



Information Services Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:00 AM  
ESU 16, NP plus Zoom  
1221 W 17th St  
North Platte , NE 69101

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. Cybersecurity  
Committee Chair
  - 3.4. MSA 2024-2025
    - 3.4.1. NOC Budget Request for 2024-2025  
Committee Chair
    - 3.4.2. TLT Budget Requests 2024-2025  
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, (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, and (iii) the Judicial Resources Commission or subcommittees or subgroups of the commission;

(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) Virtual conferencing means conducting or participating in a meeting electronically or telephonically with interaction among the participants subject to subsection (2) of section 84-1412.

**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; virtual conferencing authorized; requirements; 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 website. (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 website; 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) The following entities may hold a meeting by means of virtual conferencing if the requirements of subdivision (2)(b) of this section are met: (i) A state agency, state board, state commission, state council, or state committee, or an advisory committee of any such state entity; (ii) An organization, including the governing body, created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act; (iii) The governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (iv) The governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state; (v) An educational service unit; (vi) The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council; (vii) An organization, including the governing body, of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act; (viii) A community college board of governors; (ix) The Nebraska Brand Committee; (x) A local public health department; (xi) A metropolitan utilities district; (xii) A regional metropolitan transit authority; and (xiii) A natural resources district. (b) The requirements for holding a meeting by means of virtual conferencing are as follows: (i) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section, including providing access to a dial-in number or link to the virtual conference; (ii) In addition to the public's right to participate by virtual conferencing, reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend at a physical site and participate as provided in section 84-1412, including reasonable seating, in at least one designated site in a building open to the public and identified in the notice, with: At least one member of the entity holding such meeting, or his or her designee, present at each site; a recording of the hearing by audio or visual recording devices; and a reasonable opportunity for input, such as public comment or questions, is provided to at least the same extent as would be provided if virtual conferencing was not used; (iii) At least one copy of all documents being considered at the meeting is available at any physical site open to the public where individuals may attend the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act; and (iv) Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision or subsection (4) of section 79-2204, no more than one-half of the meetings of the state entities, advisory committees, boards, councils, organizations, or governing bodies are held by virtual conferencing in a calendar year. 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, the organization may hold more than one-half of its meetings by virtual conferencing if such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by virtual conferencing. 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 virtual conferencing if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by virtual conferencing.

(3) Virtual conferencing, 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 virtual conferencing. 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 to appear before the public body by means of virtual conferencing.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding subsections (2) and (5) of this section, if an emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to the Emergency Management Act as defined in section 81-829.39, a public body the territorial jurisdiction of which is included in the emergency declaration, in whole or in part, may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing during such emergency if the public body gives reasonable advance publicized notice as described in subsection (1) of this section. The notice shall include information regarding access for the public and news media. In addition to any formal action taken pertaining to the emergency, the public body may hold such meeting for the purpose of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action by the public body. (b) The public body shall provide access by providing a dial-in number or a link to the virtual conference. The public body shall also provide links to an electronic copy of the agenda, all documents being considered at the meeting, and the current version of the Open Meetings Act. Reasonable arrangements shall be made to accommodate the public's right to hear and speak at the meeting and record the meeting. Subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting such meetings. (c) The nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes. Complete minutes of such meeting specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of section 84-1413. (8) In addition to any other statutory authorization for virtual conferencing, any public body not listed in subdivision (2)(a) of this section may hold a meeting by virtual conferencing if: (a) The purpose of the virtual meeting is to discuss items that are scheduled to be discussed or acted upon at a subsequent non-virtual open meeting of the public body; (b) No action is taken by the public body at the virtual meeting; and (c) The public body complies with subdivisions (2)(b)(i) and (2)(b)(ii) of this section.

**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, a 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, including meetings held by virtual conferencing. 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 shall require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself, including an address and the name of any organization represented by such person unless the address requirement is waived to protect the security of the individual.

(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 virtual conferencing available at an in-state 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; and (f) 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) Each public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at a meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the in-state location for virtual conferencing as required by subdivision (6)(c) of this section, 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, either in paper or electronic form. 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; agenda and minutes; required on website; 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 or kept as an electronic record and shall be 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 or keeping the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Beginning July 31, 2022, the governing body of a natural resources district, the city council of a city of the metropolitan class, the city council of a city of the primary class, the city council of a city of the first class, the county board of a county with a population greater than twenty-five thousand inhabitants, and the school board of a school district shall make available on such entity's public website the agenda and minutes of any meeting of the governing body. The agenda shall be placed on the website at least twenty-four hours before the meeting of the governing body. Minutes shall be placed on the website at such time as the minutes are available for inspection as provided in subsection (5) of this section. This information shall be available on the public website for at least six months.

**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.

**84-1415. Open Meetings Act; requirements; waiver; validity of action.** No motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action made, adopted, passed, or taken at a meeting as defined in section 84-1409 of a public body as defined in such section shall be invalidated because such motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action was made, adopted, passed, or taken at a meeting or meetings on or after March 17, 2020, and on or before April 30, 2021, pursuant to a Governor's Executive Order which waived certain requirements of the Open Meetings Act.

Revised  
4-2022



PERRY, GUTHERY, HAASE & GESSFORD, P.C., L.L.O.  
233 South 13th Street, Suite 1400,  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 476-9200  
perrylawfirm.com



Nebraska Council  
of School Administrators  
455 South 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite A  
Lincoln, NE 68508  
(402) 476-8055  
ncsa.org



## PDO Training Form

Contact Person/Affiliate Chair: Bill Pulte

Affiliate: NOC

Email: [wpulte@esu3.org](mailto:wpulte@esu3.org)

Phone: 402-597-4851

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 2023-24

\$3,500.00 for Meetings/Onsite Registration

\$50,000.00 for Self-Supporting

\$53,500.00 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, 2024

## Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER II)

We are waiting for the reimbursement to us of \$100,548.24 for the last robotics item purchase. I follow up with our contacts at NDE to help us receive this payment as soon as possible. This is the last item to close out the GEER process.

## Future Ready Digital Learning Collaborative (FRDLC)

The **Proofpoint, Duo, and Canvas** consortium projects continue with steady numbers:

- Proofpoint: 141 school districts and ESUs have registered 14,098 users.
- Duo Security: 45 school districts and ESUs are participating, with 8,600 licenses purchased. 1,400 licenses remain at the subsidized pricing of \$2 per user for this contract year.
- Canvas: 186 school districts and ESUs are participating, totalling 90,149 licenses

We are working with our Instructure team on a report of usage analytics across the Nebraska Canvas instances.

We will be working with participating ESUs this month and next to determine license counts and billing going forward.

## Cybersecurity

The Nebraska state committee for the State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program awarded funding to all 3 ESU-related proposals in year 1. The grant award notifications have been completed and work is beginning on these projects. An ESUCC project that was awarded includes funding for 2 days per week of additional staffing for our team to support the Duo security and Proofpoint projects. We are working with a number of ESUs and a hiring process to determine the best way to fill this position.

The application window for year 2 projects using this grant funds closed on February 4th, 2024. Our state committee has a meeting at 1:00 PM on February 8, 2024 where we will learn the overall numbers for this round of applications and begin the review process.

It is possible that some remaining ESSER III state level funding will be available for cybersecurity training and consulting services during the first half of 2024. This isn't certain, but we will work quickly to inform you and our NOC members if the funding becomes available.

## Other Projects

The SRS team is upgrading the software to keep it on current versions and has two new forms being reviewed by our legal counsel, along with other fixes and enhancements for release this spring. We are reaching out to ESUs and SRS districts to ask for feedback on the system and which future needs and enhancements they would like to see.

The software development team has released a testing version of the new NVIS site and made it available to all distance learning coordinators for their testing and feedback. We are working with that group to determine the best process and timeline for launching the new system.

The ESUCC will be taking on more responsibility (and funding) for the Project Para system. Our Canvas team is working on improving the registration process and access for paras taking the training, and improvements to the course content.



## Committee Report

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

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Andrew Easton

**REPORT PERIOD:** January 2024

**COMMITTEE REPORT: DIGITAL LEARNING COORDINATOR**

### Digital Learning Efforts (Organized alphabetically by initiative)

- **Artificial Intelligence**
  - Co-Presented on AI at ESUPDO (1/10)
  - Presented on AI to ESU 3 superintendents (2/1)
  - Presented two session on AI to ESU 4 educators (2/2)
  - Presented on AI to ESU 7 principals (1/25)
  
- **Bold Steps Committee**
  - Continued to be a part of the **Bold Steps: Influence** Committee
    - Developing a series of one-pagers for efforts inclusive of...
      - [Distance Learning](#) (Finished)
      - [Cooperative Purchasing](#) (Finished)
      - [A Response to LR 240](#) (Finished)
      - [On ESUs and Non-Public Schools](#) (Finished)
      - Canvas Consortium (Developing)
      - GEER-Funded Robotics Purchase (Developing)
      - Nebraska PowerSchool Cooperative
  
- **Communication, Professional Learning, and Presentations**
  - Recorded Seven Podcasts (1/12, 1/12, 1/23, 1/26, 1/29, 1/29, 1/31)
  - TLT Leadership meeting (1/8)
  - Planned and presented a social media panel session as a part of ESU 9's Social Media Day with students from the region (1/18, 1/24, 1/30, 1/31)
  - Met with Cody Talarico of NDE to work on an AI in Band presentation of the state conference for band teachers (1/24)
  - Worked with Rhonda Eis to establish a list of website updates (1/23)
  - Presented on Games in Education to ESU 4 educators (2/2)
  - Planned and presented an all-staff, team-building day for ESU 1 (2/5 & 2/6)
  - TLT Leadership meeting (2/6)

- **Cooperative Purchasing Collaboration**
  - Met with Craig Peterson and World Savvy to discuss the possibility of adding their services to Coop (2/5)
  
- **Curriculum-Based Professional Learning (CBPL)**
  - Recorded a podcast on Eureka Math's impact on teaching and learning in the ESU 4 region
  
- **Digital Citizenship Symposium (2023)**
  - All resources are available at [bit.ly/NEDigCit](https://bit.ly/NEDigCit)
  - Waiting to hear back from the Dig Cit group on their intentions for a new logo for marketing
  
- **Distance Learning, NVIS, and VFT**
  - Held our third DL Coordinator's monthly meeting (1/29).
    - Here's the [Agenda](#)
    - Update from Todd Hatcher on NVIS site progress
    - Dr. Nick Ziegler modeled the use of [SchoolAI](#) in during the delivery of a DL experience
  
- **Future Ready Nebraska Conference**
  - 2024 FR Nebraska Conference Planning
    - Hybrid event with in-person conference held at NDE
    - Continue to offer the conference for FREE
    - Theme: ***Advancing Education in the Era of AI***
    - **Identified keynote/featured speakers...**
      - **Amanda Bickerstaff**
      - **Jaime Donally**
      - **Dr. Kristen Mattson**
      - **Reached out to Eric Curts to discuss the possibility of adding a TLT-aimed opening to the FRNC**
    - **Add Public / Private to Registration Form**
    - Met with Nick Ziegler to discuss session timelines for both days (2/5)
  
- **Robotics Purchase Support and Resources**
  - Preston Fraizer of PITSCO has added additional resources to [our Robotic Support page](#)
    - [An Entire Catalogue](#) with links to add-on items for purchase is **NOW AVAILABLE**
  - Recorded a podcast that features district-level implementation of devices from the Robotics purchases

- **Social Studies Inquiry Project (Summer 2024)**
  - [ESUCC Page for Social Studies Inquiry Work](#)
  - Nearly 60 inquiry units of study are now available
  - Recorded a podcast that features John Lee of C3 Teachers and Mark Brady of ESU 7

## Social Media and Podcast Numbers/Reach Over Time

- **The Good Life EDU Podcast**
  - Podcast Data
    - Broke 40,000 total downloads
    - **Listener retention across all episodes in January was 81%**
  - Created 3 new episodes of [The Good Life EDU](#) podcast
    - **Episode 159:** [Previewing Education-Related Legislation from Nebraska's 2024 Legislative Session](#) with Dr. Mike Dulaney, Kyle McGowan, and Dr. John Skretta
    - **Episode 158:** [How C3 Teachers and Nebraska ESUs Are Transforming Instruction in Social Studies](#) with John Lee of C3 Teachers and Mark Brady of ESU 7
    - **Episode 157:** [Digital Citizenship and Live Virtual Learning Experiences Through Banyan Global Learning](#) with Seth Fleschhauer

- **Twitter X Follower Numbers and Reach Over Time**

○ January	1577 (+28)	Reach: ??? Discontinued
<b>2024</b>		
○ November+December	1549 (+8)	Reach: 3.6K
○ October	1541 (+28)	Reach: 5.8K
○ September	1513 (+18)	Reach: 10.3K
○ August	1495 (+41 Summer)	Reach: 9.2K
○ July		Reach: 9.8K
○ June		Reach: 9.2K
○ May		Reach: 16.2K
○ April	1454 (+11)	Reach: 19.7K
○ March	1443 (+16)	Reach: 17.6K
○ February	1427 (+12)	Reach: 14.1K
○ January	1415 (+13)	Reach: 13.6K
<b>2023</b>		
○ December	1402 (+7)	Reach: 5.6K
○ November	1395 (-8)	Reach: 6K
○ October	1403 (+46)	Reach: 3.5K
○ September	1357 (+14)	Reach: 9K
○ August	1343 (+19)	Reach: 8K
○ July	1325 (+9)	Reach: 8.6K

- o June 1316 (+13) Reach: 10.7K
- o May 1303 (+8) Reach: 17.6K
- o April 1295 (+1) Reach: 8.9K
- o March 1294 (+10) Reach: 17.9K
- o February 1284 (+12) Reach: 23.4K
- o January 1272 (+14) Reach: 31.2K

**2022**

- o December: 1258 (+8) Reach: 6,737
- o November: 1250 (+14)
- o October: 1236 (+41)
- o September: 1195 (+71)
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- o April: 1001 (+64) \*Broke 1000 followers
- o March: 937 (+82)
- o February: 855 (+82)
- o January: 773 (+83)

**2021**

- o December: 690 (+67)

● **Facebook Page Followers and Reach Over Time**

- o January (+1) Reach: 362

**2024**

- o November + December (+2) Reach: 1.1K
- o October 594 (+3) Reach: 1951
- o September 591 (-3) Reach: 600
- o August 594 (+4) Reach: 1,380
- o July 590 (+13) Reach: 2,027
- o June 577 (+2) Reach: 1,784
- o May 575 (+2) Reach: 1,343
- o April 570 (+6)
- o March 564 (+6)
- o February 559 (+4)
- o January 555 (+2)

**2023**

- o December 553 (+0)
- o November 553 (+0)
- o October 553 (+7)
- o September 546 (+6)
- o August 540 (+12)
- o July 528 (+10)
- o June 518 (+1)
- o May 517 (+5)
- o April 512 (+6)

- o March 506 (+3)
- o February 503 (+10)
- o January 493 (+4)

**2022**

- o December: 489 (+36)
- o November: 453 (+43)
- o October: 410 (+15)
- o September: 395 (+4)
- o August: 391 (+13)
- o July: 378 (+18)
- o June: 360 (+3)
- o May: 357 (+8)
- o April: 349 (+33)
- o March: 316 (+52)
- o February: 264 (+30)
- o January: 234 (+40)

**2021**

- o December: 194 (+7)

● **LinkedIn Direct Page Views Per Month**

- o January Page Views: 26

**2024**

- o Nov+Dec Page Views: 70
- o October Page Views: 25
- o September Page Views: 24
- o August Page Views: 41
- o July Page Views: 23
- o June Page Views: 29
- o May Page Views: 21

**2023**



## Committee Report

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

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Andrew Easton

**REPORT PERIOD:** November & December 2023

**COMMITTEE REPORT: DIGITAL LEARNING COORDINATOR**

### Digital Learning Efforts (Organized alphabetically by initiative)

- **Artificial Intelligence**

- Met with the co-founder of [Sherpa](#) AI, voice-enabled assessment with AI feedback
- Met with the co-founder of [Curipod](#) AI to learn and offer feedback
- Presented on AI at 2023 AESA Conference
- Presented with Adam Larson on AI for ESU 3 Admin Support team (12/6)
- Presented on AI for State Principals Conference (12/7)
- Presented on AI for ESU 3 Gifford Farm staff (12/8)
- Collaborated in support of ESU 3's AI presentation for superintendents
- Virtual presentation for ESU 6 superintendents on AI and other topics
- Met with ESU 4 to discuss sessions for their February conference
- Presented on AI at ESU 10 as a part of NDE's BMIT Conference
- Presented on AI at ESU 5 as a part of the NOC show and share session
- Collaborated in support of ESU 3's AI presentation for Student Services
- Collaborated with Adam Larson of ESU 3 on an AI-related presentation for the national conference for gifted students

- **Bold Steps Committee**

- Continued to be a part of the **Bold Steps: Influence** Committee
  - Developing a series of one-pagers for efforts inclusive of...
    - [Distance Learning](#) (Finished)
    - [Cooperative Purchasing](#) (Finished)
    - [A Response to LR 240](#) (Finished)
    - [On ESUs and Non-Public Schools](#) (Finished)
    - Canvas Consortium (Developing)
    - GEER-Funded Robotics Purchase (Developing)
    - Nebraska PowerSchool Cooperative

- **Canvas Consortium Collaboration**
  - Met with Canvas Consortium team to ask about the upcoming Khanmigo integration (11/20) and support communication of their efforts through social media (12/18)
  
- **Communication, Professional Learning, and Presentations**
  - Adam Larson and I applied to present virtually at the NAG Conference
  - TLT Leadership meeting (11/14)
  - Took part in the TLT Training with John Meehan of [EMC2 Learning](#)
  - Met with leadership from ESU 1 to design an all-staff, team-building day for next semester (11/20 & 12/18)
  - Attended 2023 AESA Conference (11/29-12/1)
  - Presented on AI at 2023 AESA Conference (12/1)
  - Presented on AI for State Principals Conference (12/7)
  - Presented on DL for State Principals Conference (12/7)
  - TLT Leadership meeting (12/12)
  - Participated in the SDA Connect Session (12/14)
  - Met with AESA vendor World Savvy about collaboration (12/15)
  
- **Cooperative Purchasing Collaboration**
  - Met with Craig Peterson to explore ways that AI might support Coop's efforts to enhance efficiencies
  - Coop pricing available for bulk staff subscriptions for [EMC2 Learning](#)
  
- **Curriculum-Based Professional Learning (CBPL)**
  - Organized, hosted, recorded, edited, and shared [this CBPL video](#) that features ESU leaders from every affiliate group speaking to the ways in which CBPL is connected to the work they do in service to schools
  
- **Digital Citizenship Symposium (2023)**
  - All resources are available at [bit.ly/NEDigCit](http://bit.ly/NEDigCit)
  
- **Distance Learning, NVIS, and VFT**
  - Held our second DL Coordinator's monthly meeting (11/27).
    - Here's the [Agenda](#)
  - Update from Todd Hatcher and Scott Isaacson on NVIS progress
  - DL Goals for 2023-2024
    - (1) **Goal:** Create content for communicating Distance Learning efforts to school counselors at the secondary level (and leverage existing and new avenues for reaching that target audience).

(1) **Update:**

  - Make it easier to request a course [on current NVIS site](#)
  - [One-Pager for School Counselor](#) Communication

- [One-Pager for Legislative Advocacy](#) and Board Meetings
    - Application to Present at NE School Counselor's Conference is waitlisted
    - New Episode of [The Good Life EDU Podcast](#) on Distance Learning as an avenue for addressing teacher shortages
    - Advocacy for DL at the NE Educator Shortage Summit (Nick)
    - **Presented on DL at the State Principal's Conference**
    - **Session accepted to present on DL at spring NETA**
  - (2) and (3) **Goals**: Discussed steps to address these goals next in our collective efforts
  - **Entertained ideas for collaboration with higher ed on staffing DL courses**
- **Future Ready Nebraska Conference**
    - o 2024 FR Nebraska Conference Planning
      - Hybrid event with in-person conference held at NDE
      - Continue to offer the conference for FREE
      - Theme: ***Advancing Education in the Era of AI***
      - **Identified Amanda Bickerstaff, Jaime Donally, and Dr. Kristen Mattson as keynote/featured speakers**
      - **Add Public / Private to Registration Form**
      - Discussed session timelines for both days
      - Created the Call for Proposals document
      - Discussed registration windows and upcoming communication
  - **PowerSchool Cooperative**
    - o December communication piece
      - Created a social media video promoting [Powerschool Scheduling Prep for 2024-2025](#)
  - **Robotics Purchase Support and Resources**
    - o Preston Fraizer of PITSCO has added additional resources to [our Robotic Support page](#)
      - [An Entire Catalogue](#) with links to add-on items for purchase is **NOW AVAILABLE**
    - o Scheduled a podcast recording for January that features district-level implementation of devices from the Robotics purchases
  - **Social Studies Inquiry Project (Summer 2024)**

- o [ESUCC Page for Social Studies Inquiry Work](#)
- o Nearly 60 inquiry units of study are now available
- o Communication via social media will begin in November
- o The SS cadre has started conversations about the 2024 project
  - Scheduled a podcast for January that will highlight this effort, connect it to the nation conversation ([C3 Framework's Nebraska page](#)), and also promote the utilization of the resources

## Social Media and Podcast Numbers/Reach Over Time

- **The Good Life EDU Podcast**

- o Podcast Data
  - Broke 40,000 total downloads
  - **Listener retention across all episodes in Nov-Dec was 82%**
- o Created 4 new episodes of [The Good Life EDU](#) podcast
  - **Episode 156:** [ESU Federal Level Advocacy for Nebraska Education](#) with Dr. Dan Schnoes and Dr. Larianne Polk
  - **Episode 155:** [Media Literacy in the Era of Generative AI](#) with Julie N. Smith

- **Twitter X Follower Numbers and Reach Over Time**

- |                               |              |
|-------------------------------|--------------|
| o November+December 1549 (+8) | Reach: 3.6K  |
| o October 1541 (+28)          | Reach: 5.8K  |
| o September 1513 (+18)        | Reach: 10.3K |
| o August 1495 (+41 Summer)    | Reach: 9.2K  |
| o July                        | Reach: 9.8K  |
| o June                        | Reach: 9.2K  |
| o May                         | Reach: 16.2K |
| o April 1454 (+11)            | Reach: 19.7K |
| o March 1443 (+16)            | Reach: 17.6K |
| o February 1427 (+12)         | Reach: 14.1K |
| o January 1415 (+13)          | Reach: 13.6K |

### 2023

- |                        |              |
|------------------------|--------------|
| o December 1402 (+7)   | Reach: 5.6K  |
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**2023**



## Committee Report

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

**PROJECT COORDINATOR:** Rhonda Eis

**REPORT PERIOD:** February 2024

### TLT Summary of Training Requests for 2024-25

- **Subscription - The Marshall Memo** is a weekly email newsletter from the author that summarizes articles on current research and best practices in the field with e-links to full articles when available and highlights a few notable quotes.
  - **Cost: \$750**
    - annually for 999 recipients (ESUs and districts)
  
- **The Digital Citizenship Symposium** is both an in-person event and on-going online site with resources to teach the importance of being a good digital citizen. Online, there are videos and complete modules to learn about different aspects of digital citizenship. In-person is held at various ESUs. Students have the opportunity to compete in a contest that showcases how to be a CyberSmart citizen based on their learning. ([Website](#))
  - **Cost: \$1,500**
  - Presenter and student awards
  
- **Training: Self-Paced UDL Course with Katie Novak Education**
  - Asynchronous course with scheduled monthly zoom meetings for TLT members to deepen their learning around Universally Design Instruction and Support. TLT members will collaborate on each module throughout the year. Participants will have the option to choose between two online courses. The course options are *UDL Now! Intro to UDL* and *Improving Accessibility with Technology and UDL*. (One course option for each service unit)
  - **Cost: \$4000**
    - \$3,000 (One course option for each service unit)
    - \$1,000 - Books (contingent upon course selection)
  
- **Training: Artificial Intelligence to Improve Instruction Series**
  - A year long training program that focuses on: 1) How it improves instruction in curricular areas as well as in SPED, Admin, and others; 2) how to generate AI bots to enhance the classroom or education specific themes.
  - **Cost: \$10,300**
    - Presenter's Fee: \$3000 (Eric Curts)
    - Presenter's Fee: \$2500 (Donnie Piercey)
      - Subscription for POE App: \$3800
    - Two days hospitality costs (20 X \$25) X 2 = \$1,000
  - The following schedule is a year long process to accomplish this.
    - June: Eric Curts to present at Future Ready conference (June 10-11) for 2-3 hour virtual kickoff with focus on how to change

secondary instruction in an age of Generative AI using ELA examples. (**Future Ready Funding provided by NDE/Dorann Avey.**)

- **One day - regional/hybrid locations -Late September.** Most impactful AI tools & Strategies 2-3 hours virtually in the AM with Eric. Followup work time in the PM.
- **One day - regional/hybrid locations - early December.** Half day session with Donnie Piercey -- Creating our own AI chat bots for the classroom with afternoon to create and explore. (Recorded)
- **Monthly Webinars** (Recorded) - Possibly open webinars to districts based upon numbers allowed.
  - Oct: AI with a focus on SPED examples
  - Nov: AI with a focus on Social Studies examples
  - Jan: AI with a focus on Arts & CTE examples
  - Feb: AI with a focus on Admin examples
  - March: AI with a focus on Math/Science examples
  - April: AI with a focus on Librarian examples

## Nebraska OER | OER Commons

- [Nebraska OER Link](#)
- Contract renewal for the Hub in January
- Currently working with ISKME to update Nebraska standards and realign resources to the newest one.

## ESU PD Library

- [ESU PD Library Link](#)
- New eBooks
  - Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress-Free Productivity
  - Human Work in the Age of Smart Machines
  - Immunity to Change: How to Overcome It...
  - Tell Me So I Can Hear You: A Developmental Approach to Feedback for Educators
  - The 16 Undeniable Laws of Communication: Apply Them and Make the Most...
  - The 6 Types of Working Genius: A Better Way...
  - The Advantage: Why Organizational Health Trumps Everything Else In Business
  - The PD Book: 7 Habits that Transform Professional Development
  - Trust Your Canary: Every Leader's Guide to Taming Workplace Incivility
- New Audiobooks
  - Human Work in the Age of Smart Machines
  - The 16 Undeniable Laws of Communication: Apply Them and Make the Most of Your Message
  - The Orchid and the Dandelion: Why Some Children Struggle...
  - The Power of Moments: Why Certain Experiences...
  - UDL Now!: A Teacher's Guide to Applying Universal Design for Learning
- Credit balance is \$2500
- *Note: We have had some people report having issues logging into Sora on a phone. Problem is often resolved by signing out of a personal account so that the account can be authenticated through the cloud sign on.*