

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Tuesday, April 26, 2016 at 11:00AM CT
Do Space, 7205 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE

[Open Meetings Act](#)

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Burke Brown, Palmyra School District
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 02
Mr. Steve Hotovy, Nebraska State College System
Ms. Cassandra Joseph, Alt. for Mr. Matt Chrisman
Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09
Ms. Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska
Mr. Steven Stortz, Alt. for Mr. Stephen Hamersky

LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE; Mr. Gary Targoff, NET; Dr. Kathleen Fimple, CCPE

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT: Mr. Mark Askren, UNL; Mr. Derek Bierman, Northeast Community College; Mr. Mike Carpenter, Doane University; Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College; Mr. Randy Schmailzl, Metro Community College; Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Public Schools; Dr. Mike Lucas, York Public Schools; Ms Tracy Popp, Broken Bow Public Schools; Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO.

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

Co-Chair, Gary Needham, called the meeting to order at 11:02 am CT. The meeting notice and agenda were posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on March 25, 2016. The Open Meeting Statutes were located on the front table of the Do Space meeting room. Mr. Tom Rolfes called the roll and found eight voting members or alternates present. A quorum was reached in order to conduct official business. Members and guests introduced themselves.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 26, 2016 MEETING*

Mr. Brown moved to approve the April 26, 2016 meeting agenda as presented. Mr. Hotovy seconded. Brown-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Joseph-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Stortz-Yes. 8-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 17, 2016 MEETING*

Dr. DeTurk moved to approve the February 17, 2016 meeting [minutes](#) as presented. Mr. Brown seconded. Brown-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Joseph-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Stortz-Yes. 8-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstain. Motion carried.

NETWORK NEBRASKA AND DIGITAL EDUCATION ACTION ITEMS

Action Items. Mr. Rolfes gave a brief overview of the NITC Strategic Initiative Action Items under Network Nebraska and Digital Education and how the current slate of Action Items differs from past Education Council efforts.

Network Nebraska Report. Mr. Needham recommended that Network Nebraska present more diverse executive summaries for communication purposes, one for administrators, one for technical staff, and one for users. He suggested that the Network Nebraska work group emphasize Operations, Communication, and Security. Security expertise will need to be brought in from the outside. Mr. Rolfes added that at least four new participants are expected to be added to the statewide Network Nebraska consortium. He also shared the projected monthly rates for the Participation Fee and Interregional Transport Fee that would be implemented on 7/1/2016.

Digital Education Report. Ms. Niemiec reported on the efforts of the Digital Education work group. The work group members are currently working on common terminology and language and glossary of terms. University Online Worldwide began an audit of professional development activities held across the state, exclusive of certification, formal education, and graduate credit courses. Ms. Niemiec asked that the Digital Education group post it to a collaborative portal for updates and editing.

EDUCAUSE Learning Initiative, ELI, by Malcolm Brown (speaker at the NU Symposium) posed some collaborative opportunities for the Digital Education initiative. John Dunning will be convening a meeting to investigate the transition of digital learning environments for students; MHEC may be interested. Potential grantors for a statewide or regional survey include the Lumina Foundation.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Rolfes provided the [link](#) to the NITC webpage of Technology-related legislation. Only [LB 365](#) and [LB 519](#) were passed and approved by the Governor out of the nine different education technology bills being tracked. LB 365 allows school districts and educational service units to keep electronic records. LB 519 provided for changes in school and student aid, grants and assistance as prescribed. Some elements of [LB 402](#) were amended into LB 519.

SUBSECTOR UPDATES

State Colleges. Mr. Hotovy reported that Wi-Fi is being updated at the Chadron, Peru, and Wayne campuses to improve access for students. There is a new collaborative

effort with UNCSN to do internal and external vulnerability scanning at all three state colleges. John Dunning will be presenting at an upcoming conference.

Community Colleges. No report.

Independent Colleges. No report.

University of Nebraska. Ms. Niemiec reported that the annual NU Digital Symposium will be held on May 11 at the Cornhusker Marriott. Three tracks will be offered in addition to plenary speakers. Attendance at this event is starting to exceed facility space. Plenary sessions will be recorded. Robbie Melton, Tennessee Board of Regents, will be presenting on technology tools for education.

Coordinating Commission. Dr. Fimple reported that the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) recently welcomed York College and Doane University as new members. The reciprocity agreement has standards for online curricula that is embraced by other colleges. Thirty-eight states are now involved, with Wisconsin to join soon. New York is also considering. Consumer Protection concerns are preventing about 10 states from ever considering SARA. An upcoming July meeting of 38 states will be held in Chicago and focus on data collection, reporting. Wright Career College in Omaha (and Oklahoma, Kansas) closed due to bankruptcy. Student records were locked and graduation is in peril.

K-12 Public. Mr. Brown reported that the NETA Conference in Omaha attracted nearly 3,000 attendees. District OR1 in Palmyra Benet will be working on single sign-on using the ESUCC system. He mentioned that Security audits of school networks may be of interest to school districts as a value-added service or enterprise contract of Network Nebraska.

K-12 Private. Mr. Stortz reported a positive appreciation of the tiering membership options for Network Nebraska. He also reported a change in COPA (Child Online Protection Act) for the under 13 age group.

Nebraska Department of Education. No report.

Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission. No report.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Anne Byers of the NITC Community Council reported that the Community Council now has a Twitter Feed, @NITCcommunity1 and is engaging in social media.

Mr. Gene Hand of the Nebraska Public Service Commission announced that the Nebraska Broadband Conference would be held on May 24 at the Cornhusker Marriott and all Education Council members were cordially invited to attend.

Mr. Rolfes announced that immediately following the adjournment of the meeting that a joint Digital Access and Broadband gathering would be held with members of the NITC Community Council-Broadband Initiative and members of the Education Council.

Discussion would involve achieving equitable access for student learners. Guests from the Omaha Public Schools and Omaha Public Libraries will share information about their current activities and metro-area collaboration.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE 6/15/2016 MEETING

Mr. Rolfes requested that any member-generated agenda items be sent to him via e-mail in advance of the meeting.

LOCATIONS FOR THE 6/15/2016 MEETING

Mr. Rolfes will poll the EC members about their availability and possible meeting locations FOR 6/15/2016, including videoconferencing.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Hotovy moved to adjourn the April 26, 2016 meeting. Mr. Stortz seconded. Motion carried 8-0-0 by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:13 p.m. CT.

Meeting minutes were recorded by Tom Rolfes, Education I. T. Manager of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission.