



# NESCS Joint Governing/Administrative Board Meeting

Wednesday, February 10, 2021, 12:30 p.m.  
Virtual Meeting – Via Zoom

Administrative & Governing Board Members present included Jay Slade, Dakota Prairie; Matt Bakke, Devils Lake; Steve Halldorson, Devils Lake; Frank Schill, Edmore; D'aulan Bussman, Fessenden/Bowden; Jeff Olson, Four Winds; Gil Black, Kensal; Dr. Doug Darling, LRSC; Rhandi Knudson, LRSE; Kevin Baumgarn, Lakota; Daren Christianson, Langdon Area; Robert Bubach, Munich; Dave Ambers, Minnewaukan; Brad Nash, Mount Pleasant-Rolla; Dr. Connie Hovendick, NDS; Jeff Hagler, North Star; Larry Volk, Starkweather; Jackie Thompson, Tate Topa; and Angela Brandt, Warwick.

Those not present: Todd Jorde, Dakota Prairie; Mark Huso, Lakota; Robert Thom, Leeds & Maddock; Jean Callahan, Minnewaukan; Janelle Carnahan, Mount Pleasant-Rolla; Jill Louters, New Rockford/Sheyenne; John Peters, North Star; Jordan Brown, Oberon; Robert Toso, Pingree/Buchanan; Wade Sherwin, Rolette; Carrie Hope, St. Alphonsus; Michelle Clouse, St. Joseph; Chris Berg, Starkweather; and Mary Langley, Warwick.

Others present: Jennifer Carlson, NESCS Executive Director; and Erin Lacina, NESCS Director of Professional learning and Operations.

## Welcome & Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Daren Christianson, Governing Board Vice President, at 12:31 p.m.

## Review of Agenda

One addition was made to the agenda by Matt Bakke: Honor Recognition Day. A motion was made by Dave Ambers to approve the agenda, Doug Darling seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Joint Board Minutes (10/12/2020) and November board update (11/16/2020).



A motion was made by Connie Hovendick and seconded by Dave Ambers to approve the October 12, 2020 NESCS Joint Board Minutes on pages 3-7 of the packet, motion carried.

Notes from the November board update were also included on pages 8-12.

## Financial Report

Jennifer Carlson reviewed the current NESCS and NYCP financial reports on pages 13-14. Jay Slade motioned to approve the financial report; Larry Volk seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## NESCS Operations

### Grants

#### 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Grant

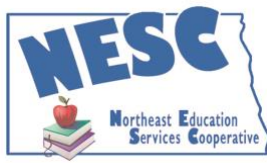
Jennifer Carlson has taken over as the NESCS 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC Director after the retirement of Julie Schuler on December 31, 2020. Jennifer Carlson and Erin Lacina will be splitting part of the duties of that position with general administration going to Carlson and programming duties to Lacina. The program had a successful monitoring visit from DPI in December 2020, with no recommendations for improvement or compliance issues. There was a quarterly meeting for site coordinators and principals on January 13, the next meeting will be held April 21. The NESCS [ConnectEd](#) program for 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC sites is up-and-running with live sessions on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:45-4:15 p.m. for grades K-2, 3-5, and 6-8.

#### ND Council on the Arts Grant

The NESCS was awarded an addendum to the original grant from the ND Council on the Arts (\$10,500 was the original grant, and recently an additional \$12,000 was awarded). The grant will fund artists to be featured through ConnectEd sessions this spring and summer. Schools are also encouraged to apply for grants that support the purchase of materials and supplies to complement the ConnectEd sessions. The NESCS will be sending out information and instructions on how to apply for this funding.

#### NYCP Grant Update

We are in the final year of the grant (year 4) which runs from October 1 – September 30.



## ESPB TSS Beginning Teacher Network Grant Update

The NESCS was awarded \$5,000 from the ND Education Standards and Practices Board for the Teacher Support System Beginning Teacher Grant. There will be two cohorts for first, second and third year teachers to participate. Information is included on pages 16-18 of the board packet.

## UND NSF Grant – Project ExCEED

UND (in partnership with the NESCS) was awarded a National Science Foundation grant. The project will provide professional learning and instructional supports for NESCS member schools, Devils Lake Central Middle School, Mt. Pleasant-Rolla and Rolette in engineering design and culturally relevant practices. The project may expand to other schools over the course of the three-year grant period. This grant will provide nearly \$90,000 in support for NESCS salaries over the next three years. The recent press release about the project is included on page 19.

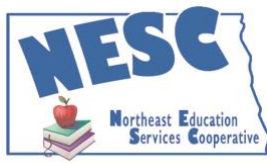
## GEER Grant

The NESCS applied for the Governors Emergency Education Relief funds that were available through a competitive grant application (submitted the end of October). The NESCS was awarded \$132,949 (this amount is lower than previously reported in November after a change from the Governor's office). The project that was approved is to transition existing NESCS K-12 student events and services into a virtual delivery model. These projects will be available to all NESCS member schools within the coming months, and certain projects will be available to all ND schools.

## Professional Learning

### Recess (Playworks) Series

Through the BCBSND Caring For Kids grant, the NESCS hosted multiple sessions this year to support educators involved with recess planning and supervision. Five workshops were available with multiple dates and times offered. Recordings of these sessions are available (information is on page 20). There is also an additional tool called "Keep Playing" that is available for all NESCS PreK-6 educators to access through Playworks that offers recess and SEL resources (valued at \$1500 per person – info is on page 21). The NESCS was asked to partner with Playworks for an additional grant proposal to Otto Bremer Trust seeking future funding for extended professional learning in 2021-2022.



### Steve Dunn Literacy Workshops

Multiple literacy workshops are available for teachers of grades K-12. Page 23 of the packet lists upcoming options.

### NDMTSS

The annual NDMTSS summer conference is scheduled for two days in June, either June 8-9 or June 9-10. The conference will be virtual with some big keynote speakers. Schools considering joining in NDMTSS next year could consider participating in the conference as a great introduction to NDMTSS. NESC staff have been involved with training for NDMTSS and are able to work with schools on various aspects of support.

### Phil Warrick (Marzano Resources) Webinar Series

This leadership series provides a focus on teacher evaluation supports and leadership topics. Page 24 has a listing of the upcoming sessions in February through May. Live attendance at the virtual event is encouraged, as recordings of sessions will be available for only two weeks after each event.

### Cognia - LINC Spring

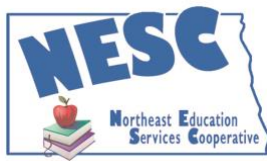
Pages 25-34 has a listing of various available training cycles from Cognia-LINC Spring to help teachers develop skills with topics such as assessment, PBL, remote learning, instructional models, mindset, and more. Discussion was held and administrators felt that this is great content and resources, but they have other priorities at this time and are not pushing other initiatives onto their staff, such as additional PD.

### NESC On-Site & Virtual Support

The NESC staff is available to schools for virtual professional learning supports, including before and after-school professional development. The staff is currently offering these services virtually, but we are planning to be available for in-person events when we are cleared to do-so at the local level. Contact Erin Lacina regarding needs.

### August 2021 Regional Fall In-service

The targeted dates for back-to-school regional workshops are Fridays August 13 and August 20. Several scenarios are being explored, but the most likely scenario will be a virtual event comprised of several shorter keynote sessions with the keynotes recorded so those not able to attend can watch at a later date. Several topics were mentioned including mental health for staff and students, equity, and Tier I instructional supports. We've also reached out to other REAs in the state to see if there's any interest in partnering for this event, if we go with the virtual format. We will be exploring options and will provide an update back to the board soon.



## District Date Requests for 2021-2022

Please let Erin know of any requests for on-site or virtual site/school specific PD requests for the 2021-2022 school year soon, as dates are filling up.

## Change in registration software: “[Growth Zone](#)”

The NESC has signed on with several of the other REAs in the state to start utilizing “Growth Zone” (GZ), an online registration and event management system. Events starting from July 2020 will be loaded into GZ and future events will use this system for registration. Each NESC school will have accounts for all of their staff members.

## Student Activities

### [NESC ConnectEd](#)

The website (<https://sites.google.com/nescnd.org/nescconnected/home>) was developed to host services provided by the NESC to afterschool sites across North Dakota. Resources can also be used for the regular-day classroom. Page 33 provides an overview on what is available to educators.

## College and Career-Readiness Supports

### Virtual Job Shadow

VJS is again available for all NESC students and educators in grades 7-12. Information on VJS is on page 34 of the packet. Contact Erin Lacina for more information.

### Keynote speaker videos

The College/Career Keynote Speaker videos are available for NESC schools to utilize, information is on page 35. These three keynotes are targeted to middle and high school students and are personalized to our region from presenter, Juan Bendana.

### Scrubs Camp

A virtual Scrubs Camp is being planned for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders in the region to be held on March 25. Currently there are over 600 students expected to attend. ND Career and Tech Ed awarded the NESC a STEM grant for this project, supporting the new aspects of virtual delivery including supplies required for each site to participate. The GEER grant is also funding the work to transition this to a virtual event.

### Building Tomorrow’s Leaders

The NESC will host the BTL event virtually for schools in the NESC and statewide, with supports through the DPI – BTL grant as well as the GEER grant from the governor’s



office. This program targets leadership groups in high schools and will include a service learning project for each group attending.

#### You're Hired

We will be hosting [You're Hired!](#) events for upper elementary through high school student groups to participate in this spring. This is another support from the GEER grant which is being converted to a virtual event. More information will be provided to schools as soon as it's finalized.

#### Other

##### Honor Recognition Day

Discussion was held if schools were interested in participating in a regional Honor Recognition Day which recognizes students with high achieving academics. Typically students are invited to LRSC to honor their achievements in the spring of each year. Contact Matt Bakke if interested.

##### Next NESC Board Meeting

Several suggestions were made to have the next NESC Board Meeting in-person. We will find a location to accommodate the meeting that is scheduled for April 14 at 12:30 p.m. in Devils Lake and will also offer it virtually.

##### Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 p.m.