



2007-2008 ANNUAL REPORT

FREMONT, NEBRASKA
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BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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MISSION STATEMENT

To advance educational excellence...
ESU #2, in partnership with area schools,
will provide visionary leadership and quality service for schools and students.

WE BELIEVE...

We exist to advance excellence in education
That cooperation is essential to an effective education system
That accountability builds trust
Our primary focus is meeting area schools needs
Our leadership and expertise enhance schools' ability to manage the present and
create a vision for the future
Communication is vital for interpersonal and organizational relationships
Individuals are to be treated with dignity and respect
Self-esteem is critical to the success of all individuals. . .

BOARD AND ADMINISTRATION ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2007-2008

- ESU2 staff provided leadership and participation in statewide committees (i.e. Distance Education, Coordinating Councils, Cooperative Purchasing) to provide efficient of delivery of State mandated and/or locally requested services.
- The ESU2 Improvement Process focused on both assisting schools with their individual School Improvement Plan; and trainings for ESU2 staff on topics as wellness, safety, archiving email, etc.
- An area school board member dinner and program (teachers presenting "Teaching Strategies That Work") was held with 64 in attendance (12 schools represented).



2008—2009 YEAR TARGET AREAS

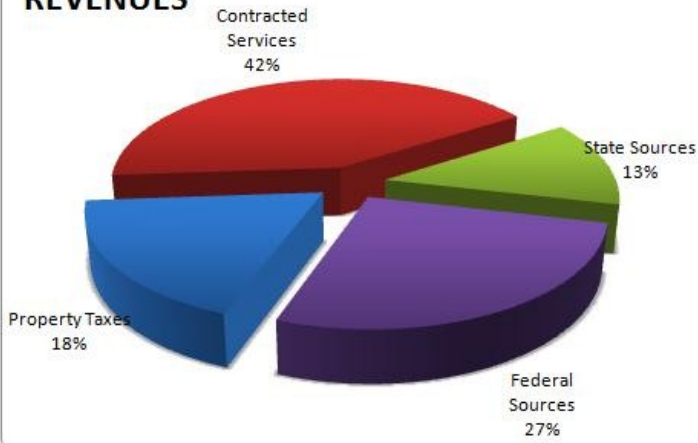
- The ESU2 Improvement Process will continue to focus on the three ESU2 goals (providing resources, on-site delivery, and developing LEA ownership of school improvement) by increasing contact with area school committees and leaders.
- Presentations and in-service trainings for ESU2 staff on identifying and better utilizing the individual and collective strengths for the improvement of services to schools.
- Coordinate trainings (with NCSA and ESU affiliate groups) to assist new administrators and teachers to be successful in their school districts.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

During 2007-2008, the ESU provided three counselors (1.90 FTE) whose services were shared by three school districts. The role of the counselor at the elementary level is one of early intervention such as group discussions on bullying, while the role of the counselor at the secondary level is directed to help students who have problems with self-discipline and coping with the daily challenges.



REVENUES



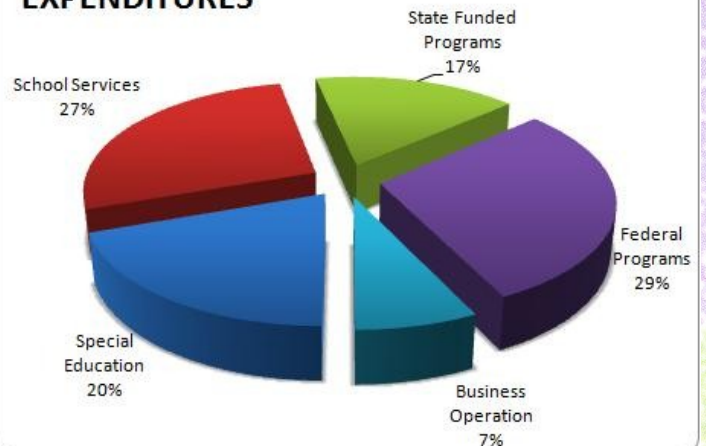
Revenues: 2007-2008

Property Taxes	\$ 967,585
Contracted Services	2,220,106
State Sources	672,729
Federal Sources	1,423,587
TOTAL	\$ 5,284,007

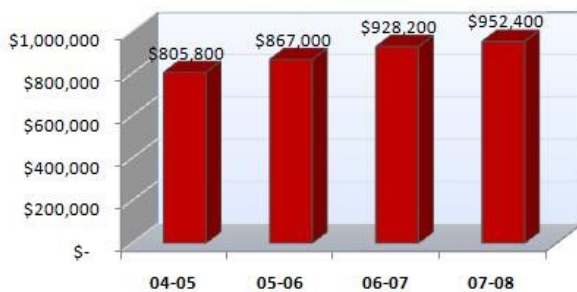
Expenditures: 2007-2008

Special Education	\$ 899,024
School Services	1,248,015
State Funded Programs	765,146
Federal Programs	1,348,231
Business/Operation	328,274
TOTAL	4,588,690

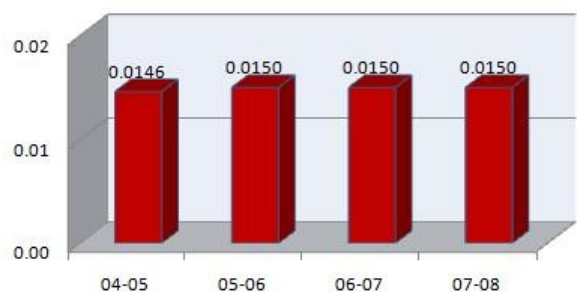
EXPENDITURES



Local Tax Request



LOCAL TAX LEVY





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

Our Mission: Provide the bridge to assist educators in meeting the challenges of guiding all students to achieving their highest potential.

- School Improvement
- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Assessment
- Leadership

Services provided by the Professional Development Center include staff development training, consultation with school administrative staff for professional development & school improvement, and support for schools with compliance for state & federal mandates. In addition to specific services in these core areas, the PDC has an excellent on-line library of professional resources available to educators and administrators.

Highlights 2007-2008

- Grant Writing & Management (STARS, Title I, Perkins, Title IV)
- Annual Spring Professional Development visits to each district to plan for professional development needs
- Response to Intervention (RtI) pilot process initiated with four ESU#2 districts involved.
- Staff development opportunities for improving Curriculum, Instruction & Assessment Literacy
- Kids Can Stop Bullying and Kids Can Be Heroes (anti-bullying workshops) for 4th and 7th students.
- Crisis Team training
- Support of Nebraska's State-Wide Math Grant
- STARS Consortium
- Implementation of DIBELS--Universal Screener- for a total of 15 of 18 school districts
- Trainings on supplementary interventions for reading instruction
- Instructional strategies for elementary reading teachers in the "Big-5" areas
- Continuation of New Teacher Academy and follow up training sessions
- Year 2 of Title I Professional Learning Community/Book Study



2007-2008 Target Areas

- Assist districts in developing their Response to Intervention (RtI) process
- Provide the necessary resources (i.e. curriculum, instruction, assessment, leadership, technology) to support the School Improvement Process (SIP) for each ESU2 district.
- Increase school-based delivery of services by Professional Development Center team in coordination with other ESU2 departments and each local school district.
- Assist schools in developing their capacity to increase local ownership of the School Improvement Process through PDC team coordination with local schools.

TITLE I SERVICES

The ESU #2 Title I Cooperative is served 10 school districts in 2007-2008. The total approved Title I budget was \$506,811. Eighteen certified teachers and three paraprofessionals provided Title I students the following:

- Grades 1-4 Reading-3 Schools
- Grades K-4 Reading-3 Schools
- Grades K-6 Reading and Math-3 Schools
- Grades 1-4 Reading and Math-1 School



SPECIAL EDUCATION

The ESU#2 Special Education Department provides area schools with needed services in:

- Cooperative Association of Special Education Services (CASES)
- Early Development Network (EDN) – Services Coordination
- Improving Learning for Children With Disabilities (ILCD)
- Program Consultation for 3 to 5 Year Olds
- Medicaid in the Public Schools (MIPS)
- Planning Region Grant
- Special Education Continuous Improvement Plan Grant (SCIP)
- Completion of Special Education State Forms
 - Final Financials
 - Rate Applications
 - Final Rates
 - IDEA Applications



Services provided by the Special Education Department include Rule 51 compliance, workshops for Special Education, consultation with districts on out-of-district student placements, assist with new program planning, facilitate Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings upon district's request, attend Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP), and supervision of ESU#2 staff in area districts.

Highlights 2007-2008

- Grant writing and management (Planning Region, Collaborative Grant, SCIP Grant, Autism Grant)
- Collaborated with Professional Development Center on Response to Intervention Pilot Project
- ABC's of Behavior
- Introduction to Autism
- Asperger's 101 Social Skills Training
- Using Evidence Based Capacity Building Practice Model in Early Childhood
- Workshop for staff working with Severe/Profound Students
- 504 Plans



2008-2009 Target Areas

- ILCD facilitator will assist school districts with merging their School Improvement Process and ILCD processes into one seamless improvement strategy.
- Special Education Department will continue to work with the ESU#2 Professional Development Center on the Response to Intervention Process with our pilot schools.
- To keep ESU#2 schools in compliance with Rule 51 regulations

Special Education 3-5 Year Olds

- Services provided to CASES schools
- 62 children at the end of 07-08 school year
- Sources of referrals: parents, preschool teachers, doctors, and day care providers
- Held Quarterly Preschool Teacher meetings at the ESU #2 for preschool teachers in our 4-county area for professional development, networking, and collaboration.
- Seven school districts have district operated, public preschools; one is an Early Childhood Grant-funded program
- Two additional school districts applied for and received the Early Childhood Grant for initiating a preschool for the 08-09 school year.
- 32 new children were referred for potential services.

Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities

- ESU #2 provides ILCD facilitator for all school districts in 4-county area
- 5 of the 18 school districts have completed the 5-Phase process and are preparing to begin the process again
- 6 of the 18 school districts have completed Phases 1-3 and are preparing to write improvement strategies
- 9 of the 18 school districts have merged School Improvement Process with the ILCD process





Early Development Network (EDN)

- ESU#2 serves all schools in Burt, Cuming, Dodge and Saunders Counties.
- 2 Full time Services Coordinators serve 4 counties. 1 Full time Service Coordinator serves the Fremont Public Schools families.
- 210 families were processed through EDN services in 07-08
- 35 Child Abuse Protection and Treatment Act (CAPTA) referrals were processed. CAPTA is a program with Health & Human Services that requires that any child, below age 3, determined to have a substantiated case of abuse or neglect is a mandated referral to the Early Development Network program.



CONSTITUTION IN AMERICAN HISTORY

- Federal Teaching American History Grant for the amount of \$1 million was awarded for a three year project in 2006.
- Six exceptional historians were selected to provide historical content for the three year project.



- Three themes will be explored; the formation of the constitution, the testing of the constitution through civil war, and the expansion of rights under the constitution.
- Over 40 educators from the NNNC service area were accepted into the program in the spring of 2007
- Year 1 was spent planning for implementation with meetings of project personnel and historians
- A summer 2007 week-long Constitution Boot Camp was held the summer of 2007.
- Fall workshop in September of 2007.
- Several of the grant participants visited Colonial Williamsburg in November of 2007.
- Participants worked in an on-line format during the school year to answer discussion topics.
- All grant participants traveled to Washington DC in June of 2008 for a 7 day tour of significant historic locations.



DISTANCE EDUCATION

- New Renovo scheduling software used for the first time in the 2008-09 school year.
- Conversion of classrooms to new IP format was completed in time for 2008 fall classes.
- Over 90 entities in the NNNC now have IP networks with seamless connectivity
- Universal Service Fund (e-rate) workshops conducted in all NNNC member ESUs.
- ESU #2 Special Education Updates delivered through Distance Learning meetings.
- Each NNNC member school was provided up to 100 accounts in Angel course management system for on-line collaboration with teachers and students.



TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The ESU 2 Technology Center oversaw the design, upgrade and deployment of a high speed data and distance learning network for NorthEast Nebraska Network Consortium (NNEC). The NNEC is a consortium of k12 Schools in the ESU 1,2,7,8 and 17 areas. The 2006-2007 network deployment was the first of a three phase development into Network Nebraska. During the 2008-2009 school year all remaining k12 schools and higher education institutions will complete phase three of the Network Nebraska Initiative. As a participating member of the NNEC, ESU 2 continues to provide assistance and problem resolution as an active participant in Network Nebraska.



In addition, the ESU 2 technology center continues to provide the support and services necessary to protect and utilize the high speed network services. Since schools now have at least 28 times more capacity with the new network the importance and sophistication of the offered services have expanded. The following is a brief breakdown of the services offered.

- Manage Internet access for schools in the ESU 2 area.
- Work in conjunction with other NNEC schools and Network Nebraska Institutions for reliable connectivity
- Distance Learning technical support
- Support and Manage Internet web based filtering
- Manage e-mail services including virus protection and anti-spam for over 8000 e-mail accounts.
- Consulting for Local Area Network design, deployment and monitoring
- Provide web home page co-location services
- Provide traditional Internet based services to include e-mail, Domain Name Servers and Internet routing
- Provide Microsoft and Apple server support.
- ESU 2 works as a cooperative with ESUs 1,2,7,8 and 17 for enhanced technical services through the NNEC (Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium).
- ESU 2 works as a cooperative on Network Nebraska teams and committees for deployment and enhancement of Network Nebraska.

2007-2008 GOALS

- The ESU 2 NOC (Network Operations Center) emphasizes network connectivity and security
- The new network demands improved network monitoring. The following are monitoring devices being installed offers assistance in network monitoring and management.
 - IDS (Intrusion Detection System)
 - Flow graphs which allow for pictorial interpretation of local site and global network utilization.
 - SNMP (Simple Network Management Protocol) deployment of school's network edge devices.
- The new network demands enhanced network security. Security measures to upgrade and deploy security systems which make the network safe and more reliable include enhancements to existing measures as well as new services. Network security is ongoing and the following will be enhancements to this security model.
 - Enhanced firewall features.
 - Formalized security reviews and audits.
 - Intrusion Detection System (IDS).
 - Evaluation for deployment of UTM (Unified Threat Management) Systems.
 - Wireless security and audits.
 - As our network grows this year we will concentrate on working with schools on the following service deployments:
 - 802.1x lan based security for wireless access and wired access to school's local area networks. ESU 2 will continue to concentrate on Internet security, but this year the focus will be site based security. The 802.1x protocol allows schools access control to their local area networks.
 - SIP and H323 gateway design and deployment. The deployment of distance learning carts and the integration of desktop microphones and cameras to the distance learning portion of this network will require controlling gateways and single points of access for these devices. SIP and H323 gateways and gatekeepers will help with this functionality.
 - Quality of Service (QOS) to include Layer 3 and Layer 2 support for both Data and Distance Learning. QOS insures that important data and distance learning traffic are prioritized according to school and network policies.



TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

- School personnel were trained for a state reporting program that expanded to electronically send data to the State. Nebraska Students and Staff Reporting System (NSSRS) required all public and non-public schools to create a unique student ID and turn in selected State reports.
- Five ESU's (1, 2, 6, 7 & 16) were awarded an EETT grant for student fitness. Schools in the grant will focus on monitoring heart rates and increasing the interest in physical fitness with middle-school aged students. Some hardware purchased will also benefit special education students with limited mobility.
- A fourth school in our ESU is involved in the Learning Web program that combines Marzano's research and innovative technology programs.
- Schools continue their work with Curriculum Mapper and Angel that require staff training.
- Multiple sessions on Podcasting were held and staff and students created podcasts that have been shared with their community.
- The Perkins' schools had an emphasis in learning this technique.
- We planned and participated in a two-day summer NNNC Summer Technology workshop that focused on ways technology could help teachers and students.
- Schools have individually requested programs on Digital Storytelling, Photoshop Elements, Cameras and Microsoft Office elements.



MEDIA SERVICES

- The media department continued to grow with the addition of 145 new DVD titles this year, complete with rights to duplicate for classroom usage. This collection of dvds covered many different aspects of education from Language Arts issues to help with reinforcing the new standards being set at the state level this year, Other areas given consideration were career education, family & consumer science, math, science, and history (strong influence in works of the Constitution). All new video titles included the state standards, which serve as a guideline for our teachers to use in their curriculum area. With Language Arts being reinforced in all the schools this year, at all levels, many of the titles reflected reading, writing and comprehension.
- Due to the success of putting our media catalog and booking capabilities on the web, we have found our video library is being utilized more frequently than past years. Teachers and paraprofessionals now search by title, producer, series, by State Standards as well as awards offered for those titles, such as Newberry, Golden Sower, etc. The system is working better than anticipated and has been an asset in running the van deliveries more efficiently along with tracking our inventory in and outside the building. Teachers have been very open to this concept and usage has already increased. Power Media Plus came into play this year and all affected staff throughout our Unit have been added to PMP for their usage in the system.
- Media meetings and workshops are in conjunction with the NNNC schools. This year IMAT renewed the contract for video streaming with Power Media Plus. All videos will eventually be downloaded to a server and shown in the classroom.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2007 – 2008:

- 145 new dvd titles with state or national standard attached as a guideline for curriculum were purchased under the state-wide CONESU Spring Buy.
- Power Media Plus is in place and work is being done with the servers. All patrons have been added to the system for on-line video streaming.
- Online booking was made available to all approved staff in all buildings.
- Media meetings and workshops were conducted to keep our media specialists up-to-date on the latest software, video/dvd titles, copyright laws and web-based instruction

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

- In 2007-2008, the schools in Educational Service Unit No. 2 purchased \$232,084.01 of supplies/equipment and \$67,884.12 of paper through this program. Total purchases for the annual buys was \$299,968.13. The savings to the schools was 40% to 45% under listed retail price.
- The total for the year round buys, which are food purchases, custodial purchases, and special purchases was \$1,509,872.97
- Year round and annual cooperative buys are now online. All materials are ordered through the cooperative website and has made the Coop ordering process to be very efficient.





Ashland Greenwood
 Bancroft Rosalie
 Cedar Bluffs
 Dodge
 Fremont
 Logan View
 Lyons Decatur NE
 Mead
 North Bend Central
 Oakland Craig
 Raymond Central
 Scribner Central
 Tekamah Herman
 West Point/Beemer
 Wahoo
 Wisner Pilger
 Yutan

SCHOOL SERVICES

Building Capacity Grant	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
CASES (SPED)		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
CIAH Grant	✓	✓	✓		✓					✓	✓				✓	✓		✓	✓
COOP Purchasing	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Counselors					!					!					!				
CSPD Grant	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Distance Education	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE	DE
ILCD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Internet DNS	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Internet E-mail	☺	☺	☺	☺		☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Internet Filtering	☺	☺	☺	☺		☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Internet/Network Tech	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
K12 TLC Website	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12	K12
LAN Consultant	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PDC On-Site Training	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!
PDC Consultation	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!
Perkins Grant		\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$					\$
Printing and Production	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Region 2 & 25 Grant (SPED)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Regional Training	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!
RUS Grant	\$	\$	\$									\$			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Science Fair	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓			✓	✓						
SCIP Grant (SPED)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
SDFS Grant			\$				\$	\$						\$	\$				
Service Credit Dollars	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Services Coordination	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
STAR Grant		+	+				+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Student Record System-SRS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Teacher Center	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
TECH Workshops	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Title I Consortium			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
USF Fund Consult	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Van Routes	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Video/DVD Buy Coop	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Video/DVD Dubbing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Web Media Catalog	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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