LEADERS COUNCIL MEETING  
May 8, 2012  
Minutes

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

Also Present:  Aimee Lempke for CRM Customer Relationship Manager Software

Additional Items:

- Revised Grant Award Notification (Diane S.)
- Introduction of Valerie Foy (Pat R.)
- State of the Schools Report (Sameano P.)

1. Customer Relationship Manager Software (Sameano Porchea, Aimee Lempke)  
A brief overview was provided of available software for management of customer service requests. Sameano is asking for input to help determine the best way to collect information when serving our customers. Teams are asked to review the handout and provide input into the development of the program. (Handout: NDE Customer Relationship Management)

2. Legislation Follow Up (Brian Halstead)  
(Handout: List of Legislation that requires NDE action or procedure change)  
LB 959 also added to the list regarding employee references. Dr. Breed will identify a representative to cover LB 1145, Human Trafficking Task Force (volunteers requested).

3. Board Meeting Follow Up (Roger Breed)  
- Rules 10 & 14 moved forward  
- Rule 10 hearing regarding pledge recitation requirement set for June 6  
- Rule 18 schools approved  
- Early Education grants approved  
- Rule 15 Implementation Guide presented; Rule 15 before the Governor at this time  
- Rule 84 under review by Attorney General  
- Commissioner Contract extended one year

4. Getting the Good News Out About Nebraska Schools (Betty VanDeventer)  
Betty updated the Council Members on Eyes on Nebraska Schools and asked for input from anyone who might have a story to feature on the site.

5. Administrator Days (Scott Swisher)  
(Handout: Draft Schedule of Sessions)  
Dr. Swisher asked that Council Members review the draft for details. Administrator Days will be paperless this year and all materials need to be submitted two weeks prior to July 25.

Dr. Breed reminded members that Administrator Days is the Department’s opportunity to put our best foot forward, make it a productive day, set the tone for the school year and share what’s ahead for the school year.
Dr. Breed also asked Council Members to provide talking points to him for items to include in his keynote address.

Freida Lange reminded members of the ESU Meeting scheduled for July 24 beginning at 5:00 p.m., the day before Administrators Day.

6. Personnel
   - Dr. Breed announced the Board decision to offer him a one-year contract (at his request) for 2012-13
   - Mike Kozak has resigned from NDE. Brent Gaswick will be interim day to day contact with Dr. Swisher working with SuAnn Witt on Distance Learning Education payments.
   - Jeremy Heneger was hired as Assistant Director for Assessment beginning August 1
   - Valerie Foy begins employment as Director of Assessment on July 1. Valerie shared some of her experiences prior to her work at NDE.
   - Shane Rhian will begin May 29 in the position formerly held by Henry Rodriquez.

7. UNO Education Policy Center (Roger Breed)
The University of Nebraska-Omaha is launching an Education Policy Center to focus on public school policy research particularly on matters concerning urban education and poverty.

8. Biennial Budget Process (Roger Breed)
Dr. Breed advised Council Members to schedule budget meetings with him and Dr. Swisher for preliminary budget thoughts. LC Members are to review the status of their budgets, allotments and begin looking at narratives for budget. The process needs to be complete in the next 2-3 weeks.

9. Grants Management Guidance Update (Diane Stuehmer)
Diane Stuehmer advised Council Members to watch for information from Katie Steenblock regarding updates for the Grants Management system. Please respond in a timely fashion.

Diane also advised Council Members of the revised Grant Award Notification and to look for additional information in an email from Diane.

10. Talent Management System Update (Joel Scherling)
Joel Scherling shared that the testing phase for the TMS is complete and in the process of working out the kinks. Details should be coming soon for implementation. Joel reminded Council Members to include the education portion in their budget reviews.

11. State of the Schools Report (Sameano Porchea)
DREI Team is developing an in-house site for display of State of the Schools information. The new site will be announced at Administrator Days in July.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.