LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING
Wednesday, August 8, 2012

MINUTES

Present: Joel Scherling, Freida Lange, Brian Halstead, Betty VanDeventer, Margaret Worth, Melody Hobson, Valorie Foy, Mary Ann Losh, Russ Inbody, Roger Breed, Scott Swisher, Sameano Porchea, Mark Schultz

Also Present: Beth Wierda

Add to Agenda:
- Approval of contracts for meeting facilities (Sharon Katt)
- Discussion of contracts (Sameano Porchea)

1. **Native American Consortium (MOU)** ................................................................. *Freida Lange & Mary Ann Losh*
   Handout: Native American Consortium Memorandum of Understanding

   Freida Lange shared the document with the LC. Members were asked to review the document and note where involvement might be needed. Margaret Worth noted some concern regarding the relation of Rule 10.

2. **Surveys/Public Records Request** ................................................................. *Scott Swisher & Betty VanDeventer*
   Several surveys and PRR are coming in to the Department. Discussion followed regarding how to treat/respond to the surveys.

   For the next year, please notify and provide an electronic copy to the Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner when a survey is requested and when completed.

3. **Data Guide Book for Continuous Improvement** ........................................ *Freida Lange*
   Handout: Using Data to Guide Action for School Improvement

   Freida shared the Guidebook which was developed in response to a need for school improvement activities within the four ESU #1 Native American Districts. The resource is valuable for all Nebraska School Districts.

   A copy of the Guidebook is available through Freida Lange.

4. **Board Goals** .................................................................................................................. *Scott Swisher*

5. **NCCC Goals** ............................................................................................................... *Scott Swisher*

6. **P-K16 Goals** ............................................................................................................... *Scott Swisher*
   Handouts: NE P-16 Governance Charter
   2012 Priority Areas and Content Centers
   State Board Goals
   Management Plan for Nebraska, Nebraska Year 7 Work Plan (November 2011)

Dr. Swisher reminded members of the various Goal documents available to guide the work of the Department.
7. **GMS** 
   Dr. Swisher led the discussion concerning the organization of GMS and NDE work-related teams. Discussion will continue.

8. **DREI Team Structure** 
   Sameano Porchea described the restructuring of the DREI Team. Documents were provided for comment by the LC.

   Margaret Worth and Sameano Porchea will discuss handling of Public Records Requests. It was suggested that the explanation be written from program point of view.

9. **Access To Data** 
   Discussion concerning gaining access to data files within NDE. It was agreed that Sameano would be authorized to make access decisions for staff and to keep program staff updated with regard to who has access to databases.

10. **Towels & Tissues In The Restrooms** 
    Dr. Breed presented the possibility of tissues and towels in the Restrooms once the 5th floor restrooms are complete. Discussion followed of a volunteer employee program to contribute to the supply.

11. **Getting the Good News Out About Nebraska Schools**

12. **Other**

   12.1 Contract Process – Sharon Katt expressed some frustration regarding the process for entering into meeting facility contracts. She questioned if staff resources could be better utilized with some organized communication related to previously approved agreements. Additional research of the contract process resulting in acceptable templates will be done.

   12.2 Contract Process – Sameano Porchea requested additional information regarding contracts.