

**EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**Nebraska Information Technology Commission**  
Tuesday, October 30, 2018 at 10:00 A.M. CDT  
Lower Level, Governor's Residence, 1425 H Street, Lincoln, NE

**MINUTES**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Burke Brown, District OR 1  
Mr. Mike Carpenter, Doane University  
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 02  
Mr. Stephen Hamersky, Omaha Gross High School  
Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Public Schools  
Steve Hotovy, Nebraska State College System  
Mr. Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools  
Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09  
Ms. Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska  
Mr. Tom Peters, Central Community College

**LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:** Mr. Steven Stortz, Norfolk Lutheran School; Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE; Dr. Kathleen Fimple, CCPE

**MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT:** Mr. Derek Bierman, Northeast Community College; Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha; Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools; Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College; Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University; Mr. Alan Moore, ESU 03; Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO; Ms. Ling Ling Sun, NET.

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

Co-Chair, Mary Niemec, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Roll call was taken. There were 10 voting members present. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice and meeting agenda were posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on October 8, 2018 and to the NITC website on October 26, 2018.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE OCTOBER 30, 2018 MEETING\***

**Mr. Kelly moved to approve the October 30, 2018 agenda as presented. Mr. Carpenter seconded. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemec-Yes, and Peters-Yes. Results: Yes-10, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.**

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE [MINUTES](#) FROM THE 8/15/2018 MEETING\***

**Mr. Peters moved to approve the August 15, 2018 meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Brown seconded. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Carpenter-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Hotovy-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemec-Yes, and Peters-Yes. Results: Yes-10, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, MISCELLANY**

Mr. Rolfes circulated the task group roster spreadsheet and asked every member to sign up for action items under either Network Nebraska, Digital Education, or both. He asked for Council members' assistance in preparing the Action Item Status Report for the upcoming NITC meeting. The Council membership renewals will be presented to the NITC for their consideration on November 8, 2018. Mr. Rolfes announced Ms. Ling Ling Sun, Assistant General Manager for Technology at NET, as the liaison to replace Mr. Chad Davis. Ms. Sun was not able to attend. Mr. Rolfes shared that the NITC Technical Panel and State Government Council reviewed nine I.T. projects as part of the upcoming biennial budget from Secretary of State, State Historical Society, Nebraska Educational Television, Dept of Administrative Services, Oil & Gas Commission, and the Liquor Control Commission. None of the projects were the prevue of the Education Council.

## **NEBRASKA RURAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE UPDATE**

Mr. Rolfes announced that the next Rural Broadband Task Force meeting would be on Wednesday, November 7 at Varner Hall in Lincoln. He provided links to the meeting agendas and minutes. Several members of the Council commented that although availability of broadband is important, that the affordability of broadband is just as important. There are many students whose families cannot afford faster internet, although the service is technically available in the area. Based on proceedings of the last meeting, the group is expected to provide formal definitions of "rural" and "broadband." Broadband will be defined as 25 Mbps down and 3 Mbps up or greater. Anyone with less than 10 Mbps down and 1 Mbps up will be considered "unserved," while users between 10/1 and 25/3 will be considered "underserved." Rural status, unserved, and underserved customers will all be used to determine priority for funding, and data related to student home access should prove to be useful when determining the scope of the "homework gap" or equity of access as it relates to digital education. Mr. Needham asked about the FCC's 10% matching E-rate funds for special construction, and whether the Rural Broadband Task Force would be the right group to address this opportunity. Mr. Rolfes responded that one of the Task Force's tasks had to deal with using state funds to maximize federal funding. Mr. Rolfes encouraged the Council members to take an active interest in the Task Force and to funnel any comments either to Ron Cone and Andrew Buker, or directly to the Task Force through the online comment submission, found at <https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov/>.

## **NETWORK NEBRASKA 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS**

As a NN operational update, there will be a small circuit procurement this year for 2019-20. The northeast Nebraska backbone node will also be bid. The University of Nebraska has proposed an agreement with GlobalNOC to address technology support services. The State will be undertaking financial and E-rate filing role for any schools that desire the transition, and subsequent adjustments to the E-rate processes will be made as well.

There will be an effort by this task group to reinstitute the Network Nebraska marketing survey by the end of February 2019. Members were asked to review the 2009, 2010, 2011, and 2012 reports for possible survey questions.

Mr. Carpenter provided a summary of the Cyber-Resiliency Review undertaken by Doane University, a free service by the Department of Homeland Security that is available to K-20 education institutions. He also discussed the June 1-hour Zoom awareness seminar and September 28 workshop introducing the cyber-resiliency review concepts to many members of Network Nebraska (and some non-members). This workshop was hosted by Doane and promoted by the Education Council to NN membership. The Council discussed whether NN support staff should be advised of any such scans prior to an individual organization engagement. The discussion will be forwarded to NNAG.

## **DIGITAL EDUCATION 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS**

The Council members spent some considerable time discussing the equity of internet access and the effect that it had on the quality of digital education. Council members agreed that the collection of address-level data of internet access at student homes would be a worthwhile endeavor. Ms. Niemiec acknowledged that the P-16

Initiative and the Education Quest Foundation may have some data about K-12 students' transition to postsecondary education and agreed to follow up with Gabrielle Banick. Several members agreed that it would be worth exploring a possible PhD student's dissertation to research transitional activities and impediments involving graduating high school seniors as they make their way to postsecondary institutions. Dr. Hoising shared a technology tool called *Thought Exchange* used by Schuyler Public Schools to get parental information and feedback in real time.

## **SUBSECTOR REPORTS**

A. University of Nebraska – Ms. Niemiec reported that over 6,000 University students are fully online and over 35,000 students take one or more online courses per year. MHEC Nebraska team/committee will be discussing Open Education Resources (OER) for higher ed

B. Nebraska State Colleges – Mr. Hotovy reported that the state colleges had completed a 2017 security risk assessment to meet federal compliance; resulted in development of a new security policies and procedures manual in draft form

C. Nebraska Community Colleges – Mr. Peters reported that there will be an NCCA meeting in Norfolk next week

D. Nebraska Independent Colleges and Universities – Mr. Carpenter reported that the independent college's CFO meeting last week included a presentation about Network Nebraska. He also reported that the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska (AICUN) has become the Council of Independent Nebraska Colleges (CINC) Foundation and is headed by Dr. Dennis Joslin.

E. Public K-12 and ESUs – Dr. DeTurk reported that there is a statewide committee working on OER tied to the BlendEd Committee, Student data committee with Dean Folkers; ESU and NDE working together. Mr. Needham attended the SHLB Conference discussing wireless potential, equity of access, public library partners. Mr. Brown has been working on Safety in schools, digital footprint for active intruders, and found that the Dept of Homeland Security (DHS) has physical security resources, as well as NDE.

F. Private/Denominational K-12 – Mr. Stortz reported that he was going to hold an E-rate training for private Lutheran schools and that the Lutheran Education Association would be holding a conference in Omaha next week.

G. Nebraska Educational Television – No report

H. Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education – SARA reciprocity agreement progress report, 49 states + DC + Puerto Rico + Virgin Islands on board, over 1900 institutions involved, 1.25 million students (California not involved) ; student's state licensure requirements is separate from State Authorization; dual credit policies also lacking in Nebraska.

## **AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE 12/19/2018 MEETING**

- Rural Broadband Task Force
- P-16 Initiative
- OER
- Security follow up with the Network Nebraska Advisory Group
- Survey questions for Feb. 2019

## **CONSIDER LOCATION(S) FOR THE 12/19/2018 MEETING**

- Possible Zoom meeting at either Varner or NET

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Kelly moved to adjourn the October 30, 2018 meeting. Mr. Carpenter seconded. Voice vote. All were in favor, 10-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 a.m.**

Minutes were recorded by Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager of the NITC.