

**LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, December 6, 2011**  
**1:30 p.m.**  
**MINUTES**

Present: Brian Halstead, Melody Hobson, Mary Ann Losh, Marilyn Peterson, Pat Roschewski, Freida Lange, Joel Scherling, Donlynn Rice, Diane Stuehmer, Sharon Katt, Russ Inbody, Mike Kozak, Margaret Worth, Betty VanDeventer, Sameano Porchea, Roger Breed, Gary Sherman, Scott Swisher

1. NCCC Year 7 Plan (Scott Swisher)

Dr. Swisher provided a handout of the plan to date. A summary of the conversations with Kim Malenoski from McREL was given as follows:

- Mary Ann Losh reported on Project 4 relating to Equity
- Mike Kozak reported on Project 3 relating to Nebraska Virtual Partnership
  - Concerns for online education regarding accreditation, Rule 10 instructional units, teacher qualifications and student/teacher relationship were raised
- Sameano Porchea reported on Project 2 relating to Data, Research and Evaluation
- Donlynn Rice reported on Project 1 relating to Career Readiness Standards

2. OCIO Data Base (Scott Swisher)

At this time, OCIO is alerting agencies of a data base service. It is a centralized data base for documents. It would involve scanning, indexing and searching documents; digital signatures; E forms (conference registrations); work flow capabilities (contracts); off-site storage (disaster recovery); retention schedule.

Leadership Council members were asked to think about what is done by paper and what needs are or foreseen for an electronic system and to consider if this would meet those needs.

This is an information seeking activity at this time.

14. Office 2010 (Mike Kozak)

Mike Kozak explained the Home Use Program set for deployment in January. This would allow state employees to purchase the Office 2010 version for personal use on home computers. The cost to employees is \$9.95. There was some concern

about the effect this would have on other special discounts the Department receives with federal funding.

3. Green Ribbon Schools (Roger Breed)

Nebraska opted to participate in the Green Ribbon School program which addresses environmental impact, health and education. Dr. Breed has asked Jim Woodland to head up the program which will involve creating a rubric/matrix to judge applicants, setting deadlines, and submitting nominees to USDE by March 22, 2012.

4. Early Learning Challenge RTTT (Melody Hobson)

Melody Hobson provided a summary of the Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge grant. Nebraska's application can be accessed on ed.gov website. Notice of the award of the grant should be given by the end of the year. If funded, more information will be shared.

5. SLDS (Marilyn Peterson)

Dr. Peterson shared information concerning the K-12 Student Record System grant to be submitted by next Tuesday. There are four main components of the grant that includes (1) teacher access to classroom level data; (2) statewide system of professional development for data analysis; (3) research and evaluation; and (4) enhancement of customer support system (Help Desk).

10. Super Day (Marilyn Peterson)

Dr. Peterson briefly reviewed the history of Super Day. The purpose of Super Day is to bring information to work-like groups at NDE as well as to provide information to all NDE employees in an effort to keep all informed on the activities of the Department.

Dr. Breed reiterated the importance to continue the line of communication. Super Day is a worthy effort to focus on not only what occurs in NDE but also our partners as well (ESUs, Learning Community, DACs, practitioner's point of view, etc.) Leadership Council members are to survey their teams for ideas and suggestions as to topics of interest for Super Day activities. The ideas/suggestions will be discussed at the January Leadership Council meeting as well as a proposed schedule for Super Day.

All Staff meetings will continue to be held immediately following the State Board meetings each month. This is an opportunity to share what may or may not be occurring in NDE as well as the State Board of Education.

6. Legislature (Brian Halstead)

Brian Halstead provided a handout of the proposed 2012 legislative session dates. Legislation is introduced during the first ten days of the session with education hearings beginning the week of January 17. The session is proposed to end on April 12. Legislative issues for the 2012 session need to be directed to Brian Halstead.

Brian Halstead provided a handout of NDE Implementation of LB 653 and LB1157 regarding the work done by NDE relating to standards and assessments. This was developed to outline for the Legislature what NDE has done. Let Brian know if you see any changes needed.

Brian Halstead provided an update on the status of ESEA Reauthorization in the U. S. Senate.

7. Federal Cuts (Roger Breed)

Dr. Breed announced that federal cuts to programs could be announced at any time and if Congress does not act in 2012, across-the-board cuts of 7 to 12% will occur in federal education programs.

8. NCLB (Roger Breed)

Dr. Breed stated that NCLB is still law of the land. Waivers may be a consideration in third round in the summer of 2012.

9. State Board Goals (Roger Breed)

Dr. Breed stated that the State Board is continuing discussions and work on goals. The Board has developed three goal areas which are:

- Improve achievement outcomes while narrowing gaps among all students
- Improve and support state and local accountability
- Improve communication and collaborate with policy partners

11. NDE SSOS Project Updates

- State Accountability Plan (Pat Roschewski) - NePAS is on the NDE homepage for public comment and will be proposed for adoption by the State Board this month.
- Educator Effectiveness (Donlynn Rice) – The framework was approved by the State Board at the November meeting. A survey showed that there is support for development of a model evaluation system for teachers and principals.
- Revision of Rule 84 (Freida Lange) – The rule is on the State Board agenda for purposes of setting a hearing
- ELL Rule 15 (Mary Ann Losh) – The rule is on the State Board agenda for approval

12. Other

- Rule 21 signed by Governor
- Discussion of concerns for Omaha Nation (Diane Stuehmer)
- Donlynn Rice reported that the writing of Social Studies Standards has begun. Ted Larson will be assisting with the process. The goal is to present a draft to the State Board in the fall of 2012.
- Freida Lange reported that there is a meeting to update the CIP Toolkit website on December 13 at 9:30-12:00 p.m.
- Joel Scherling reminded Leadership Council members of the Holiday Celebration on December 12, 11:00-1:00 p.m.
- Marilyn Peterson will not be attending any more Leadership Council meetings as she will be retired. Marilyn was thanked for her service with a promise for more “thanks” to come on December 8.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.