

Information Services Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 2, 2022 11:30 AM  
ESU 7 plus Zoom  
2657 44th Ave  
Columbus, NE 68601

1. Call to Order  
Committee Chair
2. Roll call  
Committee Chair
3. Agenda Item  
Committee Chair
  - 3.1. GEER Fund Update  
Technology Director
  - 3.2. Future Ready Digital Learning Collaborative (FRDLC)  
Technology Director
  - 3.3. Hanover Research Discussion  
Committee Chair
  - 3.4. MSA 2022-2023  
President
    - 3.4.1. NOC 2022-2023 Budget Requests  
Committee Chair
    - 3.4.2. TLT Affiliate 2022-2023 Budget Requests  
Committee Chair
  - 3.5. SIMPL Report  
Nate McClenahan
  - 3.6. Staff Reports  
Committee Chair
    - 3.6.1. Scott Isaacson  
Scott Isaacson
    - 3.6.2. Andrew Easton  
Andrew Easton
    - 3.6.3. Rhonda Eis  
Rhonda Eis
4. Next Meeting Agenda Items  
Committee Chair
5. Adjournment  
Committee Chair

# Nebraska Open Meetings Act

**84-1407. Act, how cited.** Sections 84-1407 to 84-1414 shall be known and may be cited as the Open Meetings Act.

**84-1408. Declaration of intent; meetings open to public.** It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret. Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

**84-1409. Terms, defined.** For purposes of the Open Meetings Act, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions; and

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Videoconferencing means conducting a meeting involving participants at two or more locations through the use of audio-video equipment which allows participants at each location to hear and see each meeting participant at each other location, including public input. Interaction between meeting participants shall be possible at all meeting locations.

**84-1410. Closed session; when; purpose; reasons listed; procedure; right to challenge; prohibited acts; chance meetings, conventions, or workshops.**

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

(a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;

(b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;

(c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;

(d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;

(e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or

(f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1) (a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

**84-1411. Meetings of public body; notice; method; contents; when available; right to modify; duties concerning notice; videoconferencing or telephone conferencing authorized; emergency meeting without notice; appearance before public body.**

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site. (ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by: (A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site; or (B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting. (iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of

an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2) A meeting of a state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, of an advisory committee of any such state entity, of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, or of a community college board of governors may be held by means of videoconferencing or, in the case of the Judicial Resources Commission in those cases specified in section 24-1204, by telephone conference, if:

(a) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section;

(b) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recodation by audio or visual recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if videoconferencing or telephone conferencing was not used;

(c) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference;

(d) At least one member of the state entity, advisory committee, board, council, or governing body is present at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site; and

(e)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(e)(ii) of this section, no more than one-half of the state entity's, advisory committee's, board's, council's, or governing body's meetings in a calendar year are held by videoconference or telephone conference; or (ii) In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conferencing.

Videoconferencing, telephone conferencing, or conferencing by other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(3) A meeting of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, of a community college board of governors, of the governing body of a public power district, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district, or of the Nebraska Brand Committee may be held by telephone conference call if:

(a) The territory represented by the educational service unit, member educational service units, community college board of governors, public power district, public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or member public agencies of the entity or pool covers more than one county;

(b) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section which identifies each telephone conference location at which there will be present: (i) A member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of a public power district, governing body of a public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity's or pool's governing body; or (ii) A nonvoting designee designated under subdivision (3)(f) of this section;

(c) All telephone conference meeting sites identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity or pool or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(d) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recodation by audio recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if a telephone conference call was not used;

(e) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the telephone conference call;

(f) At least one member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or governing body of the entity or pool is present at each site of the telephone conference call identified in the public notice, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site;

(g) The telephone conference call lasts no more than five hours; and

(h) No more than one-half of the board's, council's, governing body's, committee's, entity's, or pool's meetings in a calendar year are held by telephone conference call, except that: (i) The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by telephone conference call or videoconferencing; and (ii) An organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act may hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conference call.

Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the participation of consultants, members of the press, and other nonmembers of the governing body at sites not identified in the public notice. Telephone conference calls, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by means of electronic or telecommunication equipment. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness other than a member of the public body to appear before the public body by means of video or telecommunications equipment.

**84-1412. Meetings of public body; rights of public; public body; powers and duties.**

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right

to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body may require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

(a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;

(b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making a telephone conference call available at an instate location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;

(d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;

(e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act;

(f) Reasonable arrangements are made to provide viewing at other instate locations for a videoconference meeting if requested fourteen days in advance and if economically and reasonably available in the area; and

(g) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) The public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at the meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the instate location for a telephone conference call or videoconference, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

**84-1413. Meetings; minutes; roll call vote; secret ballot; when.**

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

**84-1414. Unlawful action by public body; declared void or voidable by district court; when; duty to enforce open meeting laws; citizen's suit; procedure; violations; penalties.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

Revised  
10/2020



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**GEERS - Summary of Actual Receipts & Expenditures**

**RECEIPTS**

Funds from NDE			
	12/04/21	\$8,300,439.89	
	02/10/21	\$1,654,617.38	
	8/10/21	\$1,802,156.43	
	11/23/21	\$149,439.30	
			\$11,906,653.00

Funds from Schools:

	Callaway Schools	\$2,282.60	
	St. Pious/St. Leo	\$17,830.40	
	South Platte	\$10,227.54	
	Walhill Schools	\$5,881.40	
	Seward Schools	\$42,346.08	
	Osmond Community Schools	\$5,350.00	
	Loup County Schools	\$3,813.75	
	Heartland School	\$3,500.00	
			\$91,231.77

**Total Receipts As Of 01/27/22: \$11,997,884.77**

**EXPENDITURES**

Payments to Vendors:

	CDW	\$1,861,489.35	
	Dell	\$82,889.69	
	Insight	\$363,096.19	
	Staples	\$1,048,069.92	
	Apple	\$576,771.00	
			\$3,932,316.15

Reimbursements to Schools:

	1/28/21	\$2,949,711.31	
	2/18/21	\$1,077,439.70	
	3/10/21	\$204,314.80	
	3/18/21	\$282,988.02	
	3/29/21	\$1,023,294.60	
	4/16/21	\$155,126.17	
	5/6/21	\$98,925.00	
	5/14/21	\$294,041.50	
	6/9/21	\$88,566.00	
	7/7/21	\$78,595.00	
	7/27/21	\$34,072.00	
	8/17/21	\$644,089.73	
	8/31/21	\$64,848.60	
	10/07/21	\$65,236.95	
	11/17/21	\$4,800.00	
	12/06/21	\$55,694.55	
	12/20/21	\$5,590.00	
	01/12/22	\$4,435.00	
			\$7,131,768.93

**Total Expenditures As Of 01/27/22: \$11,064,085.08**

**Cash On Hand as of 01/27/22: \$933,799.69**

**Cash On Hand As Of 01/27/22: \$933,799.69**

**ESUCC Admin Fee \$300,000.00**

**Encumbrances:**

	CDW	\$1,459.43	
	Insight	\$220.66	
	Staples	\$6,810.50	
	Apple	\$5,681.00	\$14,171.59

**Actual Funds Available 01/27/22: \$619,628.10**

**Outstanding Receipts:**

**\$0.00**

**Actual Funds Available + Outstanding Receipts: \$619,628.10**

# Future Ready Digital Learning Collaborative

February, 2022 Update

Roughly \$4.5 - 5 million remaining GEER I funds will need to be focused on short-term items and those which can be contracted and paid by September, 2022. The Future Ready Nebraska Council met on January 25, 2022. At that meeting the Infrastructure, Data, Privacy and Security work group met and developed three goals and related action steps which can be supported with these funds:

1. All students will have access to Internet resources and digital devices during the school day and during non-school hours to achieve equity of access.
  - a. Collect accurate data from households through districts' ADVISER digital equity responses, automated speed test agents and other means to determine which are un(der)-served with broadband Internet access.
  - b. Continue to encourage use of ConnectEd Nebraska (eduroam) across the state.
2. Provide solutions and practices protecting the privacy and security of student data and network infrastructure while ensuring compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
  - a. Implement multi-factor authentication.
  - b. Implement a cybersecurity awareness curriculum and program (Proofpoint).
  - c. Implement external network vulnerability testing and consulting.
  - d. Promote and provide professional development around best practices for student privacy and policies.
3. Promote and train on the effective use of data to support instruction and educational decision-making.
  - a. Build collaboration between the Data Visualization and Use Innovation Network, Data Cadre, ESUs and school districts who are already doing good work with data utilization.
  - b. Provide a professional development course in Canvas for statewide access. This course has been developed by the Data Cadre.

The process forward to access remaining GEER I funding is:

1. The GEER I funds were already officially allocated by the Governor at the start of the previous GEER process which ESUCC developed and operated. The Governor's staff wants to review and approve the updated plan before additional funds are spent. Dorann Avey, Tom Rolfes, Kristen Yates and Scott Isaacson are working with Jen Utemark at the NDE to secure this approval.
2. The existing contract between the NDE and the ESUCC will need to be reviewed and amended to support this change in work.
3. We will need to work quickly to contract and begin work and implementation of the components funded in this way to obligate and pay out the funds by September, 2022.



## PDO Training Form

Contact Person/Affiliate Chair: Ryan McDowell

Affiliate: NOC

Email: [rmcdowell@esu5.org](mailto:rmcdowell@esu5.org)

Phone: 402-223-5277

Contractor/Company: None selected yet

Presenter:

Email:

Phone:

Address: City, State, Zip:

Point of Contact:

Workshop Title: None selected yet

Date of Workshop: No date selected yet

Projected cost of workshop (include presenter fees, materials, expenses, etc):

Budget request for 2021-22

\$3,050.00 for Meetings/Onsite Registration

\$50,000.00 for Self-Supporting

\$53,050.00 total

### **How does workshop align with ESU CC Goals and ESUCC/NDE priority areas?**

The NOC group will be moving all of our budget to Self-Supporting expenses. ESU's will be billed by ESUCC throughout the year as expenses arise.

### **Office Use:**

Contract sent:

W-9/W4NA:

Date Received:

Date Received:

# Scott Isaacson Staff Report

February, 2022

## SRS

The SRS team is focused on completing the 504 plan support companion to SRS. Initial versions of the electronic 504 forms are available on a testing site for SRS advisory board members to review and test. On January 31, 2022, advisory board members met to walk through the forms and provide feedback to the development team. This was a very positive and constructive meeting and resulted in very precise changes to language and structure of the forms. From the comments at the meeting, we feel this will be a very useful tool for our member districts. We are aiming to complete work on the system and have it available for early adopters during the summer of 2022, with more extensive review and testing before then.

Looking forward, we are investing in optimizing the database and software code of SRS behind the scenes so that it performs at its best and is even more extensible into the future.

## SRS Cost Structure

We are proposing generally a 5% cost increase to the SRS cost structure as shown in this table:

<u>2022-2023 – no increase</u>	<u>2023-2024</u>	<u>Tier</u>
\$174	\$183	<100
\$452	\$475	100-249
\$901	\$946	250-499
\$2,705	\$2,840	500-999
\$3,607	\$3,787	1000-1999
\$4,508	\$4733	2000-3999
\$8,584	\$9013	4000-17999

It is also proposed that each ESU's portion of the cost be raised from \$5500 to \$5700 annually in the ESUCC-ESU master services agreement. The increase is needed due to routine increases in most operating expenses such as health insurance, salaries, and software licenses needed to develop, maintain and host the software. The 2022-2023 tier-based costs will be

billed in May, 2022 and the 2023-2024 tier-based costs will be billed in May, 2023. The ESU flat-rate costs are billed in September of each year.

SRS is in a better place than it was 2-3 years ago. Helpdesk requests are caught up and answered normally within the same day. When problems are identified through your input or helpdesk requests, they are addressed quickly. Improved testing and quality control processes are in place to ensure that the SRS software continues to improve and perform as expected when updates are released. Looking forward, we are investing in optimizing the database and software code of SRS behind the scenes so that it performs at its best and is even more extensible into the future.

We are excited to complete and release the 504 plan companion to SRS and feel it will be of great value to our member school districts. It is our understanding that the cost of the 504 system will need to be accounted differently at all levels --- ESUCC, ESUs and school districts, to ensure that non-IDEA funds are used to develop and support it. We have invested in developing the initial version and will release it for early adopters at no cost for some period of time (to be discussed by this advisory board, probably the 2022-2023 school year). Around December, 2022, we will need to work together to project and establish a maintenance and improvement cost for the 504 system to keep it on a solid footing along with SRS.

## Project PARA

The new Project PARA software is in final review and testing and is planned to be opened for new user registrations by February 11, 2022. This includes software to accept user registrations, Canvas courses with the paraeducator content, and data collection and reporting of coursework in progress and completed. Users of the existing Project PARA software will be transitioned to the new system in the summer of 2022.

## NVIS

During the SRS/504 and Project PARA work, NVIS has been worked in the background/fill-in when other work is blocked. It is also nearly finalized and will take focus as those projects move into testing and release. The new NVIS is scheduled to be released by April 1, 2022.



## Committee Report

**PROJECT NAME:** Digital Learning, Distance Learning, and Remote Learning

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Andrew Easton

**REPORT PERIOD:** January 2021

### COMMITTEE REPORT: DIGITAL LEARNING COORDINATOR

#### Blended Learning/Personalized Professional Development Support

- Finalized the **PD for Me** one-pagers (a part of the Rule 84 work) to be distributed during the week of 1/31-2/4
  - January (December) Contributions By Topic
    - [Gamification and Game-Based Learning](#) (Andrew Easton)
    - [Engaging Students with Choice and Voice](#) - Digital Age Pedagogy (Nick Ziegler)
    - Universal Design for Learning + Blended Learning for All Learners (Eileen Heller)
    - [Generational Awareness](#) (Otis Pierce)
    - Five Quick Checks for Understanding (Lynne Herr)
  - In total, TLT has contributed nine topics and SDA contributed six topics out of the 15 needed for these mailers.
- Attended and collaborated with TLT Leadership at their PDO planning meeting.
- Attended and collaborated with the blended learning workgroup.
  - Met with Eileen Heller and Jody Bauer to discuss facilitating a vision, mission, and purpose for this group that expands blended learning to also encompass personalized learning, UDL, and makes connections to MTSS
  - This workgroup will rebrand and focus on creating content to share within TLT, all of PDO, and across our digital presence
- Continued conversations with Lori Broady, Mark Brady, Deb Paulman, Craig Hicks, Dawn Ferreyra, and Nick Ziegler regarding the TLT/SS SDA cadre's work with HQIM for SS in grades 4-8.
  - [Statewide Social Studies Inquiry Supports](#)
  - [Special Project Proposal](#) (Revised)
  - [John Hopkins Social Studies Summary Analysis](#)
  - **We have 34 teachers who have filled out our survey and 26 who have applied. We anticipate closing the acceptance window in early March.**

- o Promoted this initiative with an episode of [TheGoodLifeEDU Podcast](#)

### **Collaborations**

- Collaborated in planning for the 2022 Future Ready Conference.
  - o Day one, John Spencer keynote, Day two, 2-3 Nebraska-based presenters.
- Co-facilitated the quarterly Future Ready Counsel meeting with Dorann Avey and Otis Pierce where we rewrote the five-year goals for Future-Ready Nebraska.
- Collaborated with Rhonda Eis on updating the [ESUCC site](#).
- Ongoing collaboration with Brooke Kavan (ESU 7) and Kristen Slechta (ESU 9) on developing #SocialPD stories.

### **NVIS Efforts: Distance Learning and VFT**

- Progress on the NVIS update has been put on pause until other initiatives are completed.
- During PDO, I designed the activity for the DL Coordinators to help create onboarding materials for distance learning courses and designed and led a similar initiative with a separate VFT group.
- At PDO, surveyed DL Coordinators regarding our potentially scheduling a VFT field visit day in May.
- Distance Learning courses were up in the 2020-2021 school year
  - o 16.8% increase in the number of districts participating.
  - o 8.3% increase in courses offered.
  - o DEU dollars dropped from \$964.91 (19-20) to \$844.28 (20-21)

### **Professional Development**

- AESA Virtual Federal Advocacy Committee Meetings (1/18-19/22)
- Listened in on a number of Legislative proceedings and Committee sessions

### **Professional Development Presentations**

- None this month

### **Promotional Work**

- Created 11 #WhatInspireSU Quote Graphics
- Created 10 The Good Life EDU Podcast video promo pieces
- Created 11 Did You Know? Graphics Promoting VFTs
- Created 2 new #SocialPD Stores
  - o [Handwriting](#) by Caryn Zietlow
  - o [Civil Discourse](#) by Lori Broady
- Loaded posts into Tweetdeck and the Meta Business Suite so that we have content across Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram 5 out of 7 days for the next six weeks.
- Created three episodes of [The Good Life EDU](#) podcast.
  - o Shows:

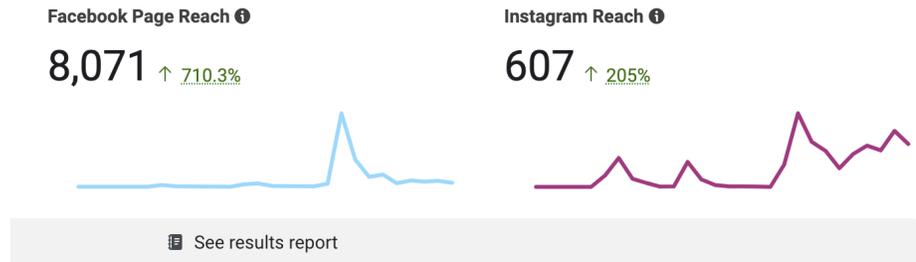
- [\*What Is Passion-Based Teaching?\*](#), Andi McNair of ESC Region 12 in Texas and author of *Genius Hour* and *A Meaningful Mess*
  - [\*The ESUCC Social Studies Special Project\*](#), Lori Broady ESU 4 and Nick Ziegler ESU 5
  - [\*The ESUs' Impact Series: Episode 4 on Special Education Services\*](#), Joe Haney ESU 9, Sally Schreiner ESU 4, Jean Anderson ESU 10, and Brittany Shackleton ESU 2
  - **Broke 10,000 total downloads**
- Invested in Twitter promotional efforts.
  - Twitter Followers
    - January 1272 (+14)
    - 2022**
    - December: 1258 (+8)
    - November: 1250 (+14)
    - October: 1236 (+41)
    - September: 1195 (+71)
    - August: 1124 (+17)
    - July: 1107 (+34)
    - June: 1083 (+12)
    - May: 1071 (+70)
    - April: 1001 (+64) \*Broke 1000 followers
    - March: 937 (+82)
    - February: 855 (+82)
    - January: 773 (+83)
    - 2021**
    - December: 690 (+67)

**28 day summary** with change over previous period



- Invested in Facebook promotional efforts.
  - Page Likes/Followers.
    - January 493 (+4)
    - 2022**
    - December: 489 (+36)
    - November: 453 (+43)
    - October: 410 (+15)
    - September: 395 (+4)
    - August: 391 (+13)
    - July: 378 (+18)
    - June: 360 (+3)
    - May: 357 (+8)
    - April: 349 (+33)

- March: 316 (+52)
  - February: 264 (+30)
  - January: 234 (+40)
- 2021**
- December: 194 (+7)



- Invested in Instagram promotional efforts.
    - January 723
- 2022**



## Committee Report

**PROJECT NAME:** Digital Learning - Instructional Materials

**PROJECT COORDINATOR:** Rhonda Eis

**REPORT PERIOD:** February 2022

### ESUCC PD Library – [Sora App](#)

- 313 titles - 228 ebooks & 85 audiobooks
- Start Up Funds in 2019 - \$15,313
  - \$15,000 + \$313 (OverDrive Promotion Credit)
- Credit Used (12/20/2019 thru 1/24/2022) - \$12,755
  - Remaining Credit - \$2,558
- Future funds
  - Will not need to invoice for this budget year
  - Next invoice in the fall 2022 - per 2022-23 MSA

Year	# Titles Purchased	Credit Used
2019-20	207	\$7,089
2020-21	60	\$2,334
2021-22	84	\$3,332

*Notes: Some of the recent purchases have been to renew books that had a 12 or 24 month access. Our total count in the library is 313. (85 audiobooks/228 ebooks)*

### Open Education Resources (OER) Project - [Nebraska OER Hub](#)

- Renewed January 2022 - Tier 1: Basic/SAML - \$2,000 - cost split 50/50 with NDE
- Information provided by Dorann Avey (NDE) at the January TLT meeting
  - Content area creation/curation workshops may resume in the summer or next school year
    - Funds are available from NDE if an ESU has teachers who want to build content for the hub, contact Dorann for more information

### TLT Updates

- February 9 & 10 Training was postponed due to Covid restrictions on tours. To be rescheduled later this spring.
  - [UNMC IExcel VizHub](#) - equipped with 2D/3D and AR/VR
  - [UNO Biomechanics Lab](#) - Center for Research in Human Movement Variability
  - AR/VR uses in the classroom using the iPad at ESU 3