

North Dakota Educational Technology Council Meeting

February 9, 2004

9:00-1:00 PM

IVN

Chair Lisa Feldner called the meeting to order at 9:02 AM.

Members present:

Tom Cummings	Kevin Keenaghan	Bev Nielson
Grant Crawford	Jon Kringen	Wayne Sanstead
Tom Eberle	Wayne Kutzer	Shawnee Voiles
Lisa Feldner	Joe Linnertz	Curt Wolfe

Staff present:

Dan Pullen	Jody French	Neil Howe
Deborah Janzen		

Guests present:

John Gieser	EduTech
Joe Westby	NDEA
Nancy Sand	NDEA
Linda Hartsch	NDEA

Dan Pullen asked that the budget item 5-B be pulled out of the consent agenda and placed after agenda item 9.

The agenda with the requested change was approved by consensus.

The Consent Agenda was passed by Bev Nielson and seconded by Tom Eberle, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Crawford, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Keenaghan, Kringen, Linnertz, Nielson, Sanstead, Wolfe; No: none; Absent: Kutzer.)

Old Business

AUP – Lobbying – Jody French

Joe Westby, NDEA Executive Director, read a position statement from the NDEA regarding the AUP adopted by the ETC on August 14, 2003. The position statement is an addendum to these minutes. Discussion followed. The NDEA requested that the word “lobbying” be removed from the AUP. No action was taken by the council.

New Business

No new business to address.

Policy Reviews

- EL-7: Budgeting/Financial Planning – Dan Pullen requested responses about the budget format presented to the Council. No changes were recommended by the Council. Dan Pullen and Jody French will analyze the ETC and EduTech’s budgets in reference to the results policies for future meetings.
- EL-8: Financial Administration - No changes were suggested to this policy
- EL-9: Asset Protection - No changes were suggested to this policy
Question: Do regional staff use their own vehicles or use state cars?
Answer: Regional and EduTech staff use state cars.
- EL-10: Communication and Counsel to the Council - No changes were suggested to this policy

Council and Staff Reports *fyi*

EduTech

- Jody French added a few workshops to the EduTech report that had been inadvertently left out in the submitted document.
- Jody mentioned the success of the anti-virus protection on the state network over the last few weeks. No viruses were successful in contaminating the network.
- Jody highlighted several videoconferencing activities made available to educators for example: National Aviary in Pittsburgh, Aquatic Research in Chicago, Albany Institute of History and Art, and National Symphony Orchestra concerts.
- Bev Nielson asked for an update on the Tetradata problems mentioned at the August 2003 meeting. Jody reported that many of the initial difficulties have been resolved. Jeff Schoenack, EduTech help desk staff, is working with both a representative from Tetradata and representatives from the schools to facilitate the communication between these two entities.

Division of Independent Study

- Neil Howe reported that the Financial and Enrollment Report distributed to the Council is information through December 31, 2003.
- Neil noted that revenue is lower than December 31, 2002, but that expenditures are also lower.
- Sales of materials only to schools is decreasing as expected. This trend is correlated to the steady increase in the number of enrollments in online courses.
- In 2002, a group met to establish guidelines for distance delivered education in North Dakota. Neil and Dan wish to reconvene the group to formalize guidelines. Joe Linnertz will convene the first meeting this year.

Director’s Report

- Dan Pullen plans to meet with school administrators statewide during the next few months to receive input on needs for the future. He currently prefers using focus groups to obtain this information than a paper or online survey.
- Dan Pullen, EduTech and IVN met with two ITV consortiums which are not using their ETC funded videoconferencing equipment to the extent of other consortiums in the state.

He is concerned about the resistance to using this technology that the state and the federal governments invested in these schools.

Budget

The ITD general fund budget for the 2003-2005 biennium was reduced by one million dollars during the special session of the 2003 legislature. The procedure that ITD used to make up that reduction was struck down by an Attorney General's opinion. The ITD management has asked the Attorney General's office to reconsider this opinion. The response from the AG's office is expected within two weeks. If the opinion is not reversed ITD is proposing to make reductions in the ETC, NDIS and EduTech budgets. Dan stated that he strongly objects to taking reductions in the ETC, NDIS and EduTech budgets and that other options must be considered. Dan, Curt and Mike Ressler will meet to discuss the budget situation within the next ten days.

The ETC budget report was moved for approval by Joe Linnertz and seconded by Bev Nielson, which passed unanimously. (Yes: Crawford, Cummings, Eberle, Feldner, Keenaghan, Kringen, Kutzer, Linnertz, Nielson, Sanstead, Wolfe; No: none)

General Announcements

- Joe Linnertz announced his forthcoming retirement. He is retiring as of April 1, 2004. This is his last ETC meeting.

Set Date and Time of Next Meeting to be held in Fargo
May 17, 2004 from 10:00-2:00.

Chair Lisa Feldner adjourned the meeting at 11:38 AM.

Submitted by Deborah Janzen