

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Wednesday, April 19, 2023, 9:00 a.m. CT

Host Location: Nebraska State College System Conference Room
Lower Level, 1233 Lincoln Mall, Lincoln, NE

MINUTES

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:

Co-Chair, Mr. Gary Needham, ESU 09
Mr. Andrew Buker, University of Nebraska
Kate McCown, University of Nebraska, (Alt. for Dr. Jaci Lindburg)
Ms. Cassandra Joseph, South Sioux City Public Schools
Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 2
Mr. Nick Muir, Wayne State College
Mr. Stephen Hamersky, Omaha Gross Catholic High School
Mr. Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools
Mr. Jeremiah Ourada, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Ms. Stacey Jolley, Nebraska Association of School Boards

LIAISONS/ALTERNATES PRESENT:

Dr. Mike Baumgartner, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education
Ms. Christina Struebing, Nebraska Department of Education
Mr. Gregg Robke, ESU 4

MEMBERS/LIAISONS ABSENT:

Mr. Derek Bierman, Doane University
Mr. Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools
Dr. Dan Hoelsing, Schuyler Community Schools
Ms. Ling Ling Sun, Nebraska Public Media
Mr. Tom Peters, Central Community College
Edward Koster, Southeast Community College
Mr. Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University
Mr. Leonard Kwapnioski, Columbus Public Schools
Dr. Paul Turman, Nebraska State College System
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 9:01 a.m. The Meeting Notice was posted to the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on February 9, 2023. The agenda was posted to the NITC Web site on February 9, 2023. There were 10 voting members present. A quorum was present to conduct official business.

The Meeting Notice was posted to the [Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar](#) on April 12, 2023. The meeting agenda was posted to the [NITC Web site](#) on April 12, 2023.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA FOR THE APRIL 19, 2023 MEETING*

Mr. DeTurk moved to approve the April 19, 2023 meeting agenda. Mr. Muir seconded. Roll call vote: Buker-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, Jolley-Yes, Joseph-Yes, Kelly-Yes, McCown-Yes, Muir-Yes, Needham-Yes, and Ourada-Yes. Results: Yes-10, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 15, 20223 MEETING*

Mr. Kelly moved to approve the February 15, 2023 minutes as presented. Ms. Joseph seconded. Roll call vote: Ourada-Yes, Needham-Yes, Muir-Yes, McCown-Yes, Kelly-Yes, Joseph-Yes, Jolley-Yes, Hamersky-Yes, DeTurk-Yes, and Buker-Yes. Results: Yes-10, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NSWERS PRESENTATION

Matt Hastings, Executive Director of NSWERS (Nebraska Statewide Workforce & Educational Reporting System) provided the presentation. The vision of NSWERS is to create a data-informed decision culture that support successful pathways of learning and earning for the people of Nebraska. The mission is to integrate and organize Nebraska's education and workforce data to inform decision making. The organization follows five (5) guiding principles: Quality, Excellence, Collaboration, Continuous Improvement, and Integrity. The organization has two goals: 1) Establish the NSWERS data system for sustainable insights and 2) Evaluate the efficacy of Nebraska's education and workforce training systems. The organization collaborates with K12 and Higher Education Institutions.

Mr. Hastings entertained questions from the Council.

NITC UPDATE

Ms. Kingery reported that at the March meeting, the NITC approved the council's membership nominations of Andrew Buker and Stacey Jolley. In addition, the revised Statewide Technology Plan action items were also approved.

NETWORK NEBRASKA UPDATE

RFP 2022/E-Rate Data. Ms. Kingery reported that the RFP included 10 schools and 30 libraries. Two new libraries have joined - North Loup and Gibbon. There is a new service provider in Western Nebraska. Ms. Struebing reported that the total E-Rate amount for this year was \$21,331,299. Category 1, which is the connection to the

building, total amount was over \$9 million. Category 2, which is the connection within the building total amount was over \$12 million. Hopefully funding will be coming in this week.

RFP 2023. Mr. Kingery reported that the development of the mega RFP is underway which will include approximately 130 of 148 circuits, backbone sections, and internet purchases for Network Nebraska. Likewise, one of the two contracts for internet will also go out for bid. Co-Chair Needham informed the council that the Public Service Commission is accepting comments regarding E-Rate Special Construction NSUF 117 Fund up to and including an extension of the program, and also seeking to provide more than the FCC required 10% match. Comments will be accepted until the deadline of May 27th.

K12 CYBERSECURITY PRIORITIES

Mr. Kelley reported that NOC, ESU Network Operations Center, and NATA (Nebraska Association of Technology Administrators) (19 of the largest districts), have developed a letter to send to key decision makers that covered 5 security areas. Looking at who should receive the correspondence. Dr. DeTurk commented that it could have been a difficult task to accomplish but that the group worked well together and agreed on the following 5 areas:

- Multi-factor Authentication
- Regular vulnerability scanning and relevant ethical external penetration testing, with appropriate training/response
- Technological measures and staff cybersecurity awareness training to prevent and reduce the impact of potential network and systems compromise
- End-point detection and response
- Air-gapped, immutable backups.

The group was commended for their work. The Council members will review the letter as well. Discussion followed as to whether to involve higher education sector. It was decided that K12 have different subsets than higher education.

LEGISLATIVE BILL REVIEW

LB635: A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to define terms; to provide powers and duties to school districts, schools, and the Nebraska Library Commission relating to an educational resource database provided to students in kindergarten through grade twelve; to require the Nebraska Library Commission and the State Department of Education to submit a report; to provide an operative date; and to declare an emergency.

LB638: A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to education; to adopt the Nebraska K-12 Cybersecurity and Data Protection Act; and to declare an emergency.

LB650: A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to public records; to amend section 84-712.05, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2022; to allow certain records relating to

cybersecurity to be withheld from the public as prescribed; to repeal the original section; and to declare an emergency.

LB651: A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to appropriations for cybersecurity; to state findings; to provide duties for the Office of Chief Information Officer relating to cybersecurity; to provide funding for enhancing political subdivisions' cybersecurity; and to declare an emergency.

The only bill that has made it out of committee is LB650.

SUBSECTOR REPORTS

University of Nebraska, Andrew Buker. The University requested a 3% increase in their budget. The Legislature approved a 2.5 increase. UNL is focusing stronger on retention. In addition, UNL will be collaborating and partnering with Dr. Kevin Shriner, the new Associate Vice Chancellor for Digital Online Learning.

Nebraska State Colleges, Cheri Polenski. The agency has also been watching the legislature regarding their budget. In addition, the agency has been working on updating their security standard. Discussion of contracts has initiated contract review and cleanup.

Nebraska Community Colleges. No report

Nebraska Independent Colleges and Universities, Jeremiah Ourada. Thirty days ago, the institution implement OKTA to help simplify the account login process. The summer is approaching. Student numbers will decline for phase 1, phase 2 and phase 3 will occur in the fall.

Public K-12 and ESUs, Cassandra Joseph. Students at her district are finishing up state testing this week. Mr. Kelley stated that the NOC and NATA letter was driven by the insurance companies.

Private/Denominational K-12, Steven Hamersky. His district is looking at security cameras at the schools to assist 1st responders.

Nebraska Public Media. No report.

Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education, Dr. Paul Baumgartner. The agency is also waiting on Legislature decisions regarding the budget.

Nebraska Department of Education. New Commissioner, Dr. Bryan Maher, has been appointed and will start July 1st.

OTHER BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Co-Chair Needham thanked the State College System for hosting the meeting.

CONSIDER LOCATION(S) FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The June meeting has historically been cancelled. The Co-Chairs are proposing Wednesday, August 30th for the next meeting. The location to be determined at a later date. There were no objections.

CONSIDER AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

Members were asked to send agenda items and ideas for a presentation to the Co-chairs or Ms. Kingery.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kelly moved to adjourn. Mr. Muir seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

The meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by Becca Kingery, Office of the CIO.