

**ND Educational Technology Council
Minutes
September 9, 2008
9:00 – 11:30 AM**

Members present:	Art Conklin	Tom Cummings
Tom Eberle	Lisa Feldner	Darin King
Wayne Kutzer	Rich Lehn	Debby Marshall
Dave Massey	Bev Nielsen	Shawneen Voiles

Staff Present:	Dan Pullen	Jody French
Jon Skaare	Deborah Janzen	

Art called the meeting to order at 9:00

Introduction of Guests:

Konnie Wightman representing the ND Library Association School Library Division was introduced.

Correspondence

A resignation letter from Anita Decker was received by the ETC staff.

Approval of Agenda

Bev Nielsen moved to approve the agenda, Rich Lehn seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

Lisa Feldner moved to approve the consent agenda. Bev Nielsen seconded the motion which passed unanimously

Recognition activities

In August Dan Pullen presented a plaque of appreciation to Anita Decker for her service on the Council.

Council, Staff and Linkage Reports

21st Century Skills Committee Report – Darin King reported that the written report from the Committee presented a definition of the concept 21st Century skills. The Committee developed two recommendations as stated in the written report.

Konnie Wightman, NDLA representative, introduced a resolution from NDLA Schools Division encouraging Gov Hoeven to support the implementation of 21st Century Skills in North Dakota Schools. She is asking the ETC for guidance in proceeding with the resolution.

The Council discussed the options for supporting the NDLA resolution and determined that dialog concerning the 21st Century Skills concept should continue in the coming year with no immediate action.

NDATL – Darin King reported that NDATL continues to support the technology coordinators meetings by video and hosts two face-to-face meetings to provide four sessions during the school year.

TnT – Dan Pullen stated that Title II-D provided funds to sponsor the TnT conference.

ND CTE – Wayne Kutzer highlighted that the CTE Virtual centers came on line on July 1, 2008. CTE now has three virtual centers and five bricks and mortar sites. The virtual sites are giving opportunities to schools that heretofore did not have access to CTE programs.

CTE will provide support to schools to provide classes via video. The number of classes has increased throughout the state. The Rough Rider Center has hired a Health teacher. Most of the centers use local teachers to provide classes.

The challenge for CTE course delivery is to provide the lab experience long distance. A variety of approaches are used to provide these experiences including using local teachers and on-site equipment

New Business

2009-2011 Budgets – Dan announced that the budget process is progressing. The budgets for ETC, EduTech and ND CDE are a part of the ITD budget process. All three budgets are in a contingent form depending on the recommendations from the Governor’s Commission on Educational Improvement. The Council will receive the specific budget requests when the budgets are approved by the Governor.

ETC will be asking for the same appropriation as the 2007-2009 budget with a \$349,000 line item for school grants. The Atomic Learning funding from the current biennium will be used to award video grants. A statewide Atomic Learning license will not be funded from the ETC budget for the 2009-2011 biennium.

EduTech and ITD made a decision to propose that all EduTech staff will become ITD employees as of July 1, 2009 and have begun working on the transition details. Rationale includes the PowerSchool expansion project and the need for staff to be official state employees, rather than grant/contract employees, allowing for state funded salary increases.

As a part of the expansion of PowerSchool and other K-12 services EduTech needs to fill two vacant positions in place now. Therefore EduTech will conduct a search for an E-Rate coordinator and application developer in the next month. The positions will be funded with existing funds that will be supplanted by general funds in the next biennium.

ND CDE will ask for same appropriation as the 2007-2009 budget plus three optional appropriations: \$250,000 for salary and health insurance, 100,000 for technical improvements, and \$30,000 for civics education.

Lisa Feldner reported that ITD sent out a RFP for a proposal to replace ATM T-1 circuits to facilitate an increase the bandwidth. Negotiations are currently taking place. The size of the proposed new circuits will depend on the infrastructure that is in place at each school.

Other Business

Election of Officers

Bev Nielsen moves to accept the slate of Art Conklin for ETC chair and Darin King as ETC vice-chair, Wayne Kutzer seconds the motion which passed unanimously. (Yes; Conklin, Cummings, Eberle, King, Kutzer, Lehn, Marshall, Massey, Nielson, Voiles; Absent: Feldner)

Council Development

Data Systems – Dan reported on the different data systems used by North Dakota schools. The document with this presentation was distributed to Council members. It is attached to the Council documents. ndSLEDS is the acronym for the state level data warehouse being proposed by DPI. DPI submitted a grant to the US Department of Education for funding. Dan also gave background on the implementation of the larger-scale statewide Longitudinal Data System being proposed by ITD, DPI, NDUS and several other state agencies.

Policy Reviews

GP-8/8E: Biennial Agenda Planning. The Council affirmed GP-8.

R-1 Continuous System Improvement: Dan reported that Qwest has awarded \$25,000 for grants to teachers for educational improvement. Grants of \$25,000 each will be awarded to 10 teachers on a competitive basis. This grant program will be administered by ETC staff.

Jody reported that the issues regarding PowerSchool in Grand Forks are being monitored to enable quicker resolution.

R-2 Coordinated Educational Technology System: Jody stated that the ability for schools will continue to receive Internet2/videoconference activities as a result of collaboration between NDSU and EduTech. Kim Owen moved from EduTech to NDSU as the Advanced Applications Coordinator. She will guide and facilitate these education enhancement activities for K20. Transferring this responsibility to higher education will relieve EduTech of some of the workload and resources necessary to continue these activities.

R-3 Distance Education Delivering Comprehensive Curriculum: Dan is requesting progress reports from the recipients of the video grant awards. He will be visiting the Rough Rider sites via video.

Jon highlighted the ND CDE consultant report and his recommendations included in the report. Two ND CDE employees were terminated. Both employees filed grievances with Dr. Lisa Feldner, both were denied. At this time, one employee has requested an administrative hearing. Additional details will be provided as available.

Jody reported that video scheduling problems have been occurring in professional development opportunities. As a result no video professional development will be offered during fall semester to give EduTech and ITD staff time to resolve technical difficulties.

R-4 Professional Development: Dan reported that the statewide contract for Atomic Learning will be discontinued at the end of July 2009. Schools currently using Atomic Learning will be provided a negotiated fee to continue their Atomic Learning use.

Jody said that EduTech provided schools a brochure on internet safety. Jody gave a presentation to the library media organization on AUP and the internet filtering policies and procedures contained in the brochure.

- a. R-5 System Integrity and Stability: Jody
Jody reported the work her staff completed in regarding system improvements.

Next Meeting is scheduled for November 21, 2008 via video 9:00 am-1:00 using the same sites.

Art adjourned the meeting at 11:30 am.

Debriefing: 7 sheets were returned. All responses indicated Satisfactory with two comments

- 1) from Cavalier – a lot of echo from Bismarck
- 2) don't ask for discussion on Consent Agenda