

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 9:00AM CDT

Host Location: Varner Hall, Lower Level; 3835 Holdrege Street, Lincoln, NE

Remote Sites: TBA

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Burke Brown, District OR1-Palmyra/Bennet
Mr. Andrew Buker, Alt. for Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha
Mr. Mike Carpenter, Doane University (Zoom)
Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools (Zoom)
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 02
Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College; (Zoom)
Mr. Steve Stortz, Alt. for Stephen Hamersky, Omaha Gross High School
Mr. Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools
Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09
Ms. Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska
Mr. Tom Peters, Central Community College (Zoom)

LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT: Cassandra Joseph, South Sioux City Community Schools; Dr. Kathleen Fimple, CCPE; Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE; Ms. Ling Ling Sun, NET

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT: Mr. Derek Bierman, Northeast Community College; Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Public Schools; Mr. Alan Moore, ESU 03; Steve Hotovy, Nebraska State College System; Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO

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

Co-Chair, Mary Niemec, called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Roll call was taken. There were 11 voting members present. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on April 10, 2019. The meeting agenda was posted to the [NITC Web site](#) on April 10, 2019.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 17, 2019 MEETING*

Mr. Stortz moved to approve the April 17, 2019 agenda as presented. Mr. Buker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE [MINUTES](#) FROM THE 12/19/2018 MEETING*

Mr. Brown moved to approve the December 19, 2019 minutes as presented. Mr. Maschman seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION: DELIVERING COURSES BEYOND CAMPUS WALLS

Kathleen Fimple, Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education (CPPE)

The presentation coincides with the Council's Digital Education action items. CPPE gathers data from institutions via a spreadsheet. The data is collected to assist higher education institutions identify areas of the state that may be underserved. Access is still a concern. Beginning in 2017, a section on high schools was included. Areas of concern included:

- Only information for students taking courses from public higher education institutions is collected.
- Students who take college courses on their own are not generally counted separately by the institution and are not reflected in the data collected.
- Location is mapped but not the number of courses.

Dr. Fimple entertained questions from the council members. It was suggested to collect more data on dual credit courses, as well as students' preparation for higher education transition.

NEBRASKA RURAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE UPDATE

Tom Rolfes and Andrew Buker

Meeting Minutes and Documents. Council members were given the website to access Rural Broadband meeting information. Governor Ricketts appointed the task force in July 2018. Two delegates from K-20 education serve on the Task Force, as well as two senators. The Task Force has organized four subcommittees: NUSF, Broadband Data Subcommittee, Broadband Technologies, and Public Private Partnerships. The current broadband data that is available from the FCC is gathered from service providers via the 477 Form per census block. The data has been shown to be incorrect in some cases, particularly large census blocks. In Nebraska, it is believed that there are approximately 50,000 public school students who do not have internet access.

Defining and Measuring the Homework Gap, 5/3/2019. This topic will be the primary focus of the May 3rd Rural Broadband Task Force meeting. Mr. Rolfes invited the council members to attend. He and Ms. Byers would like to have four speakers speaking about the homework gap and asked if there were any members interested in addressing the task force. Mr. Brown indicated he or a parent may be interested. Members were asked to contact Mr. Rolfes if interested.

NETWORK NEBRASKA 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS

Co-chair, Gary Needham, was present but dealing with an ESU network issue.

Action 1: Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network that shall meet the demand of state agencies, local governments, and educational entities as defined in section 79-1201.01.

Action 2: The Education Council and OCIO/NITC staff will serve as the communication hub for existing and potential new Network Nebraska participants.

The OCIO has engaged Holly West, Public Information Officer, to assist with a marketing strategy. The statewide Network Nebraska marketing survey has not been done for the past few years. There are discussions to update it and re-administer the survey. A draft of the questions to be asked will be on next meeting's agenda. Timing of the survey was discussed and it was recommended to conduct the survey at the end of September to get information for the Rural Broadband report.

Action 3: Review the NITC IT Security Initiative and cloud computing components of the State Government IT Strategy Initiative as drafted by the NITC State Government Council.

The goal is to have the work group have a recommendation by the end of this year. Mr. Rolfes reminded council members about the CIO's Cybersecurity conference.

DIGITAL EDUCATION 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS

Action 1: Address technical challenges for student in the transition from secondary to post-secondary education.

It was recommended to form a work group to develop this further. Members may have staff in their institutions who would be interested in serving on the work group. Mr. Dunning will send information from State of Indiana's efforts so Nebraska doesn't reinvent the wheel.

Action 2: Expand awareness and address the need for equity of access as it relates to digital education.

Mr. Brown has a resolution he is sending out to NSEA members. NSEA will be heavily involved, will present this at their annual meeting. Mr. Brown relayed a story of broadband development near his home. His neighbor across the street will have high speed data while he will not. He attempted to see if they could do something more for disconnected students. It was recommended that he talk to the city council.

PRESENTATION: STUDENT TRANSITION DELIVERABLES

Gabrielle Banick, P-16 Initiative

Information explaining the Transfer Evaluation System (TES) and Transferology was distributed to the members. Transferring among Nebraska's public colleges and

universities became more transparent with the implementation of TES and Transferology.

TES-Transfer Evaluation System (transfer.nebraska.edu)

- Public course-to-course
- Equivalencies updated and added continuously throughout the year

Transferology (transferology.com)

- Student-specific site (student creates own log in)
- Student enters courses taken or anticipate to be taken
- The system shows students the ways in which each course would transfer to postsecondary institutions

Transfer.nebraska.gov is a one-stop transfer equivalency web site for Nebraska colleges and university to assist with transferring of students' credits. Ms. Banick stated that she needs the council members help to encourage guidance counselors to utilize the application. She has met with superintendents. Members recommended that she provide a session at NETA. Independent colleges can also join in but they would need to purchase TES.

Equity of Access deliverables (Upcoming Rural Broadband Task Force Meeting)

This will be the main focus of the May Rural Broadband Task Force meeting.

SUBSECTOR REPORTS

University of Nebraska. Dr. Hank Bounds is leaving the University and NU CIO, Mark Askren, is leaving his position. It was suggested to acknowledge their contributions at the June meeting.

Nebraska State Colleges. Wayne State College has a new Chancellor.

Nebraska Community Colleges. No report.

Nebraska Independent Colleges and Universities. Mr. Maschman stated that Wesleyan will have a new President starting in June. Mr. Carpenter wanted to emphasize the value of Network Nebraska and thanked the NITC for inviting his institution to become a partner.

Public K-12 and ESUs. The standards testing has been going much better this year. There have had very little issues. It was suggested that consideration be given to the timing of the Network Nebraska survey, or attempt to consolidate surveys going out to the educational entities. It is a little overwhelming when they all come within the same time frame.

Private/Denominational K-12. Mr. Stortz reported that the number of Lutheran Schools applying for E-rate has tripled. He stated that this is his last meeting due to his

resignation as principal at end of the school year. He will be going back to teaching at a school in Iowa.

Nebraska Educational Television. Ms. Sun attended several conferences for public media, and the national association of broadcasters show. There are a lot of new technical trends occurring. NET received a national award for excellence in broadcasting.

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. Dr. Marshall Hill is retiring in June. SARA (State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements) will have new leadership. SARA is considering changing the frequency of applying for membership from yearly to a longer term. This is the first year that SARA is asking for enrollment data but also asking for out of state placement data on any student in any program that is placed outside of state for experiential learning. Ms. Niemec commented that she appreciated CCPE's role in communicating Nebraska's concerns regarding digital education and licensure programs.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Innovation in Pedagogy and Technology Symposium; 5/7/2019. Ms. Niemec shared with the council that the NU symposium can enroll only 600 participants. Participants need an NU ID. If Council members are interested in attending, they were asked to contact her for registration.

Nebraska Cyber Security Conference; 10/22/2019. Mr. Rolfes encouraged council members to attend the conference.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE 6/19/2019 MEETING

The council recommended the following agenda items:

- Thank you to Mark Askren
- Draft questions of the Network Nebraska survey

Members were asked to contact Mr. Rolfes with any additional agenda items.

CONSIDER LOCATION(S) FOR THE 6/19/2019 MEETING

The next meeting will need to be a face-to-face meeting. Ms. Niemec will check to see if Varner Hall is available. It was suggested to go out-state for the summer meeting. Tom Peters offered Grand Island for the June 19th meeting. Mr. Rolfes will be in contact with the council members about their summer availability.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Stortz moved to adjourn. Mr. Brown seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

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