

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Wednesday, December 18, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. CT

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

Remote Location 1: Palmyra High School, Room 107; 425 F Street; Palmyra, Nebraska

Remote Location 2: ESU 13, Computer Lab; 4215 Avenue I; Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Remote Location 3: Schuyler Community Schools, Supt's Office;

401 Adam Street; Schuyler, Nebraska

Remote Location 4: Nebraska Department of Education, 6th Floor;

301 Centennial Mall S; Lincoln, Nebraska

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mr. Burke Brown, District OR1-Palmyra/Bennet (IVC)

Mr. Andrew Buker, Alt. for Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha

Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools (IVC)

Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 02

Mr. John Dunning, Wayne State College

Mr. Stephen Hamersky, Omaha Gross High School

Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Public Schools (IVC)

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

Dr. Paul Turman, Nebraska State College System

LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT: Alternate Cassandra Joseph, South Sioux City Public Schools; Alternate Leonard Kwapnioski, Columbus Public Schools; and Ms. Ling Ling Sun, NET

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT: Ms. Carla Streff, Northeast Community College; Mr. Chuck Lenosky, Creighton University; Mr. Alan Moore, ESU 03; Dr. Mike Baumgartner, CCPE; Mr. Ed Toner, OCIO; Ms. SuAnn Witt, NDE.

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

Co-Chair, Mary Niemec, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. CT. Roll call was taken. A quorum existed to conduct official business. The meeting notice was posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on December 13, 2019. The agenda was posted to the [NITC Web site](#) on December 13, 2019.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE DECEMBER 18, 2019 MEETING*

Mr. Dunning moved to approve the December 18th agenda, Mr. Turman seconded. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Buker-Yes, Chrisman-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Kelly-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Peters-Yes, Turman-Yes. Results: Yes-13, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE **MINUTES** FROM THE 10/23/2019 MEETING*

There was one correction to the minutes. Ms. Sun was not present at the last meeting.

Mr. Peters moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Mr. Turman seconded. Roll call vote: Brown-Yes, Buker-Yes, Chrisman-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Dunning-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Hoelsing-Yes, Kelly-Yes, Maschman-Yes, Needham-Yes, Niemiec-Yes, Peters-Yes, Turman-Yes. Results: Yes-13, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments at the main or remote sites.

RURAL BROADBAND TASK FORCE UPDATE

LR 166 Hearing on December 4, 2019. Mr. Rolfes reported that the hearing's opening remarks were provided by Ed Toner. There were 15 individuals who provided testimony. Nebraska libraries were represented. Burke Brown's testimony about the homework gap was well received by the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. An Omaha World Herald [article](#) quoted Burke Brown related to the Homework Gap.

PSC Docket NUSF-117. One of the Rural Broadband Task Force's homework gap recommendations was to implement an E-Rate special construction matching fund program with funding from the Universal Service Fund to incentivize new fiber construction to public libraries and schools. The Public Service Commission has released Docket NUSF-117 for public comments due January 17th. If the state qualifies for the matching FCC funding by designating its own separate fund, then the applicant could receive up to 20% additional discount for the non-recurring costs. In this program, the FCC would match dollar-for-dollar up to 10% additional discount from the State of Nebraska. New fiber would be installed and public libraries would act as anchor tenants for villages and towns.

NETWORK NEBRASKA OPERATIONAL UPDATE

Neil Brown, Director of Network Services; Greg Gray, Infrastructure Technical Director; Neil Wineman, Assistant Vice President, IT Client Services; and Dr. Bob Goeman, Executive Director of Client Services.

Representatives from the University of Nebraska operational group gave a presentation to the Council. The presentation included a summary of the value-added services provided by the University of Nebraska. Approximately 250 circuits are being upgraded in 2020. The RFP is under development. The OCIO and the University project teams will be working together on this initiative. The last time this many circuits were put out for bid, 2016, Network Nebraska was able to save entities an average of 37% in monthly costs when compared to 2012 contracts. Network Nebraska has 450,000 daily end users. A National Science Foundation Campus Cyberinfrastructure grant proposal (NSFCC) for January 2021 is being submitted. Mr. Rolfes suggested that the grant could address Network Nebraska's infrastructure needs as well. Council members commented on the healthy cooperation of the University and the OCIO for Network Nebraska. Council members expressed their appreciation.

NETWORK NEBRASKA 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS

Future Network deliverables - Communication Hub deliverables - Security Initiative deliverables

For the first time since its inception, Network Nebraska will be losing a school district participant. It was recommended to look at the mechanics of Network Nebraska's business model and administrative costs. For example, Network Nebraska participants are getting DDoS protection with their Participation fee but they may not know all the value-added services they are receiving. The question was asked, "What do entities find of value within the administrative fee they pay, beyond the Ethernet transport and affordable internet, and how do we add additional value?" Network Nebraska action items need to address the higher-than-average last mile costs that entities are paying.

DIGITAL EDUCATION 2018-2020 ACTION ITEMS

Student Transition deliverables - Equity of Access deliverables

The Digital Education work group has not met but will plan to meet in January.

Mr. Rolfes reminded the Council that at the March 12 meeting the NITC will be voting on the advisory council's action items for the Statewide Technology Plan. At the February Education Council meeting, members will need to focus on updating the action items. In the meantime, the work groups will need to meet in January or early February to have action items ready by the February 19 Education Council meeting.

SUBSECTOR REPORTS

University of Nebraska, Mary Niemeck. The new University of Nebraska President, Ted Carter, will officially assume his position in January.

Nebraska State Colleges, Dr. Paul Turman. The agency has established a structured IT Council to discuss best practices and to discuss issues. Mr. Dunning commented that there is a lot of collaboration taking place. The University of Nebraska is working collaboratively with the Nebraska State Colleges. At the last Board of Governors meeting, an IT Security Policy was approved.

Nebraska Community Colleges, Tom Peters. Mr. Peters stated that at least two-thirds of community college institutions have either a new president or new CIO. He will be attempting to get all the CIO's together. Mr. Rolfes suggested that this could be a new collaborative action item for Network Nebraska. It was also suggested to bring the CIOs together at an existing event such as the University of Nebraska's Women in I.T. Conference; the Pedagogy Symposium on May 12th; or the State Cybersecurity Conference. It would be good to also include something like this in the Digital Education action items.

Nebraska Independent Colleges and Universities, Greg Maschman. Mr. Maschman stated that he did not know that DDoS protection was included in the Network Nebraska administrative fee. His institution has been dealing with phishing issues and asked for Network Nebraska's assistance with enterprise security.

Public K-12 and ESUs, Burke Brown. Mr. Brown commented that Security is a priority for K-12 school districts. There are K-12 discussions beginning around eSports. One entity in eastern Nebraska estimated that eSports will cost approximately \$3000/per work station with a \$70,000 startup cost. How will the gaming arena be secured and how much bandwidth will be needed? The State of Pennsylvania is recognized as leading the country with eSports and is treating it like an athletics program. Wayne State College is implementing a program in the fall. The other IT piece of eSports is the student social/emotional component. What obligation do entities have in this respect? It was suggested that perhaps the Education Council could bring entities together for a discussion and to collaborate.

Private/Denominational K-12. There was no report

Nebraska Educational Television, Ling Ling Sun. Ms. Sun attended an annual SMPTE meeting and conference where topics included cloud technology, bandwidth and virtual reality projects. Ms. Sun offered to do a virtual reality presentation in 2020 for the Education Council.

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education. There was no report.

Nebraska Department of Education. There was no report.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Rolfes reminded council members to provide comments to the Public Service Commission's NUSF-117 docket, if interested. In addition, he encouraged the members to review and work on the action items.

Ms. Neimeck announced that she is resigning as Co-Chair but will remain on the council. The Council will need to elect a new co-chair for higher education.

AGENDA ITEMS AND LOCATION FOR THE 2/19/2020 MEETING

Agenda items for the February meeting included the following:

- Election of Co-Chair for Higher Education
- Review and approve action Items

Ms. Neimeck will check on the availability of Varner Hall. Mr. Rolfes will inform members.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Dunning moved to adjourn. Dr. Hoelsing seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried by voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m. CT.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Tom Rolfes of the Office of the CIO.