

ESU #13 ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, January 31, 2018
Regular Meeting – 10:00 AM
ESU #13 Center, 4021 Avenue I, Scottsbluff, NE
Broadcast Sites: ESU #13 in Sidney and Chadron State College-Miller
Hall, Room 309

Present: Chadron site: Dr. Caroline Winchester, Kirk Hughes, Lori Liggett, Russell Lechtenberg, Don King, Julie Downing

Scottsbluff site: Dr. Troy Unzicker, Lana Sides, Travis Miller, Kent Halley, Tim Cody, Kathy Urbanek, Rick Myles, Dr. Brett Gies, Julie Newman, Dr. Jeff West, Craig Hicks, Kiowa Rogers, Jadie Beam, George Schlothauer, Paul Smith, Donna Jenne, and Desira Martin-Administrative Assistant

Sidney site: Ron Howard, Casper Ningen, Lori Miller, Nici Johnson

Absent: Chuck Lambert, Dr. Paula Sissel, Bob Hastings, Joe Sherwood, Mike Williams, Jay Ehler, WNCC (Scottsbluff) - Dr. Kim Dale, Ellen Dillon, Paula Abbott – WNCC (Sidney), Robin Iossi – WNCC (Alliance) BJ Peters, Laura Barrett

Guests: Cory Epler, Ph.D. – Chief Academic Officer – NDE
Bryce Wilson – Director of Finance & Organizational Services - NDE

Welcome/Introductions: Introductions at each site were given.

Superintendent Items for Discussion: None

Cory Epler, Ph.D. – Chief Academic Officer - NDE

Highlights from the presentation:

Dr. Epler gave a “Teaching and Learning” update relating to the alignment of instructional materials to state standards. He spoke of an American Teacher Panel survey conducted by the Rand Corporation that showed only 18% of the teachers feel that their materials are aligned to state standards. After the data was compiled, the Rand Corporation noted a significant difference between the state of Louisiana and other states. The teachers surveyed in that state reported greater likelihood of aligned instruction. The Louisiana Department of Education offers free online annotated reviews of instructional materials for ELA, math, science and social studies. The materials are then assigned a rating of Tier 1 (exemplified quality) to Tier 3 (not so strong alignment). They engage teachers in the reviews. About 1 ½ years ago, Dr. Epler visited that state and noted that the department provided support and does not have a curriculum mandate. They provided structure and aligned professional development for curriculum connected to the schools. They are 5 years into this method and have shown a significant increase in student achievement.

In addition, Dr. Epler explained that Nebraska is one of seven states chosen by CCSSO (Council of Chief State School Officers) to participate in an instructional materials and professional learning network. This is a two year project. This will help us think specifically about instructional materials.

“We have conversations about why curriculum matters. Research is clear that it matters and is important to student learning and alignment of materials to state standards is just as important as the

teacher delivering those materials.” Return on investment research and cost of curriculum is being conducted. Some of the studies show that the cost of moving to higher quality curriculum may not be more than replenishing a bad curriculum.

Engage New York is a resource that is an open resource that can save money by printing the material.

Project Outcomes:

- To increase the percentage of districts in which instructional materials are high quality and aligned to the state’s standards.
- To increase the percent of teacher professional development and teacher preparation programs that include training on the use of high quality, standards-aligned curricula.

For more in depth presentation material, please see the power point of this presentation and the Rand Corporation report below. Also included are two links Dr. Epler referenced in his presentation.

- Dr. Epler’s [Slideshow](#)
- Rand Corporation [Report](#)

- [Louisiana Department of Education Curricular Reviews](#)
- [EdReports](#)

Bryce Wilson – NDE - Director of Finance & Organizational Services:

Highlights from the presentation:

Mr. Wilson presented information on the new 2018 /2019 code changes and AFR. At NDE, the preparation for the changes has been going on for about 15 months. Right now they have been focusing on making sure they can meet the federal requirements to report the per pupil expenditure at a school building level.

They will be collecting information from the schools and matching our account codes with the federal codes. Expenditures will be collected at a school building level and a “per pupil” cost will be calculated at a building level. The school district can choose to allocate these expenses themselves or the state will do it at a district level based on average daily membership. For example, maintenance and repairs is difficult to break down per building so these expenses can be at a district level and allocated by average daily membership.

NDE is designing reports for “checks” to review the expenditures. There will be several reports that the district can review before submitting the data. Some of the reports they have been working on. District per pupil cost report and school building per pupil cost.

It is important that you are working with your vendors for the code changes.

NDE will have a training at the April data conference in Kearney.

Here is a link to the 2018/2019 NDE Financial Data Reporting System:

https://2x9dwr1yq1he1dw6623gg411-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/FAQforAFRDataUpload_rev11-30-17.pdf

Panhandle Early Childhood Services Update (Nici Johnson):

- Kim Bodensteiner of the Buffet Early Childhood Institute was here in January and met with districts. She showed them the community snapshots from data gathered a year ago.
- We are eager to move to Phase 2: The staff of the Buffet Institute will be conducting a ½ day meeting in March. The district would send teams of 2-3 people, along with ESU staff and community partners. For part of that meeting, we will be grouping districts similar in size to review their snapshot by theme and commonalities that will help us to develop a Panhandle vision and strategic plan for early childhood sustainability.
- Nici will send out a google calendar so that the Superintendents can pick a date that would work best. The dates available are 3/5, 3/6, 3/12, 3/19, 3/21, and 3/30/18. The meeting would be from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Administrator's Report:

- Update of LB803: Dr. West traveled to Lincoln to testify in favor of this bill to amend provisions related to Rule 11.
- Update of LB801: Day treatment/Day School. Dr. West forwarded a support letter prior to this meeting regarding the urgent need for youth mental health services. Discussion of the letter followed. The superintendents all agree and support the need for this service. They will reach out to other leaders of their community and ask for additional support. Their names will be added to the letter. This bill is scheduled for a hearing on Monday, February 12 in Lincoln. It is imperative that we organize testimony so that we have a wide variety of testifiers in Lincoln.
- The external stakeholder survey will be sent to Superintendents, Principals and Building level administration on February 1st.
- ESU 13 pays for the webinars listed below presented by Perry Law Firm for our districts. If any notifications are received about webinars other than the ones below, it will be the district's responsibility for payment.
- Future Administrator Webinar Series by Perry Law Firm
 - February 13, 2018 - Understanding "Free Speech" within the School House Gate
 - March 13, 2018 – Extracurricular Activity Issues
 - April 3, 2018 – Teacher Discipline and Termination
 - May 8, 2018 – Common Graduation Scenarios and How to Address Them
- Future ESU AAC meetings:
 - February 28, 2018 (via DL, hosted from Sidney) – Dr. Michael Dulaney, NCSA and Dr., Jim Tenopir (NSAA).
 - April 25, 2018 – Dr. Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner, NDE and David Ludwig, Executive Director, ESUCC.

Director Reports: (Please access the electronic reports that were sent earlier) Additional comments are below.

SOAR (Jadie Beam): In June, ESU 16 will be bringing in a Science presenter that will be training teachers how to write 3 dimensional lesson plans. Our SOAR department will pay for fifteen K-6 teachers and fifteen 7-12 grade teachers to attend. We will send a flyer out next week. The training is in North Platte.

Special Services (Laura Barrett): Fairbanks and MIPS – please include ESU 13 providers on your participation list.