation Fee $192.47/entity/month (231 entities participating)
Interregional Transport Fee (Pre-Erate) $ 92.72/entity/month (Higher Ed Billed Amount)
Interregional Transport Fee (Post-Erate) $ 34.48/entity/month (K-12 Billed Amount)

2010-11 (Phase I, II, III, IV Entities)
Network Nebraska Participation Fee $XXX.XX/entity/month (??? entities participating)
Interregional Transport Fee (Pre-Erate) $ XX.XX/entity/month (Higher Ed Billed Amount)
Interregional Transport Fee (Post-Erate) $ XX.XX/entity/month (K-12 Billed Amount)

Internet2 Commodity Internet Peering
There are currently over 60,000 companies that are available to Network Nebraska participants through Internet2's Commodity Peering Service. While these same companies can be reached through normal Internet routes, the ability to rely upon Internet2 has the following benefits:
- Cheaper - any traffic sent this way eliminates the need for an institution to purchase additional Internet capacity through their internet provider. Typically, higher ed institutions usually see about 1/3 of their internet traffic flowing over to this service, saving 1/3 the cost of their internet connection.
- Faster - due to the nature of how the Internet2 network was built, traffic flowing across Internet2 usually arrives faster than "normal" internet traffic, providing a better end-user experience. FYI - UNL has a 10G (that is - 10 gigabit, or 10,000 megabit) network connection into the heart of the Internet2 backbone, and from there we ride a 10Gb network connection right to the door of these companies.
- Just a sample of some of the companies and services that can be reached through Internet2's Commodity Peering Service:

Yahoo	Cisco	Microsoft	Google	Facebook	YouTube
Hulu	iTunes	Tweeter	ESPN	Disney	Myspace

Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group Meeting #1
Friday, July 10, 2009; 1:00pm-4:00pm
NET Board Room, 1800 N. 33rd, Lincoln, NE

<u>Meeting Notes</u>

K-12 Attendance: John Stritt, Dan Hoesing, Gary Monter, Scott Jones, Kirk Langer, Mike Danahy
H.E. Attendance: Mike Ruhrdanz, Debbie Schroeder, Gene Beardslee, Dennis Linster, Tip O'Neill,
      Ken Clipperton, Lyle Neal, Charles Osteen
CAP Liaisons: Michael Winkle, Walter Weir, Rick Golden
Absent: Bob Uhing, Betty Getzfred

1. Background on the formation of a Network Nebraska--Education Advisory Group
    a. Tom Rolfes provided the background and purpose for the formation of the Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group.

2. Background on Network Nebraska—Education
    a. Tom Rolfes provided the background on Network Nebraska—Education, including the enabling statutes, roles of the CIO and University of Nebraska and explanation of CAP.
    b. Rick Golden provided an explanation of current staff and services.

3. Status of Network Nebraska—Education Membership
    a. Phase I: 87 school entities   5 ESUs   2 Colleges
    b. Phase II: 78 school entities   5 ESUs   5 Colleges
    c. <u>Phase III: 40 school entities   6 ESUs   3 Colleges</u>
                     205 school entities   16 ESUs   10 Colleges = 231 Total Entities

    d. Phase IV: 58 school entities   3 ESUs   6 Colleges [Possible, not probable]

4. The advisory group members asked clarifying questions and discussed the respective networking needs of K-12 and Higher Education. K-12 reiterated the need to keep monthly costs low. Some colleges commented that they were willing and able to pay more, if 24/7 support services were made available.

5. Tom Rolfes provided a forecast of Next Tasks for the Council members. Namely, the adoption of a group charter; processes/procedures of making decisions and recommendations, and to decide its own group leadership.

6. The Next Meeting Date & Location will be in mid-September in Lincoln.

7. Tom Rolfes made available printed copies of the following supporting documents:
    * Network Nebraska Advisory Group—the first 90 days
    * What is LB 1208?
    * Who's Who of LB 1208?
    * Network Nebraska Org Chart (draft)
    * NN Map, Phases I-IV
    * NN Backbone Diagram
    * NN Service Level Agreement (draft)
    * OCIO Fee Memo, 2009.07.06

Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group Meeting #2
Friday, September 18, 2009; 1:30pm-4:30pm
Host site: NET Board Room, 1800 N. 33rd, Lincoln, NE
Remote 1: Mid-Plains Community College, North Platte
Remote 2: University of Nebraska-Kearney, Kearney
Remote 3: Wayne State College, Wayne

<u>Meeting Notes</u>

K-12 Attendance: John Stritt, Gary Monter, Scott Jones, Kirk Langer, Bob Uhing (Wayne),
H.E. Attendance: Debbie Schroeder (Kearney), Dennis Linster (Wayne), Ken Clipperton, Lyle Neal,
    Charles Osteen (North Platte)
CAP Liaison Attendance: Brenda Decker, Walter Weir, Steve Henderson, Don Phares, Leona Roach
Absent: Dan Hoesing, Betty Getzfred, Mike Danahy, Mike Ruhrdanz, Gene Beardslee, Tip O'Neill,
    Michael Winkle, Rick Golden
Staff: SuAnn Witt, Tom Rolfes

1. Update on Phase III Implementation
    a. Tom Rolfes reported that 49 new entities successfully came on Network Nebraska by August 5, 2009, but not without some hiccups. Temporary slow downs of Internet were reported by some Panhandle schools but were later resolved using team work between the providers, Network Nebraska staff, and the ESU staff.
    b. Ben Mientka reported some video and audio problems in the Panhandle partly due to the Polycom/Cytek codec solution. For the time being, codecs that are restarted each morning have been working acceptably.
    c. John Stritt reported that the ESU 10-11 distance learning classes increased from 295 in 2008-09 to an expected 400 in 2009-10.
    d. Dennis Linster and Charles Osteen reported good network performance and no interruptions in August-September.
    e. Leona Roach reported that the WARN automatic notification system will be ready for implementation soon, as local contact information is gathered from those who will be alerted in case of expected maintenance or unanticipated outages. Contact will be by e-mail, work phone, cell phone, SMTP texting, Fax, and home phone, if desired.

2. Update on Phase IV Letters of Agency
    a. Tom Rolfes reported that 21 total Letter of Agency responses were received out of 60 possible; 9 were positive and 12 were negative.
    b. Tom Rolfes predicted that the total number of new Network members in 2010 will total less than a dozen.
    c. Advisory Group members held a lengthy discussion on what could be done to encourage more Network Nebraska membership.
        i. The members agreed to make available or send a delegation to have a meeting with the SNDLC officers consisting of Ken Clipperton, Lyle Neal, Kirk Langer, and SuAnn Witt. They may also ask assistance from Craig Pease, member of the Education Council
        ii. The urgency is that if the SNDLC schools and ESUs do not commit by September 25 (LoA deadline) that it is unlikely that they would join the network in 2010. The members agree that they would desire an open and transparent conversation, if a meeting was agreed upon.

3. Processes/Procedures for forming recommendations
    a. A discussion was held about the process and/or procedures for forming recommendations. Although the group operates informally, and by consensus, they did agree that addressing the differential needs of the separate constituencies are very important to their eventual recommendations.
    b. Kirk Langer suggested that the Advisory Group focus first on services, capacity, reliability, and the differential needs of public vs. private, and state/community colleges vs. K-12.

4. Draft Charter
    a. Tom Rolfes presented the draft charter. The Advisory Group members welcomed the document and asked that it be considered for approval at their next meeting, after members had had time to thoroughly review it.

5. Election of Advisory Group leadership
    a. Tom Rolfes presented different models for Advisory Group leadership, with a Co-Chair from K-12 and a Co-Chair from Higher Education meeting the most agreement.
    b. John Stritt was nominated and elected as Co-Chair for K-12 by acclamation. He will serve at least through July 2010 when the Advisory Group is reviewed.
    c. Dennis Linster was nominated and elected as Co-Chair for Higher Education by acclamation. He will serve at least through July 2010 when the Advisory Group is reviewed.

6. Discussion
    a. Membership categories—No action was taken on designating different membership categories for Network Nebraska.
    b. Membership services—Advisory Group members agreed that network services was perhaps the most important issue to address in the near future. Future challenges include support of content management, learning management systems, and a 24/7 help desk.
    c. Membership costs—Tom Rolfes reviewed the 2007-08, 2008-09 and 2009-10 Network Nebraska membership costs. No action was taken on any alternate membership costs for Network Nebraska. The members recognized that the Network staff levels may be underfunded and that no Executive Director exists for Network Nebraska—Education.
    d. Helpdesk—Members expressed their desire for a 24/7 Network Nebraska help desk. The service response time (e.g. faster = more costly) was a possible model for future premium services.
    e. Goal-setting—Dennis Linster shared that the members should focus their energy on helping set a solid 2010-11 Network Nebraska budget, know where the funding is going with Network expenses, and be ready to review for possible pitfalls.
    f. Strategic planning—Members did not engage in any strategic plans except for the possible activities to recruit new members for 2010-11.

7. Next Meeting Date & Location
    a. Members suggested that staff conduct a Doodle poll to determine the best date for the next meeting. Proximity to the Nebraska Digital Government Summit was one possibility.

List of Supporting Documents:
- Meeting notes, 7-10-2009
- Phase IV Letter of Agency Packet
- Draft Charter
- Network Nebraska Market Survey Report
- Network Nebraska Marketing Plan

Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group
Charter

Purpose	The purpose of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group for Network Nebraska—Education is to assist the State of Nebraska Chief Information Officer in crafting the vision and strategic direction for Network Nebraska—Education based on the NITC Education Council marketing survey and Ad Hoc Education Advisory Group participant input.
Sponsor	Brenda Decker, State CIO
Scope/Boundaries	This work group's input and recommendations should be representative of Network Nebraska members' needs and pertain to the administration, budget, infrastructure, technical support, costs, membership categories, and present and future services of Network Nebraska.
Desired Goals and Outcomes	a. Conduct informative and working sessions to recommend the best technical and operational oversight of Network Nebraska; b. Research other statewide networks in order to emulate their success and import best practices; c. Explore emerging technologies to enhance the network's ability to deliver services; d. Provide advice on technical issues to the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership as they aggregate bandwidth and develop a shared network; e. Convene meetings with stakeholders to discuss network performance, growth projections, emerging technologies, vendor service, and reliability; f. Identify and recommend applications and services that would increase the value and benefits of the network; g. Make recommendations on available service levels, membership categories, and membership costs.
Authority	This work group will be chartered by the NITC Education Council. Representatives serve on behalf of their subsectors and provide input to the State CIO and Collaborative Aggregation Partnership in order to better serve the telecommunications needs of Network Nebraska members.
Membership	Each Network Nebraska--Education Subsector should have two representatives (one urban representative and one rural representative) and be evenly balanced (8 and 8 between K-12 and Higher Education). Representatives' institutions (employers) must also be members of Network Nebraska.

Leadership	The advisory group shall elect or select its own co-chairs (one from K-12 and one from higher education) to preside at meetings, appoint subcommittees, and work with staff to develop meeting agendas and determine topics of interest.
Reporting	Advisory group minutes must be shared in a timely manner with the NITC Education Council and the CAP.
Timeframe	The advisory group should meet a minimum of six times per year. At the end of the first year (July 2009-June 2010), the Chief Information Officer - State of Nebraska and the NITC Education Council should re-evaluate the effectiveness of the advisory group and make recommendations as appropriate. This charter remains in effect until repealed by the Education Council of the NITC.

Network Nebraska

Objective

- To develop a broadband, scalable telecommunications infrastructure that optimizes the quality of service to every public entity in the State of Nebraska.

Description

Network Nebraska aggregates disparate networks into a multipurpose core backbone extending from Omaha to Lincoln to Grand Island, with Ethernet clouds extending out to the furthest corners of the state. The State of Nebraska Office of the CIO, the University of Nebraska, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission, Department of Education, Public Service Commission, and the Nebraska Information Technology Commission have formed the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP) to guide and implement Network Nebraska. The next phase of this initiative is to formalize business relationships and agreements and to enhance rural bandwidth through local aggregation.

The major components of this initiative include:
- Development of a scalable, reliable, and secure telecommunications infrastructure that enables any type of eligible entity (i.e., local and state government, K-12 and higher education, health care institutions) to purchase the amount of service that the entities need, when they need it, on an annual basis;
- Establishment of a catalog of value-added services that enables eligible entities to pick and choose applications that are pertinent to them (e.g., Internet1, Internet2, and videoconferencing);
- Implementation of a network operations center that offers a helpdesk, network diagnostics, and engineering assistance in order to ensure acceptable qualities of service;
- Establishment of a billing or accounting center to accept service orders, extend service agreements, provide consolidated billing, and to maintain customer accounts;
- The organization of advisory groups (i.e. Network Nebraska—Education) that can provide input and recommendations on network issues to the executive sponsors of such networks.

Benefits

Through aggregation of demand, adoption of common standards, and collaboration with network services and applications, participants can achieve many benefits, including:
- Lower network costs;
- Greater efficiency for participating entities;
- Interoperability of systems providing video courses and conferencing;
- Increased collaboration among all K-20 educational entities;
- New educational opportunities;
- Competitiveness with surrounding states; and
- Better use of public investments.

Action Plan

Current Action Items

1. **Identify Tier II communities that offer opportunities for aggregation for services onto the network.**

   N1aAction: The CAP will work with communities that express an interest in aggregating their public sector transport.

   Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

   Participating Entities: Specific communities, NITC Community Council, Nebraska League of Municipalities, Nebraska Association of County Officials, and public libraries

   Timeframe: ~~2008~~2010-2011

   Funding: No funding required for this action item.

   Status: Continuation as is

   N1bAction: The CAP will use the Network Nebraska website to showcase examples of successful public sector network and/or Internet service cooperation. CAP will encourage interaction and sharing between public entities.

   Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

   Participating Entities: NITC Community Council, ESU-NOC, Nebraska League of Municipalities, Nebraska Association of County Officials, public libraries

   Timeframe: ~~2008~~2010-2011

   Funding: No funding required for this action item.

   Status: ~~Continuation~~Discontinuation

2. The Chief Information Officer will continue the LB 1208 implementation by annually bidding infrastructure and connectivity for new regions of participants and developing the most cost-effective and efficient support structure possible for the statewide network.

   N2aAction: The Network Nebraska network design/support team will develop a memorandum of agreement with local and regional education entities in order to develop a cooperative support system for the statewide education network that will mitigate data transport and synchronous video problems.

   Lead: Network Nebraska **(**CAP)

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group (CAP), ESU-NOC, Higher education entities, NITC Education Council

Timeframe: 20082010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: Continuation as is

N2bAction: The Chief Information Officer will annually update the State master purchase contracts for edge devices and codec equipment and monitor the local site purchases of such equipment in order to promote and encourage network equipment and codec equipment standardization.

Lead: Chief Information Officer

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska (CAP), ESU-NOC

Timeframe: 2008-20092010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: Continuation with minor revisions

3. Offer Internet I services to eligible network participants.

N3aAction: The CAP will accept new orders for Internet service and continue to aggregate purchasing demand to secure a more economical price for statewide Internet service.

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council, ESU-NOC, Higher Education Entities

Timeframe: 2008-20092010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: Continuation as is

4. Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, multipurpose network.

N4aAction: Develop an appropriate participation criteria (e.g. type of entity, bandwidth expections) and a differential catalog of services and bandwidth thresholdsfees for Network Nebraska to serve nonpublic K-12 and nonpublic higher education entitiesall network participants (i.e. public/nonpublic K-12, public/nonpublic higher education, museums, science centers, libraries, others).

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council, ~~Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group~~ ~~Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska, Nonpublic Schools of Nebraska~~
Timeframe: ~~2008-09~~2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~Continuation with minor revisions

N4bAction: Charter a work group to research advanced network services for Network Nebraska ~~customers~~participants.

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group, NITC Education Council

Timeframe: ~~2008-09~~2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.
.
Status: ~~New~~Continuation as is

N4cAction: Implement a statewide on-line presentation and meeting software solution.

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP), Technical Panel for needs assessment

Participating Entities: All NITC groups and sub groups

Timeframe: 2008-09

Funding: No funding required for this action item to initiate needs assessment phase, funding and cost recovery schedule needed for future implementation and service support

Status: ~~New~~Discontinuation

N4dAction: ~~Develop a formula for E-rate cost allocation that allows affordable fees for adult education and other ineligible population services to take place in K-12 settings.~~Develop an online E-rate cost allocation calculator that will enable K-12 and non-K-12 entities to estimate the ineligible telecommunications costs resulting from offering non-K-12 services in a K-12 facility.

Lead: ~~Distance Education Council~~Education Council Funding/Erate Task Group

Participating Entities: ~~DEC Advisory Committee~~Distance Education Council~~, NITC Education Council~~

Timeframe: ~~2008-09~~2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~ Continuation with minor revisions

N4e Action: Work to amend Nebraska Department of Education policies to include PreK as an eligible population for Universal Service Fund (Erate) purposes.

Lead: Nebraska Erate Coordinator

Participating Entities: Educational Service Units, State Board of Education, Nebraska Legislature

Timeframe: 2008-09

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~Discontinuation

N4f Action: Work to change the federal E-rate policies that create impediments and financial disincentives for collaborative usage of networks and videoconferencing by ineligible populations (~~P~~pre-K, adults, telehealth, etc…).

Lead: Nebraska E-rate Coordinator

Participating Entities: Educational Service Units, NITC Education Council

Timeframe: ~~2008-09~~2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~Continue as is

N4g Action: Create a Network Advisory Group and meeting structure for education entities to provide input to Network Nebraska (CAP).

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council, Educational Service Units, Public and nonpublic higher education entities

Timeframe: 2008-09

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~Completed

N4h **Action:** Review the Network Nebraska governance and leadership structure.

Lead: Network Nebraska (CAP)

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council, Educational Service Units, Public and nonpublic higher education entities.

Timeframe: 2008-09

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: ~~New~~Completed

N4i **Action:** Annually reissue the Network Nebraska Marketing Survey and subsequent Report to help steer the strategic direction of Network Nebraska—Education.

Lead: Education Council Marketing Task Group

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group.

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: New

N4j **Action:** Annually update the Network Nebraska Marketing Plan.

Lead: Education Council Marketing Task Group

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group.

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: New

N4k **Action:** Research and pursue grant writing that would assist with the deployment of statewide technology services.

Lead: Education Council Marketing Task Group

Participating Entities: Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group, ESU Coordinating Council.

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: New

N4IAction: Review the viability and effectiveness of the Network Nebraska—Education Advisory Group and make appropriate changes to affect its structure, membership and meeting frequency.

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: Chief Information Officer

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item.

Status: New

Digital Education

Objective

- To promote the effective and efficient integration of technology into the instructional, learning, and administrative processes and to utilize technology to deliver enhanced digital educational opportunities to students at all levels throughout Nebraska on an equitable and affordable basis.

Description

This initiative will involve the coordination and promotion of several major systems and applications that heretofore have either been developed mostly at the local level or have not been replicated statewide.

The initiative will be dependent upon adequate Internet connectivity and transport bandwidth for learners, instructors, administrators, and for educational attendance sites. A minimum acceptable level of classroom technology will have to be established for the initiative to be successful.

The Digital Education Initiative will recognize that many standalone and disparate software applications are needing to undergo integration and convergence so that an instructor can: 1) research digital content, 2) construct a lesson or unit on a computer in a series of virtual or face-to-face or videoconferencing activities using rich multimedia, 3) assess the learners electronically, and then 4) move the student data to a database or data warehouse, 5) export relevant achievement and attendance data to a web-based student information system so parents, or the students themselves, can view it from home; 6) export data to a statewide student information system; and then finally 7) make "real-time" instructional decisions based upon the recently documented progress of the learners.

The primary components of the Digital Education Initiative would include:
- A statewide telecommunications network with ample bandwidth capable of transporting voice, video, and data between and among all education entities [see Network Nebraska];
- Distance insensitive Internet pricing for all Nebraska education entities;
- Development of a statewide eLearning environment so that every teacher and every learner has access to a web-based, digital curriculum and learning management system;
- Development of a statewide digital resource library so that any teacher or learner will be able to retrieve digital media for use in instructional and student projects;
- Synchronous videoconferencing interconnections between all schools and colleges;
- The means to coordinate and facilitate essential education opportunities for all students through a statewide student information system; and
- Regional PreK-20 education cooperatives that vertically articulate educational programs and opportunities.

Benefits

Establishing a Digital Education Initiative is critical to Nebraska's future. Internet has gone from a "nice to have" educational application of the 1990's to the "must have" mission critical ~~application of the~~source of information for the ~~2000's~~21st Century. So much of what teachers, students, and administrators do today is tied to Internet-based information and communication. Nebraska's ranking of 2.8 students per high speed, Internet-connected computer in the classroom seems to compare favorably with the U.S. average of 3.7 students per high speed, Internet-connected computer. (Technology Counts 2007 Report) However, it still makes it challenging for students to complete their digital assignments when they are expected to share two or three students to a computer, or to wait their turn to be able to use a computer. Educators and administrators everywhere should continue to make technology investments until 1:1 computer or Internet-connected device use is attained.

The benefits of the Digital Education Initiative would include:
- Greater technical capacity for schools and colleges to meet the increasing demands of a more diverse customer base;
- More equitable and affordable Internet access for Nebraska schools and colleges;
- A comprehensive Web-based approach to curriculum mapping and organization and automation of student assessment data gathering and depiction;
- The availability of rich, digital media to the desktop that is indexed to Nebraska standards, catalogued, and searchable by the educator or student;
- A more systematic approach to synchronous video distance learning that enables Nebraska schools and colleges to exchange more courses, staff development and training, and ad hoc learning opportunities.

Each of the components of the Digital Education Initiative is vital to future student success in Nebraska. The components are especially pertinent in that these applications and services provide the foundation for capacity building in our schools and colleges.

Action Plan

Current Action Items

D1. Set a deadline, and establish standard(s) related to the administration and maintenance of ~~learning management systems and~~ **content management systems by K-12 schools.**

> **Lead:** NITC Technical Panel

> **Participating Entities:** Learning Management Systems Work Group, ~~NITC Education Council, myeLearning.org~~, ESU Coordinating Council, Distance Education Council, ~~UNL Independent Study High School~~

> **Timeframe:** ~~2008~~2010-2011

> **Funding:** No funding is required for this action item.

> **Status:** Continuation with minor revisions

D2. Promote the availability, distribution, and use of digital media throughout the Nebraska educational community.

D2aAction: Negotiate a statewide purchase of the National Repository for Online Courses

Lead: Distance Education Council

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council

Timeframe: 2008-09

Funding: No funding is required for this action item.

Status: ~~Continuation~~Completed

D2bAction: Promote the usage of the National Repository for Online Courses (NROC) content by Nebraska educators

Lead: Partnership For Innovation (PFI)

Participating Entities: Distance Education Council, NITC Education Council

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding is required for this action item.

Status: New

D3. Develop an affordable plan to provide access to learning management system software and a digital content management system for every teacher and learner ~~who uses synchronous video distance learning~~ and to also train teachers in effective instructional design to integrate synchronous and asynchronous technologies.

Lead: Distance Education Council

Participating Entities: Technical Panel's Learning Management System Work Group, NITC Education Council, ESU Technology Affiliate Group

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding is required for this action item.

Status: Continuation with minor revisions

D4. **Provide training and ~~E~~encourage ~~higher~~ all education ~~entities~~ providers to list all dual enrollment and concurrent enrollment course~~s, and all enrichment~~ opportunities on the statewide clearinghouse and scheduling software system.**

> **Lead:** Distance Education Council
>
> **Participating Entities**: NITC Education Council, Higher education entities
>
> **Timeframe:** ~~2008-09~~2010-2011
>
> **Funding:** No funding required for this action item
>
> **Status:** ~~New~~ Continuation with minor revisions

D5. Develop a governance and leadership structure for the administration of online, virtual schools in Nebraska.

> **Lead:** Nebraska Department of Education
>
> **Participating Entities**: NITC Education Council, Distance Education Council, UNL Independent Study High School
>
> **Timeframe:** 2010-2011
>
> **Funding:** No funding required for this action item
>
> **Status:** New

D6. Develop and deploy a statewide digital content repository that allows the assignment of digital property rights and the uploading, cataloguing, metatagging, searching, and downloading of digital learning objects by Nebraska educators.

> **Lead:** Nebraska Educational Telecommunications (NET)
>
> **Participating Entities**: Nebraska Department of Education, Education Council, ESU Instructional Materials Committee, Distance Education Council, Partnership for Innovation (PFI)
>
> **Timeframe:** 2010-2011
>
> **Funding:** Considerable funding required for this action item
>
> **Status:** New

D7. Monitor the Nebraska Statewide Assessment System (NeSAS) and develop strategies that will assure its continued success and use of the most efficient and scalable technology infrastructure.

Lead: Technical Panel

Participating Entities: NITC Education Council, ESU-NOC

Timeframe: 2010-2011

Funding: No funding required for this action item

Status: New

E-Government

Objective

- To further the use of e-government to improve services and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of agencies.

Description

The three goals for e-government are:

- **Government-to-Citizen and Government-to-Business.** Anyone needing to do business with state government will be able to go to the state's Web site, easily find the information or service they need, and if they desire, complete all appropriate transactions electronically. Areas to be addressed include citizen portal enhancement; business portal enhancements; education portal; and forms automation.
- **Government-to-Government.** State agencies will improve services and increase the efficiency and effectiveness of government operations through collaboration, communication, and data sharing between government agencies at all levels.

- **Government-to-Employee and Internal Operations.** Agencies will examine internal operations to determine cost-effective e-government applications and solutions. The purpose of these efforts is to improve efficiency and effectiveness by replacing manual operations with automated techniques.

The e-government principles guiding the council are:

- E-government should be considered a continuous process of using technology to serve citizens and improve agency operations;

- Internet technologies create new opportunities for major change, including self-service, integration of information and services, and elimination of time, distance and availability of staff as constraints to providing information and services;

- Agencies have responsibility for performing statutory functions, which means that agency directors must retain ownership of data, responsibility over the use of information technology, and prioritization of projects within the agency to achieve the greatest benefit;

- Cooperation is critical to achieving the goals of e-government, in order to integrate information and services and allow the easy exchange of information;

- An enterprise approach is essential to e-government, including the topics of accessibility for disabled persons, architecture, directories, funding, portal, privacy, security, and other issues; and

- E-government is defined as the use of technology to enhance information sharing, service delivery, constituency and client participation, and governance by transforming internal and external relationships.

Benefits

The primary benefits from the use of e-government are:

- Improved services for citizens and businesses.

- Increased efficiency and effectiveness for agencies.

Action Plan

Action Items

1. **Develop and maintain the Education Portal on the State of Nebraska website.**

    Lead: Nebraska.gov (Nebraska Interactive LLC)

    Participating Entities: Education Council

    Timeframe: 2010-2011

    Funding: No funding required for this action item

    Status: New