

UNIT ORGANIZATION

Section 1 ESU Name, Mission and Duties

A. ESU Name

The legal name of our educational service unit is “Educational Service Unit No. 13 of the State of Nebraska.” It may also be referred to as ESU #13, either with or without a number designation (No. 13 or #13).

Legal Reference:	Nebraska Statute: 79-1202
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
Updated:	

B. Legal Description

Educational Service Unit #13 is composed of Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Kimball, Morrill, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan, and Sioux Counties. In addition to the counties statutorily described as constituting ESU #13, ESU #13 also consists of territory from other counties. This territory is attached to any school district whose headquarters are situated in the above-referenced counties, unless such school district has petitioned from this ESU to a different one according to law.

Legal Reference:	
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
Updated:	

C. ESU #13 Mission, Vision, and Beliefs

The role and mission of the educational service units is to serve as educational service providers in the state’s system of elementary and secondary education.

The Mission of ESU #13 is to Serve... Support... Empower.

The Vision and Beliefs of ESU #13 is “Achieving educational excellence for all learners through strong partnerships, service, and leadership.”

By:

- Collaborating with schools, families, and communities
- Serving with equity, efficiency, and integrity
- Communicating effectively
- Leading with innovation

Legal Reference:	Nebraska Statute: 79-1204
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
Updated:	12/15/20
Updated:	6/21/22

D. Powers and Duties

1. ESU #13 shall:
 - a. act primarily as a service agency in providing core services and services identified and requested by member school districts;
 - b. provide for economy, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness in the cooperative delivery of educational services;
 - c. provide educational services through leadership, research, and development in elementary and secondary education;
 - d. act in a cooperative and supportive role with the State Department of Education and school districts in development and implementation of long-range plans, strategies, and goals for the enhancement of educational opportunities in elementary and secondary education; and
 - e. serve, when appropriate and as funds become available, as a repository, clearinghouse, and administrator of federal, state, and private funds on behalf of school districts which choose to participate in special programs, projects, or grants in order to enhance the quality of education in Nebraska schools.

2. Core services shall be provided by ESU #13 to all member school districts. Core services shall be defined by ESU #13 as follows:
 - a. Core services shall be within the following service areas in order of priority:
 - (i) staff development which shall include access to staff development related to improving the achievement of students in poverty and students with diverse backgrounds;
 - (ii) technology, including distance education services; and
 - (iii) instructional materials services.
 - b. Core services shall improve teaching and student learning by focusing on enhancing school improvement efforts, meeting statewide requirements, and achieving statewide goals in the state's system of elementary and secondary education.
 - c. Core services shall provide schools with access to services that:
 - (i) ESU #13 and its member school districts have identified as necessary services;
 - (ii) are difficult, if not impossible, for most individual school districts to effectively and efficiently provide with their own personnel and financial resources;
 - (iii) can be efficiently provided by ESU #13 to its member school districts; and
 - (iv) can be adequately funded to ensure that the service is provided equitably to the public school districts.
 - d. Core services shall be designed so that the effectiveness and efficiency of the service can be evaluated on a statewide basis.
 - e. Core services shall be provided by ESU #13 in a manner that minimizes the costs of administration or service delivery to member school districts.

3. ESU #13 shall meet minimum accreditation standards set by the State Board of Education that will ensure the following:
 - a. provide for accountability to taxpayers;
 - b. assure that ESU #13 is assisting and cooperating with school districts to provide for equitable and adequate educational opportunities statewide; and
 - c. assure a level of quality in educational programs and services provided to school districts by ESU #13.

4. ESU #13 may contract to provide services to:
 - a. nonmember public school districts
 - b. nonpublic school systems
 - c. other educational service units
 - d. other political subdivisions, under the Interlocal Cooperation Act and the Joint Public Agency Act.

5. ESU #13 will not regulate school districts unless specifically provided pursuant to another section of law.

Legal Reference:	Nebraska Statute: 79-1204; NDE Rule 84.001.03-.06
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
Updated:	6/21/22

E. Principal Office

The principal office of ESU #13 shall be 4215 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, Nebraska.

Legal Reference:	Nebraska Statute: 79-1220
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
Updated:	

F. Boundaries

The boundaries of ESU #13 are set and adjusted by the State Board of Education. A current copy of the boundaries of ESU #13 shall be kept in the principal office.

Any joint school district located in two or more counties shall be considered a part of the ESU in which the greater number of school-age children of such joint school district reside.

Legal Reference:	Nebraska Statutes: 79-1205; 79-1217(4)
Date of Adoption:	6/18/19
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