Educational Services Unit No. 5

Board Minutes **October 12, 2026**

The Board of Educational Service Unit No.5 met on Monday, October 12, 2026 at the offices of ESU No. 5 in Beatrice, Nebraska. Prior to the board meeting, a presentation was given on the LETRS program by Sarah Roesler, Tricia Hintz, and Joni Runge.

Vice Chair Vicki Hinz-Ensz called the meeting to order at 6:44 p.m. Roll call was taken. Present were board members Vicki Hinz-Ensz, Duane Smith, Jeannine Murphy, Tim McAllister, Betty Meyer, Carla Loemker, Administrator Brenda McNiff, ESU Business Manager Jennifer Jung, and Board Recording Secretary Vicki Frerking. Board member Roger Smidt was absent.

Chair Ensz acknowledged that this was an open meeting in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and notice of such was published on the ESU 5 website the week of October 1, 2026. The Notice of Notices is published in the Hebron Journal Register and Beatrice Daily Sun newspapers four times a year

Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved to approve the agenda as presented; seconded by Tim McAllister. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Carla Loemker moved to approve the minutes of the September 2026 meeting; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Tim McAllister moved to approve the September Treasurer's Report and ratify payments in the amount of $775,762.71; seconded by Betty Meyer. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Old Business:

New Business:

Carla Loemker moved to approve out-of-state travel for Dr. Nick Ziegler and Dr. Brenda McNiff to attend the District Learning/World Language Program at the AESA Conference in Orlando, Florida December 2-5, 2026. They will be presenting at a break-out session; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved to approve out-of-state travel for Sarah Roesler to attend the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association National Convention in Indianapolis, November 19-21, 2026; seconded by Jeannine Murphy. Motion passed 6-0 on roll call vote.

The Regional Literacy Coach Job Description was presented. The second reading and approval will take place at the November meeting. No board action required at this reading.

Vicki Hinz-Ensz moved to declare miscellaneous end-of-life technology equipment as surplus and that it be disposed of properly; seconded by Betty Meyer. Motion passed 5-0 as Carla Loemker left the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Administrative Updates:

Administrator McNiff reported that Nick Zeigler has secured six Wal-Mart Love Education Grants to pay for 49 teacher registrations from 59 Nebraska school districts to attend the Nebraska Language Association - NDE Conference on October 17.

Dr. McNiff reported on possible education cuts that may be presented at the next legislative session.

Public Comment:

No one was in attendance to provide public comment on any items.

Adjournment:

With no further business, Vice-Chair Ensz adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m. The next board meeting will be November 9, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the offices of ESU No. 5.

Victoria Frerking, Board Recording Secretary
Educational Service Unit #5
Gage, Jefferson, Thayer Counties
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Brenda McNiff, Administrator
Educational Service Unit #5
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