



Information Services Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, September 4, 2024 9:00 AM  
Zoom  
6949 South 110th Street  
LaVista, NE 68128

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. SIMPL Report  
Nate McClenahan
  - 3.5. Staff Reports  
Committee Chair
    - 3.5.1. Scott Isaacson  
Scott Isaacson
    - 3.5.2. Andrew Easton  
Andrew Easton
    - 3.5.3. Rhonda Eis  
Rhonda Eis
4. Next Meeting Agenda Items  
Committee Chair
5. Adjournment  
Committee Chair

# Scott Isaacson Staff Report

September, 2024

## Future Ready Digital Learning Collaborative (FRDLC)

142 school districts and ESUs are participating in the **Proofpoint Security Awareness Training** platform, utilizing 22,215 staff licenses. For the 2024-2025 school year, licenses are available for \$2.46 per staff user. 4 "light" users (could be students) are included with each staff license purchased.

48 school districts and ESUs are participating in the **Duo Security** multi-factor authentication system, utilizing 8,646 licenses. 1,354 licenses remain available. For the contract year which runs through March, 2025, Duo licenses are available for \$8 per user.

188 school districts and ESUs are participating in the **Canvas consortium**, utilizing 82,619 licenses. The Canvas team has presented many road-show and single-district training events over the summer to help districts prepare for the start of school. We are working with Instructure to resolve some technical issues with schools coming on board.

The **STEADfast** project is a browser plug-in designed to help school districts collect data about the performance of home broadband Internet services and indicate areas of the state where service improvements are needed. This project was started with the development work of ESU 10 using GEER funds earlier, and a pilot with schools is funded with \$45,000 of remaining ESSER III state level funds extended into this 2024-2025 school year.

## Cybersecurity

The State and Local Cybersecurity Grant (SLCG) state committee voted to advance projects totalling \$4.2 million, including two ESU-related projects for \$1.4 million, for final approval by CISA and FEMA. That approval is still pending, but expected this month (September). Following that final approval, the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency will issue grant award notifications to the approved projects and project work will be able to begin.

Four cybersecurity projects are moving forward with \$500,000 in ESSER III funding allocated through ESUCC:

- Establish a Nebraska chapter of the Consortium of School Networking (CoSN)
- Providing workshops and support at no cost to schools and ESUs to create and improve cyber incident response plans:
  - September 9, 2024 at ESU 10
  - September 11, 2024 at ESU 16 North Platte
  - September 26, 2024 at ESU 18, Clifton Professional Learning Center in Lincoln
  - Zoom is also an option for these one-day workshops
- Support the Cyber Tatanka training and simulation exercises conducted in the summer
- Fund trials of security operation center (SOC) and penetration testing services

An extension was granted to the NDE for the use of the ESSER funds through the 2024-2025 school year. Our contracts with NDE for this work will be extended accordingly.

## Other Projects

### SRS

The SRS team continues to upgrade the software. An update to the software environment and to the IEP is scheduled for a December release over winter break. The advisory team has decided to use a schedule of two updates per year in December and July.

### NVIS

Lake Gatton was hired as a new software developer to fill the opening left earlier this year. He is allocated to the NVIS project and is preparing software for a December, 2024 soft release. Both versions of NVIS will run side-by-side until the DEU reporting cycle is complete in 2025. After that time the new software will completely take over for the current system.

### Project Para

The Canvas team has used the Canvas catalog to develop a new, smoother registration process for Project Para users. This is being tested internally and then with districts who use the current system with plans to roll out the new registration system during this fall. When testing is successful, the current system will stop taking new registrations. The current target is October 1st. Users already in progress with the current system will have time to complete their courses, while new users will be redirected to the new registration process.



## Committee Report

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

**PROJECT DIRECTOR:** Andrew Easton

**REPORT PERIOD:** May-August 2024

**COMMITTEE REPORT: DIGITAL LEARNING COORDINATOR**

### Welcomed Twin Boys to Our Family (5/22)

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

- **Artificial Intelligence**
  - Presentations
    - AI Panel at May PDO (5/9)
    - NDE Day session, "AI in Education" with Dorann Avey (NDE), Shaun Young (NDE) (7/24)
    - NCSA Admin Days session, "AI in Education: What School Leaders Need to Know" (7/25)
    - Scheduled to Keynote on AI for Bellevue Public Schools (8/6 - canceled due to power outage)
    - Practical Approaches to AI Implementation in Teaching and Learning
      - Ainsworth Comm. Schools (8/9)
      - Springfield-Platteview Comm. Schools (8/12)
      - Paxton Consolidated Schools (8/14)
      - Rock County Schools (8/16)
    - Scheduled to Co-Present on AI at ESUPDO (9/11)
    - Scheduled to Co-Present on AI at NASB's Pre-Conference (11/20)
    - Scheduled to Keynote on AI for an ESU 3 SLP Conference (11/14)
  - Podcast Guest on AI
    - Banyan Global Learning [panel discussion](#), [AI Policy Panel](#)
  - No state guidance on AI was released this summer
    - 23 States currently have AI guidance
    - I would recommend viewing [North Carolina's](#) for reference
  - Currently collaborating with Sarah Essay (ESU 10) and Katrina Gotschall (ESU 8) on an "[AI and Writing](#)" resource

- In collaboration with individuals from Michigan Virtual, the North Carolina Dept of Public Instruction, and Peru State College
  - Met with state-level leadership from Utah to discuss [TeachFX](#)
    - Discussed [TeachFX](#) w SDA cadre leader Kelly Georgius (ESU 2)
- **BIT & Teacher Support Act**
  - Access the BIT one-pager+FAQ for details...
    - [Copy made available to districts](#)
      - Note: Several Updates Have Been Made
    - [Copy for ESU personnel ONLY](#)
  - Designed and Created [this BIT Communication Poster](#) for the ESUCC vendor booth at events
  - Developing [this slide deck](#) for communicating the BIT during NASB Conference
  - For districts interested in recording teacher progress digitally, we are collaborating with Laurie Kerr at ESU 3 to build a sharable SCORM (content package)
  - **Need: To identify LMHPs for the BIT 2.0**
  - Please continue to provide us with feedback as we grow in our support of this effort
    - Discussion on recording participation by individual educators
- **Bold Steps Committee**
  - Continued to be a part of the **Bold Steps: Influence** Committee
    - Developing a series of one-pagers for efforts inclusive of...
      - [ESU Coordinating Council](#) (New Data in September)
      - [Distance Learning](#) (Finished)
      - [Cooperative Purchasing](#) (New Data in September)
      - [On ESUs and Non-Public Schools](#) (New Data in September)
      - [Nebraska PowerSchool Cooperative](#) (Updated)
      - [Canvas Consortium](#) (Awaiting Updates)
      - **NEW:** [Social Studies Inquiry Project](#) (Finished)
- **Canvas Consortium**
  - [Posted this](#) to promote summer sessions
  - Special thanks to Bill and Shara for posting the BIT in Canvas
- **Communication, Professional Learning, and Presentations**
  - Attended sessions at the Future Ready NE Conference (6/10-11)
  - Participated in the Rule 84 meeting (7/23)
  - Attended sessions at Admin Days (7/24-25)
  - TLT Leadership meeting (6/19 and 8/27)
  - [Posted this on social media](#) to promote the [Cyber Incident Response Planning Workshop](#)

- o Developed [Zoom Backgrounds](#) and [Email Signature Templates](#) for members of the ESU Coordinating Council
  - o Setup this [ESUCC Online Merch Store](#) to order apparel
- **Digital Citizenship Symposium (2024)**
    - o All resources are available at [bit.ly/NEDigCit](https://bit.ly/NEDigCit)
    - o Keynote: “You’ve Got the Power”
      - [Flyer for the 2024 DigCit Symposium](#) created by Peg Coover
    - o Ordered #NEDigCit Stickers for students at each event site
    - o Scheduled a podcast to feature the keynote, Jen Casa-Todd
    - o **Andy Boell (NCNE) is drafting Cybersecurity legislation that involves Digital Citizenship content for teachers, students, and parents**
- **Distance Learning, NVIS, and VFT**
    - o DL Coordinators’ monthly meeting (4/29, 5/20, and 8/26)
    - o New DL Coordinators’ meeting (8/19)
    - o DL Coordinators’ summer meetings (6/17 and 7/22)
    - o Here’s our 2024-2025 [Agenda](#)
      - **2024-2025 DL Coordinators’ [Goal \(and Action Steps\)](#)**
      - **Create a [Needs Assessment](#) for Various Stakeholder Groups**
        - Sending-Site DL Teachers
        - Administrators (Sups and Secondary Principals)
          - o From participating districts
        - Receiving-Site Counselors
      - **Create an [Email List for Each Stakeholder Group](#)**
      - Developing additional pieces for communication and support of DL efforts
        - **NEW:** [Norms for On-Site Proctors and Special Education Staff](#)
        - **NEW:** [Terms of Service for the Sending and Receiving Site](#)
        - **NEW:** [Annual Planner of DL Coordinator Tasks](#)
- **Future Ready Nebraska Conference**
    - o 2024 FR Nebraska Conference (6/10-11)
      - FRN Conference planning meetings (5/21, 5/21, 5/28)
      - Theme: ***Advancing Education in the Era of AI***
      - Total Registered: 464 participants **\*Sold Out** in-person spots
      - A few of the speakers presenting at the FRNC 2024
        - [Eirik Hernes Berre](#) from Curipod
        - [Trevor Goertzen](#) from SchoolAI

- [Jaime Donally](#) (keynote speaker)
  - [Amanda Bickerstaff](#) (keynote speaker)
  - [Kristen Mattson](#) (featured speaker)
  - [Mandy Froehlich](#)
  - [Rachelle Dené Poth](#)
  - [Shirin Mathew](#)
  - [Adam Vinter](#) from Common Sense Media
  - [Brian Buffington](#) from Pioneer RESA in GA
  - Facilitated a panel discussion on “[All Things Digital Learning](#)” in Nebraska featuring Dorann Avey (NDE), Shaun Young (NDE), and Bill Pulte (ESU 3) – which we also turned into a podcast episode
- **Nebraska PowerSchool Cooperative**
    - [Shared this post](#) as a way to advertise NebPS’s support for its member districts
- **Rule 84**
    - Invited to [the NeMTSS Summit](#) to Record Live Podcast Episodes with Presenters and Attendees (9/26-27)
    - Spent a day meeting with Dorann Avey and Shaun Young to align efforts to the Future Ready Nebraska Council’s efforts, the Nebraska Ed Tech Plan, and the state statute pertaining to a statewide ed tech “center” (8/20)
    - Successful collaboration on the Future Ready Nebraska Conference (6/10-11)
- **Robotics Purchase Support and Resources**
    - Preston Fraizer of PITSCO has added additional resources to [our Robotic Support page](#)
    - Pitsco is willing to make a list of connections between our specific robotics devices and the National Computer Science Standards. Those will be posted on [our Robotic Support page](#).
    - Some ESU personnel asked over the summer for [this Google sheet](#) that communicates which devices (and how many) were purchased in each district by ESU region
- **Social Studies Inquiry Project (Summer 2024)**
    - Collaborated with Rhonda Eis on updating the [Social Studies Inquiry Project](#) page on the ESUCC site
    - Supported this summer’s SSIP efforts and [completed this summary write-up](#) to submit to NDE along with evidence to note completion of this project
    - **Over 85 inquiry units of study are [now available](#)**

- o Over 80 teachers were trained on [the C3 Inquiry Model](#) for Social Studies Instruction
- o **NEW:** Created this one-pager to promote this [Social Studies Inquiry Project](#) as an effort and for the resources that are now available to educators
- **Textbook Loan Program**
  - o Developed [this first draft](#) of the textbook loan request form
  - o Conversations have begun regarding the development of a podcast episode and a Zoom training to announce/coincide with the launch of the TFP

## Social Media and Podcast Numbers/Reach Over Time

- **The Good Life EDU Podcast**
  - o Invited to [the NeMTSS Summit](#) to Record Live Podcast Episodes with Presenters (9/26-27)
  - o Podcast Data
    - Approaching 46,000 total downloads
    - Over 3,000 downloads this summer
    - **Listener retention across all episodes from May-August was 86%**
  - o Created 13 new episodes of [The Good Life EDU](#) podcast
    - **Episode 183: [The AI Conversation No One Is Having, But Educators Need to Hear](#)** with Dr. Evie Wusk
    - **Episode 182: [The Next Chapter in UDL: Katie Novak on UDL 3.0, AI, HQIMs, and Professional Learning](#)** with Katie Novak
    - **Episode 181: [Connecting Nebraska: The Power of Network Nebraska in Education](#)** with Gary Needham, Andrew Buker, and Becca Kingery
    - **Episode 180: [Summer Learning Series \(Pt 3\): Digital Citizenship in Action, AI Literacy, and More](#)** with Dr. Kristen Mattson
    - **Episode 179: [Summer Learning Series \(Pt 2\): The Power of Global Connections, Canva Tips, and More](#)** with Tisha Richmond
    - **Episode 178: [Summer Learning Series \(Pt 1\): What's Now and Up Next in Ed Tech with #ARVRinEDU Expert Jaime Donally](#)** with Jaime Donally
    - **Episode 177: [All Things Digital Learning: A LIVE Session from the 2024 Future Ready Nebraska Conference](#)** with Dorann Avey, Shaun Young, and Bill Pulte
    - **Episode 176: [ESU 3's Maker Lab's Impact Has Grown by 3x. Here's Why.](#)** with Dawn Ferreyra and Derek Gangwish

- **Episode 175:** [An Educator's Guide to Happiness: Science-Based Strategies for Joyful Teaching](#) with Kim Strobel
- **Episode 174:** [Granting Dreams: Inspiring Stories of the Arts NOW Impact](#)
- **Episode 173:** [Talking Creativity, AI, and All Things Ed Tech](#) with Brian Buffington
- **Episode 172:** [Transformative Efforts to Advance Computer Science in Nebraska Schools](#) with Shaun Young and Jeremy Keeshin
- **Episode 171:** [The ESUCC's Statewide Support of Mental Health Through the Behavior Intervention Training](#) with Terri Haynes, Jackie Ternus, and Dr. Larianne Polk

● **Twitter X Follower Numbers**

- May-August 1661 (+51)
- April 1610 (+11)
- March 1599 (+11)
- February 1588 (+11)
- January 1577 (+28) Reach: Discontinued

**2024**

- 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

**2023**

- 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
- June 1316 (+13) Reach: 10.7K
- May 1303 (+8) Reach: 17.6K
- April 1295 (+1) Reach: 8.9K
- March 1294 (+10) Reach: 17.9K
- February 1284 (+12) Reach: 23.4K
- 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)
- o August: 1124 (+17)
- o July: 1107 (+34)
- o June: 1083 (+12)
- o May: 1071 (+70)
- 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 August 633 (+21 for May-Aug) Reach: 1.8K
- o July Reach: 709
- o June Reach: 953
- o May Reach: 901
- o April 612 (+7) Reach: 1.1K
- o March 605 (+6) Reach: 2,124
- o February 599 (+2) Reach: 538
- o January 597 (+1) Reach: 362

**2024**

- o November + December 596 (+2) Reach: 1.1K
- o October 594 (+3) Reach: 1,951
- 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 August   | Page Views: 26 | Reach: 473   |
| o July     | Page Views: 18 | Reach: 438   |
| o June     | Page Views: 35 | Reach: 679   |
| o May      | Page Views: 16 | Reach: 790   |
| o April    | Page Views: 51 | Reach: 2,369 |
| o March    | Page Views: 45 | Reach: 729   |
| o February | Page Views: 38 | Reach: 845   |
| o January  | Page Views: 26 | Reach: 371   |

**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 - Instructional Materials

**PROJECT COORDINATOR:** Rhonda Eis

**REPORT PERIOD:** September 2024

### TLT Upcoming Trainings

- Eric Curts - ABC's of AI Training during the September PDO time
  - September 12 - 9AM - 12 PM
  - Eric will be hosting monthly AI focus sessions to start on November
- Creating Your Own Generative AI Bots - October 1

### Nebraska OER | OER Commons

[Nebraska OER Link](#)

- Summer Alignment Work (265 Resources)
  - Nebraska World Language -- 135
  - Nebraska Human Sciences and Education – 66
  - Nebraska Agriculture and Natural Resources – 15
  - Nebraska's Social Studies – 30
  - Nebraska Business, Marketing and Management – 19
- OER - Social Studies Project concluded with 87 titles
  - [Nebraska Social Studies Collection Resources | OER Commons](#)

### ESU PD Library

[ESU PD Library Link](#)

Current checkout - 21 books

#### Top Summer Checkouts

1. Difficult Conversations Don't Have to Be Difficult \*NEW
2. Atomic Habits
3. Cognitive Coaching: Developing Self-Directed Leaders and Learners
4. Effective Universal Instruction: An Action-Oriented Approach
5. No Ego
6. Small Teaching: Everyday Lessons from the Science of Learning
7. The Adaptive School: A Sourcebook for Developing Collaborative Groups
8. The Anxious Generation \*NEW
9. The Aspiring Principal
10. The Power of Making Thinking Visible \*NEW
11. The Self-Driven Child