

Educational Service Unit **2**



Leadership
Quality
Commitment
mission
belief
Learning
partnership
Collaboration
Education

SERVICE

Communication



ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011



ANNUAL REPORT



Education is an essential building block —perhaps the cornerstone— of a free and progressive nation. Education for the 21st century is a pretty tall order, meaning much is expected of our K-12 public system and its professional administrators and educators —No Child Left Behind is the philosophical bottom line.

A network of 17 regional Nebraska educational service units are support systems, trusted partners, for their local public school districts and for each other in the fulfillment of this mission.

Educational Service Unit 2 collaborates with 17 districts in the counties of Burt, Cuming, Dodge and Saunders to provide a comprehensive program of services that includes but is not limited to CORE expectations historically defined and funded by State and

Federal government to facilitate educational advancements associated with technology innovations, lifelong professional development, and social advocacy on behalf of all children.

Schooling expectations are constantly being refined and redefined.

Educational Service Unit 2 professionals have their eyes on the horizon and are committed to helping schools keep pace, not only anticipating the universal but also responding to the unique needs of our schools and their professionals and students, all the while maximizing operational and economical efficiencies through consortiums, partnerships and grants.



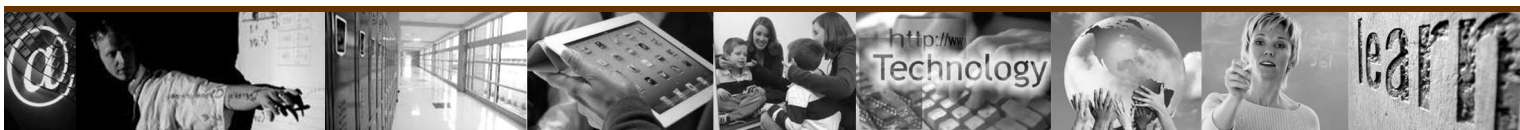
In the pages of this annual report, readers will glimpse a narrative and numerical account of our Commitment to Quality Service mission as it manifests itself in each of four service areas that, collectively, provide schools with the comprehensive training and current resources essential to meeting the goals outlined in their Continuous Improvement Programs.

We, along with the Board of Directors, strive to exemplify in the character and conduct of our working relationships a core belief in Communication, Education, Leadership, and Collaboration with a constant vision to developing effective partnerships while providing leadership and learning for all.

Vern Gibson, President
Harlan Schrieber, Secretary
Rich McGill
Ed Rastovski

Dean Chase, Vice President
Ron Briggs
Doug Nabb
George Robertson

David M. Ludwig
Administrator





FISCAL 2010-2011 YEAR

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

David Ludwig, Administrator

Administrative services provide for the overall leadership and supervision of ESU 2 activities, the implementation of Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) delegated responsibilities, and coordination of requested activities, including but not limited to the following:

- ◆ Administrator in-service, legal assistance, and special projects
- ◆ Visionary planning to provide needed services to ESU 2 Schools
- ◆ Fiscal management for Federal grant consortiums
- ◆ Statewide leadership in development of the Continuous Improvement Process
- ◆ Coordinate in-services, workshops and community use of the facility

| Personnel | 2009-10 | 2010-11 | 2011-12 | Funding |
|--------------------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Administrator | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | Levy |
| Business Manager | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | Levy/Fed |
| Administrative Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.46 | Levy/Fed |
| | 3.00 | 3.00 | 2.46 | |

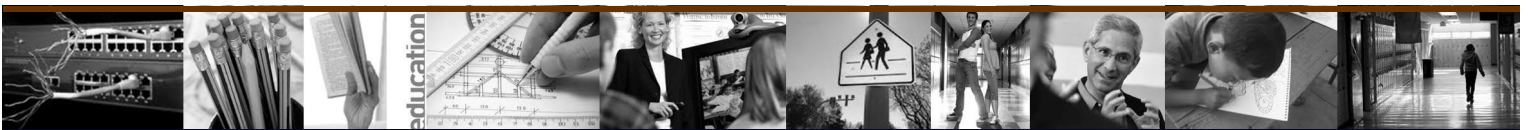
2010-2011 YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1) ESU 2 staff provided leadership and participation in statewide committees (i.e. Distance Education, Coordinating Councils, Legislative, Teacher/Principal Standards, Rule 84 revision) designed to provide efficient delivery of State mandated and/or locally requested services.
- 2) The ESU 2 Improvement Process focused on the following three goals: Shared Purpose, Communication, and Data. Progress made with the Continuous Improvement Process was provided through the effort of ESU 2 committees.
- 3) An ESU 2 School Board Member Dinner & Information Night was held with 59 area School District Administrators and School Board Members in attendance. Representatives from 10 of the 17 ESU 2 Schools participated in a presentation by Dr.

Roger Breed, NDE Commissioner of Education, entitled "Education Issues: State of Education Address."

2011-2012 YEAR TARGET AREAS

- 1) The ESU 2 Continuous Improvement Process will continue with a focus on the following three goals: Shared Purpose, Communication, and Data. Action plans for each goal will be used for the improvement of services and support to ESU 2 schools.
- 2) ESU 2 Staff will continue to provide the leadership and support essential for the effective delivery of services to ESU 2 schools.
- 3) ESU 2 Staff will coordinate professional staff development opportunities with NDE to assist ESU 2 Schools. (i.e. Teacher/Principal Standards, Teacher/Principal Evaluations, assessment, data collection)





SPECIAL EDUCATION SERVICES

Theresa Ferg, Director

Through an area cooperative (CASES), the Special Education Department provides area schools with individualized assistance and services in:

- ◆ Special Education Administrative Services
- ◆ 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 #225
- ◆ Fremont Area Autism Grant
- ◆ Facilitate meetings with non-public schools
- ◆ Special Education Continuous Improvement Plan Grant (SCIP)
- ◆ Completion of Special Education State Forms
- ◆ Final Financials
- ◆ IDEA Applications
- ◆ Rule 51 compliance
- ◆ Workshops for Special Education
- ◆ Consultation with districts on out-of-district student placements
- ◆ Assistance with new program planning
- ◆ Facilitation of Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) meetings and attendance at Individual Education Plan (IEP) and Individual Family Service Plans (IFSP) meetings
- ◆ Supervision of ESU 2 staff serving districts

| <u>Personnel</u> | <u>2009-10</u> | <u>2010-11</u> | <u>2011-12</u> | <u>Funding</u> |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | User |
| Consultants (Pre & ILCD) | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | User/Fed |
| Department Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | User |
| Service Coordinators | 3.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 | Fed |
| Psychologists | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 | User |
| Speech Pathologists | 6.60 | 8.60 | 7.80 | User |
| Behavioral Counselors | 2.10 | 2.10 | 1.60 | User |
| | 19.70 | 22.70 | 21.40 | |

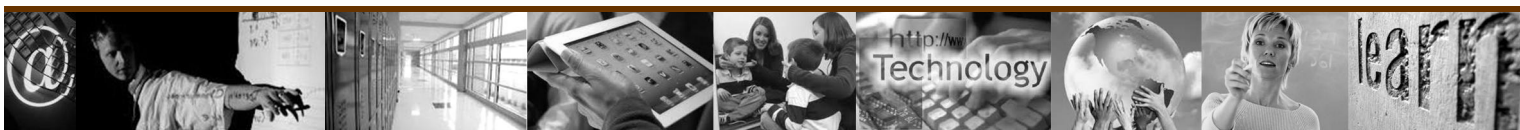
2010-2011 YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

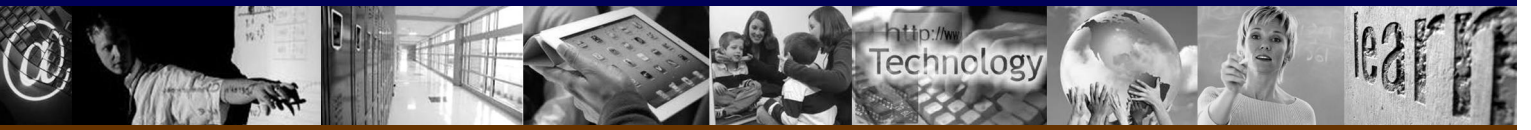
- 1) Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities (ILCD) facilitator provided continued assistance for school districts merging their School Improvement Process and ILCD processes into an ongoing improvement strategy.

ESU 2 provides ILCD facilitation for all school districts in the 4-county area.

- ◆ 6 of the 18 school districts completed a file review and wrote a corrective action plan (as warranted)

(Continued on page 5)





FISCAL 2010–2011 YEAR

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- ◆ 8 school districts completed their Data Analysis for the 10-11 school year
- 1) The Special Education Department collaborated with ESU 2 Professional Development Center to support schools in the Response to Intervention (RtI) process.
- 2) ESU 2 collaborated with professors at Midland University to co-sponsor the annual Eastern NE Transition Conference .
- 3) Additional ESU 2-sponsored free-of-charge special interest workshops for high school students, parents, and Resource staff employed by area schools afforded participants information on
 - ◆ the role of services agencies in the transition process and contact information
 - ◆ how to write transition goals and Summary of Performance,
 - ◆ self advocacy for high school and beyond
 - ◆ personal learning inventories with students, and
 - ◆ activities for Life Skills classes and curriculums via a a Make N Take workshop
- 4) SCIP grant funds were utilized to provide Transition reference materials for checkout by teachers and parents.

- 5) The Early Development Network (EDN) - Birth to Three Program has four full-time Service Coordinators who serve all schools in Burt, Cuming, Dodge and Saunders counties. Two of these coordinators serve Fremont Public Schools' families.

- ◆ 201 families were processed through EDN services in 10-11
- ◆ 35 Child Abuse Protection and Treatment Act (CAPTA) referrals were processed. CAPTA is a program with Health & Human Services that requires any child below age 3 determined to have a substantiated case of abuse or neglect, to be referred (mandated) to the Early Development Network program

2011-2012 YEAR TARGET AREAS

- 1) Provide technology and staff development opportunities for Special Education Staff.
- 2) To promote Childfind efforts for children birth to age 5 by utilizing Planning Region 225 and SCIP Grant funds.
- 3) To collaborate with ESU 1, 3, 7 and 8 to provide a Transition Conference for students entering post-secondary education or the workforce.





PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Jeff Hallstrom, Director

Professional development services provide for the management and coordination of Core services with federal grant funds for ESU 2 School projects, including but not limited to the following:

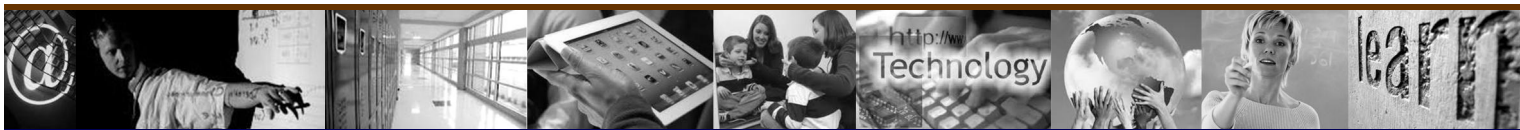
- ◆ Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, and Leadership support
- ◆ Coordinate and Deliver Staff Development with ESU 2 Schools
- ◆ Support/Assist ESU 2 Schools with the Continuous Improvement Process (CIP)
- ◆ Administration and Coordination of Federal Grants/Programs such as Title I, Perkins, Special Education Continuous Improvement Process (SCIP), Comprehensive System of Personnel Development (CSPD)

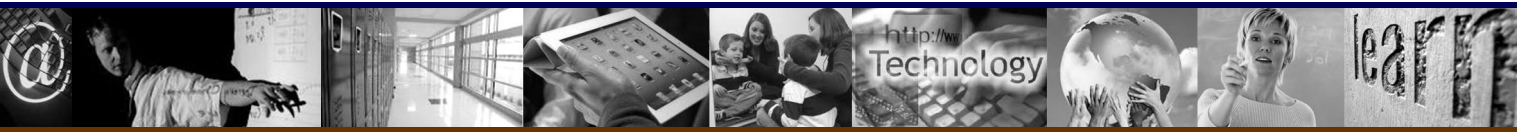
| <u>Personnel</u> | <u>2009-10</u> | <u>2010-11</u> | <u>2011-12</u> | <u>Funding</u> |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | Core/Fed |
| Consultants | 4.00 | 4.00 | 4.00 | Core/Fed |
| Department Assistant | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.54 | Core |
| | 6.00 | 6.00 | 5.54 | |

2010-2011 YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1) Staff initiated an electronic walkthrough process. Training was done with principals on how to develop a walkthrough form and how to use electronic devices (iTouch, iPad) to collect and share walkthrough data. Additionally, PDC team members conducted walkthroughs with teachers from multiple districts who had participated in ESU 2 trainings (reading strategies, differentiated instruction, and classroom management). The PDC Team will use walkthrough data to improve in-service delivery, content and to assess the level of implementation in the classroom.
- 2) An instructional coaching model was implemented and supported with two ESU 2 districts. Three additional districts with be added in 2011-2012.
- 3) Staff continues to collaborate and support the development and implementation of Response to Intervention (RtI) in elementary reading. Additionally, eight districts are being supported in their development of School Wide Positive Behavioral and Interventions Support.
- 4) PDC staff participated in and provided leadership in statewide professional learning networks, state standards writing, assessment and statewide Science and Math grants.
- 5) Implementation of Cross-District Collaboration Cadres (CDCC). This structure creates an opportunity for non-core (Art, Music, PE) teachers to collaborate using on-line tools.
- 6) The ESU 2 Title I cooperative served 10 school districts in the 2010-2011 school

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FISCAL 2010–2011 YEAR

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(Continued from page 6)

year; the total approved budget was \$561,463. Twelve certified teachers and two paraprofessionals in 14 elementary buildings provided services to students as follows:

- ◆ 9 buildings at K-6 in reading & math
- ◆ 2 buildings at K- 6 in reading only
- ◆ 2 buildings at 1-3 in reading only
- ◆ 1 building at K-4 in reading and math

- 7) The Perkins Grant has typically provided Career teachers with professional development opportunities and equipment. The grant has now evolved to include agreements with community colleges that extend career opportunities directly to students. The consortium currently serves 11 schools and has working agreements with Northeast Community College and Metro Community College.
- 8) Annually, a school in our ESU becomes involved in the Learning Web program, which combines Marzano's Learning research with innovative technology programs. Throughout a two-year period, five staff members attend a state-wide technology conference in the spring and a regional two-day conference in the summer. They demonstrate how the project they chose uses technology to enhance their school goals. Some hardware and software is usually purchased, and staff is trained.
- 9) School personnel were trained on an electronic data reporting system. The Nebraska Students and Staff Reporting System (NSSRS) requires Nebraska public

and non-public schools to create unique student IDs and to complete State reports via a data portal.

- 10) Multiple podcasting and digital recording how-to workshops for staff and students were held, and resulting podcasts and stories were shared with their communities. By engaging students in their learning, a higher level of understanding and increased retention develops.
- 11) School personnel continue to receive training to utilize a learning management system (Angel) either in conjunction with distance education video conference technology or singly to introduce students to online teaching-learning environments.

2011-2012 YEAR TARGET AREAS

- 1) Provide the necessary resources (i.e. curriculum, instruction, assessment, leadership, technology) to support the Continuous Improvement Process (CIP) for each ESU 2 school district.
- 2) Increase school-based delivery of services by Professional Development Center team coordination with other ESU 2 departments and each local school district.
- 3) Assist schools in developing their capacity to increase local ownership of the School Improvement Process through PDC coordination with local schools.
- 4) Response to Intervention support to districts through multi-district meetings at ESU 2, along with personalized support at district-level meetings and state-wide trainings.





TECHNOLOGY: INTERNET SERVICES

Mike Danahy, Director

The Network Operations Center (NOC) provides engineering and technical assistance support for the existing Internet system and management and coordination of the following:

- ◆ Web based filtering for content and viruses
- ◆ Planning and design for school broadband Internet access & distance learning
- ◆ Network security monitoring and intervention
- ◆ School computer systems support for Macintosh and Microsoft systems
- ◆ Local Area Network (LAN) design and consulting

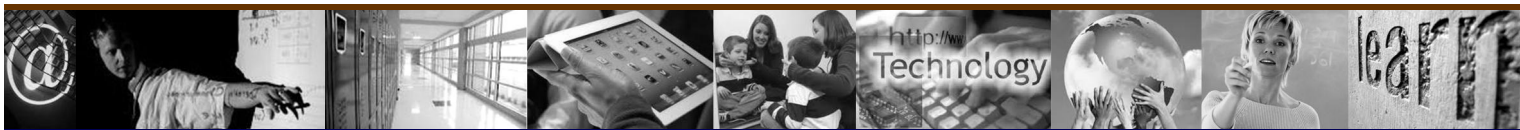
| <u>Personnel</u> | <u>2009-10</u> | <u>2010-11</u> | <u>2011-12</u> | <u>Funding</u> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Director (Systems Engineer) | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | User/Levy |
| Technicians (Internet) | 2.00 | 2.00 | 2.00 | Core/Levy |
| Technician (Web & Email) | 1.00 | 0.50 | 0.50 | Core/Levy |
| | 4.00 | 3.50 | 3.50 | |

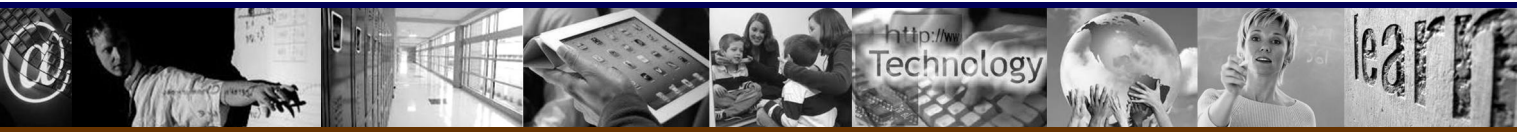
2010-2011 YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1) ESU 2 Staff, in response to the incorporation of a Unified Threat Management System (UTM), began developing and testing a beta device for incorporation into the ESU 2 School Districts Internet Head End.
- 2) ESU 2 NOC Staff began the process of certification in the following area: servers, networking and security.
- 3) ESU 2 began the process to incorporate mobile devices within the ESU 2 schools.
- 4) Upon conclusion of the 2010-11 school year, ESU 2 deployed the Zimbra Unified Communications System with an integrated mobile device system.

2011-2012 YEAR TARGET AREAS

- 1) ESU 2 Staff will continue to deploy a Unified Threat Management System (UTM).
- 2) ESU 2 Staff will continue the certification process for ESU 2 NOC members in the following areas: servers, networking, and security.
- 3) ESU 2 will continue to provide support for incorporating mobile devices within ESU 2 Schools.





FISCAL 2010–2011 YEAR

TECHNOLOGY: MEDIA SERVICES

Diane Wolfe, Director

Media services provides for access, coordination, distribution and production of the following:

- ◆ Instructional media materials, by means of statewide ESU and ESU2 schools partnerships
- ◆ Distance learning classroom technologies and systems for schools in ESU's 1 & 2
- ◆ Purchasing and delivery of school supplies, by means of a statewide ESU cooperative
- ◆ Fee-based large format and high volume printing, binding and lamination services
- ◆ Teaching American history grant projects for teachers

| <u>Personnel</u> | <u>2009-10</u> | <u>2010-11</u> | <u>2011-12</u> | <u>Funding</u> |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Director | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | Fed/User |
| Media Shipping/Coop Clerk | 0.90 | 0.90 | 0.50 | Core/User |
| Production Clerk | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.50 | Core/User |
| Teacher Center Clerk | 0.70 | 0.50 | 0.00 | User |
| Van Delivery Drivers | 0.40 | 0.40 | 0.00 | Core |
| Department Assistant - Grant | 0.00 | 0.50 | 0.50 | Fed |
| | 4.00 | 4.30 | 2.50 | |

2010-2011 YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- 1) ESU 2 received a fourth Teaching American History Grant. This 5-year project provides professional development for teachers of American History and emphasizes the integration of media and technology into classroom instruction.
- 2) ESU 2 provided several new online resources for area schools including World Book On-line, Gale Databases, and Visual Thesaurus.
- 3) ESU 2, in financial partnership with member schools, chose to move forward with providing Discovery Education Plus for the 2011-2012 academic year.
- 4) In 2010-2011 the schools in ESU 2 purchased supplies and equipment totaling \$223,708.18 and paper totaling \$40,425.53 through the Nebraska ESU Cooperative

Purchasing Program. Total purchase at cooperative catalog prices was \$264,133.71 as compared to \$586,495.50 at list price, providing a 50% savings to our ESU 2 schools.

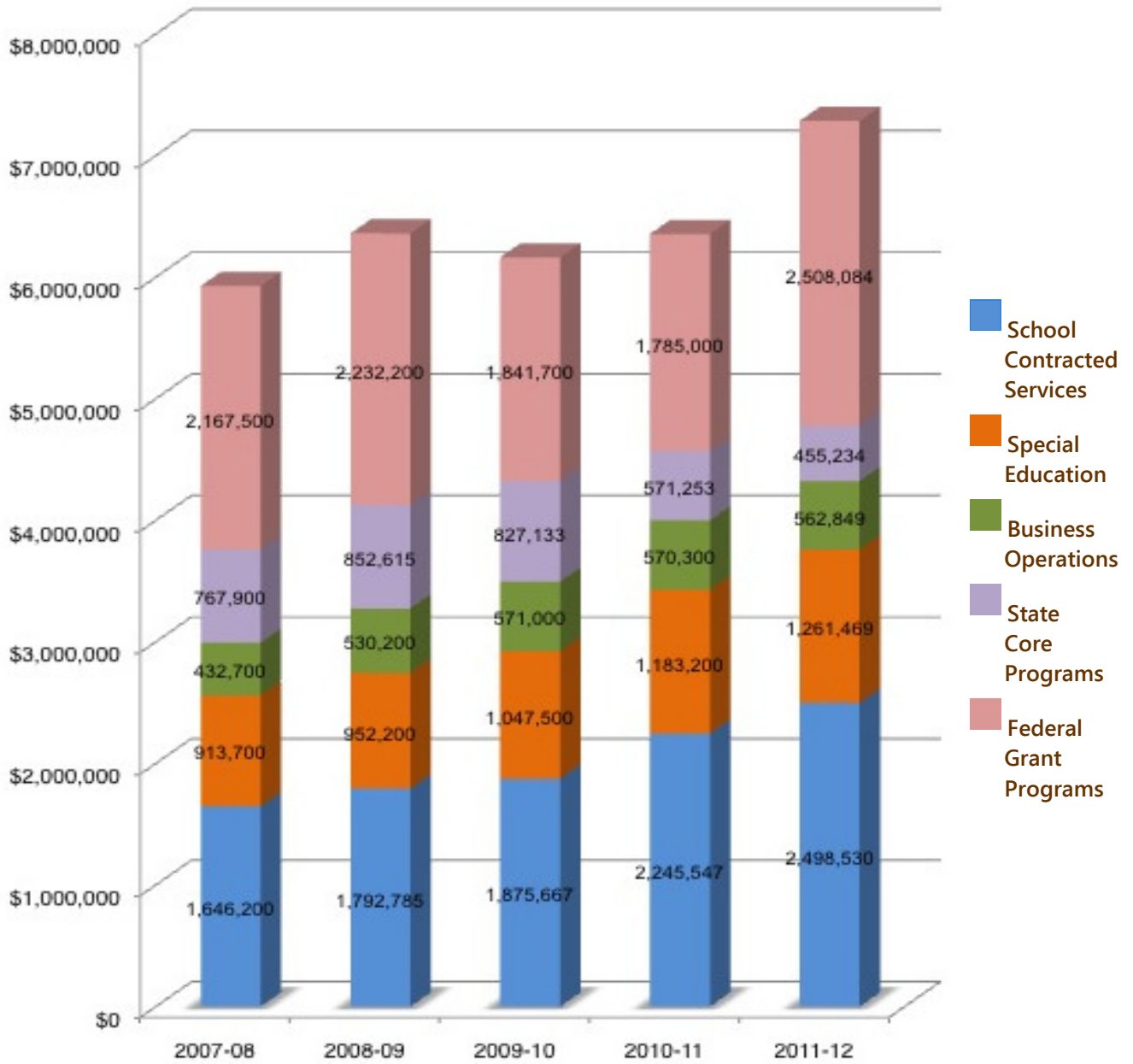
2011-2012 YEAR TARGET AREAS

- 1) Explore and expand the use of desktop video conferencing to ESU 2 Schools through collaborative efforts with other NNNC members.
- 2) Provide training and support to area schools to fully implement on-line resources to include Discovery Education, Gale Data Bases, Visual Thesaurus, and World Book On-Line.
- 3) Expand enrichment partnerships and opportunities to schools through video conferencing and strategic partnerships.

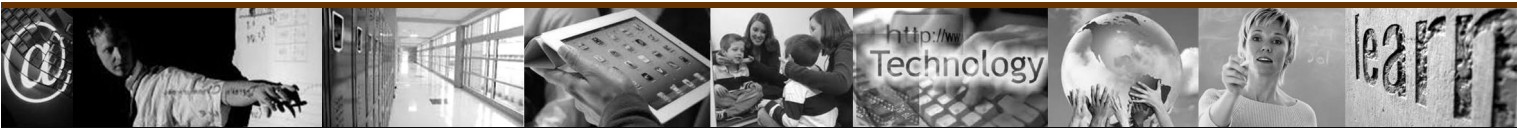


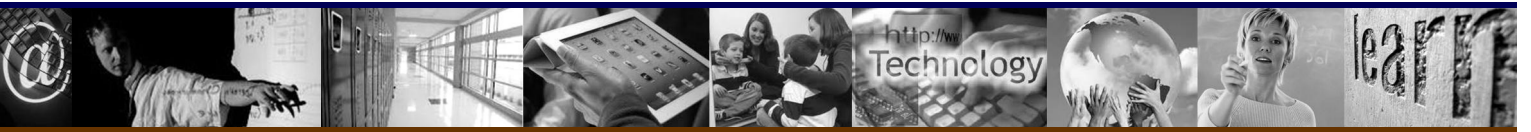


BUDGET EXPENDITURES



Leadership

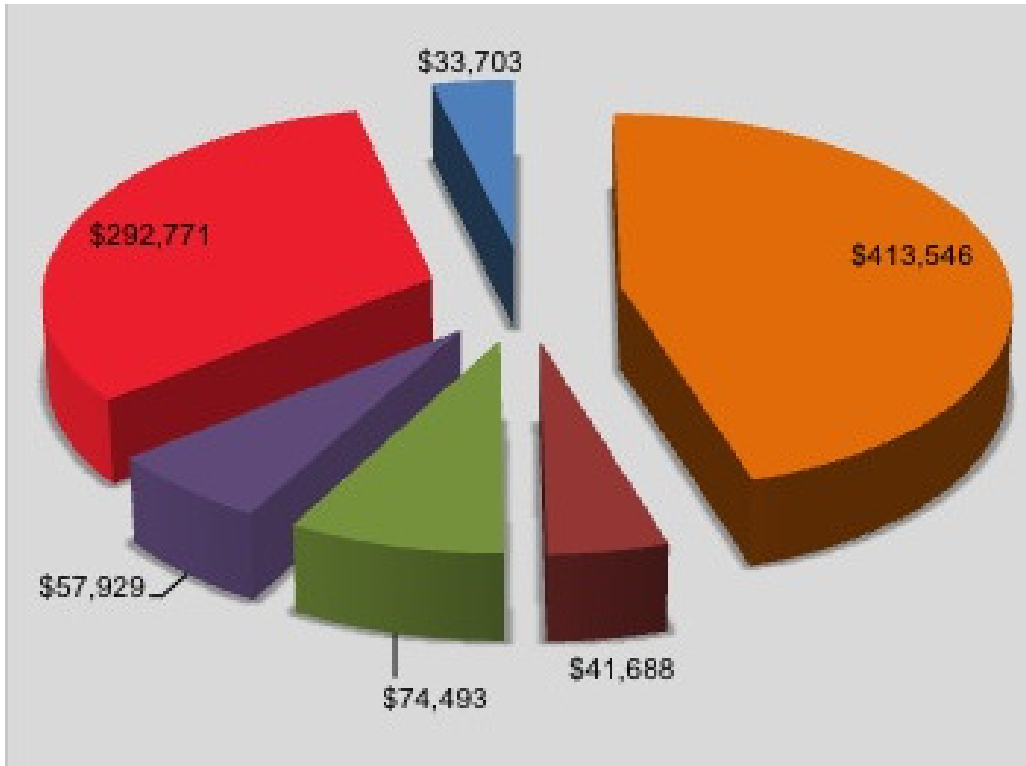




FISCAL 2010-2011 YEAR

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CORE PROJECTS



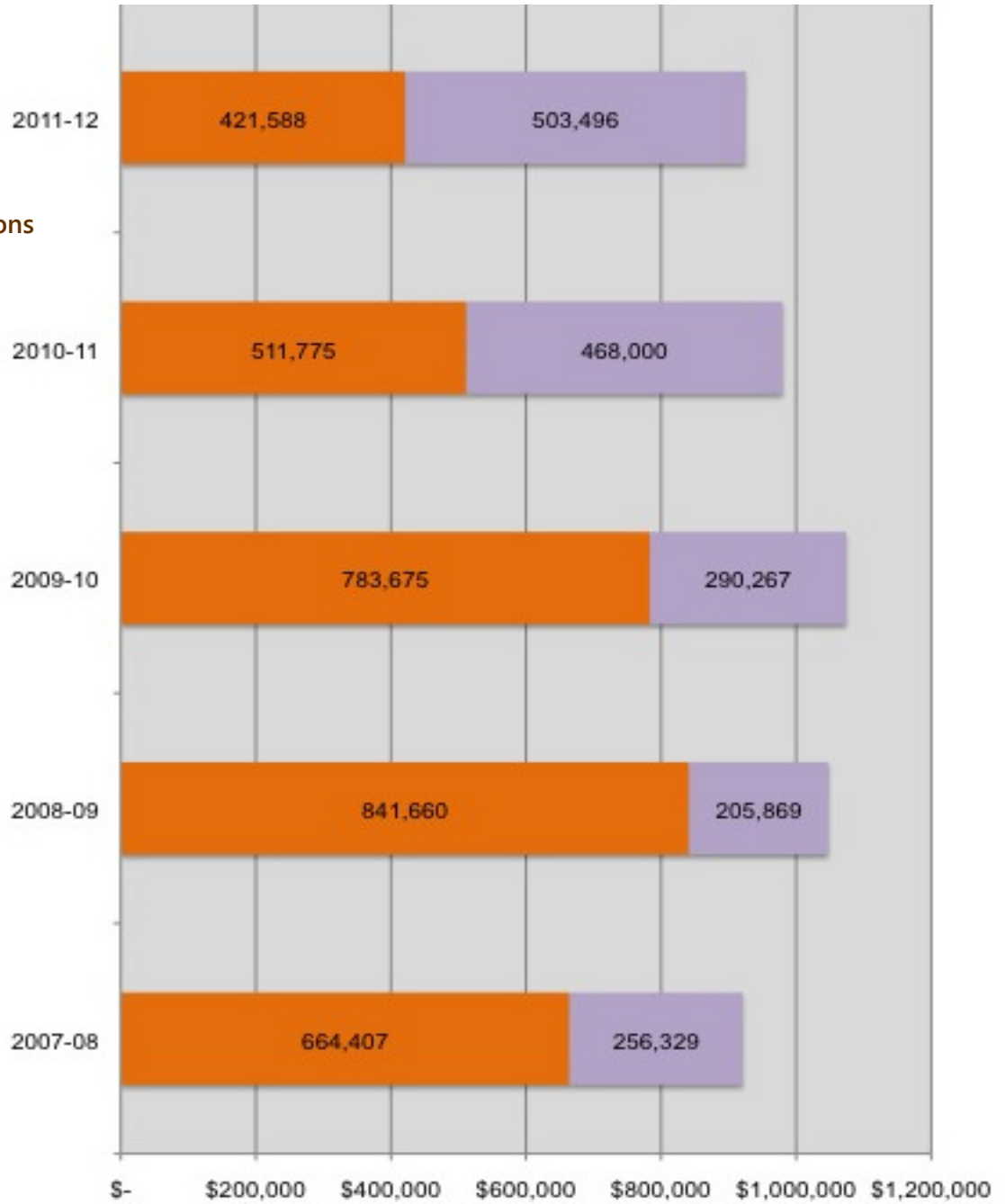
- Staff Development CORE Funds
- Tech Training CORE Funds
- Tech Training Local Levy Funds
- Instructional Materials Local Levy Funds
- Internet Connectivity Local Levy Funds



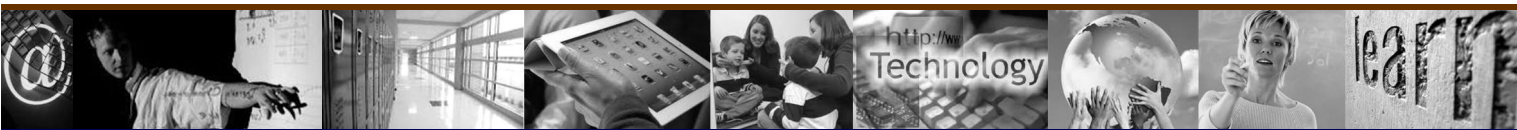


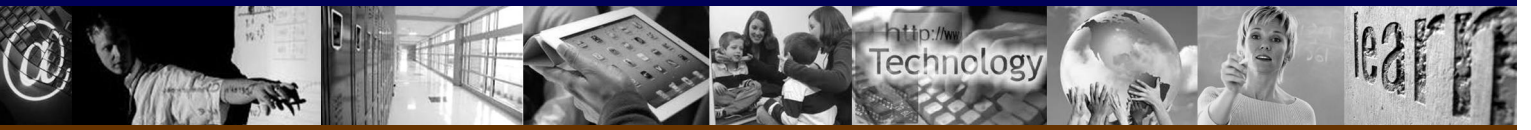
CORE SERVICES FUNDING

- State Core Service & Telecommunications Funding
- Local ESU 2 Levy Dollars



Leadership
to Quality
Commitment

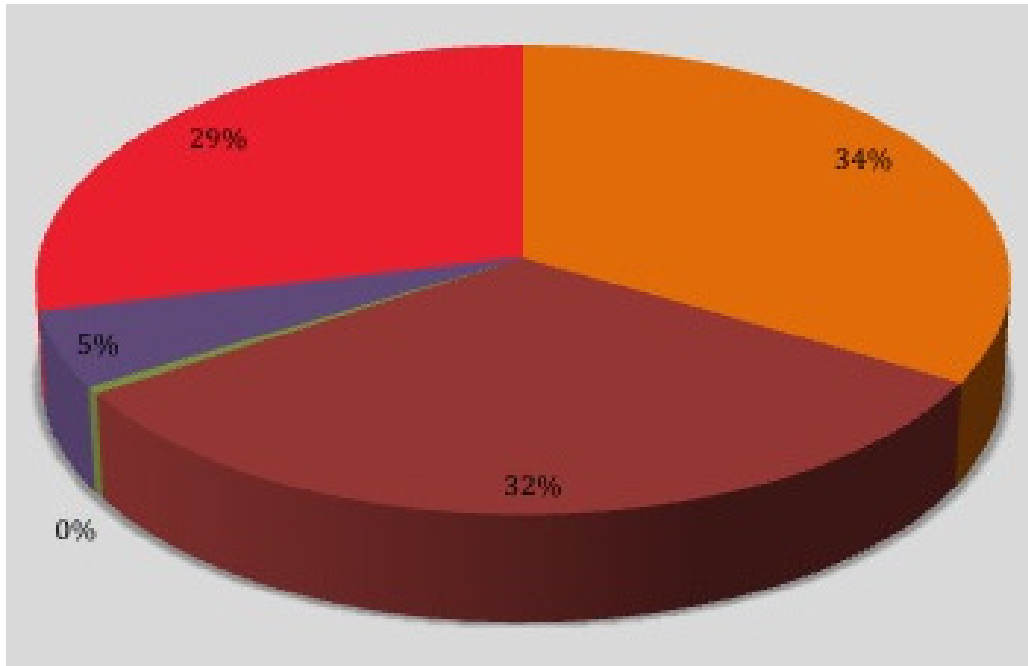




FISCAL 2010-2011 YEAR

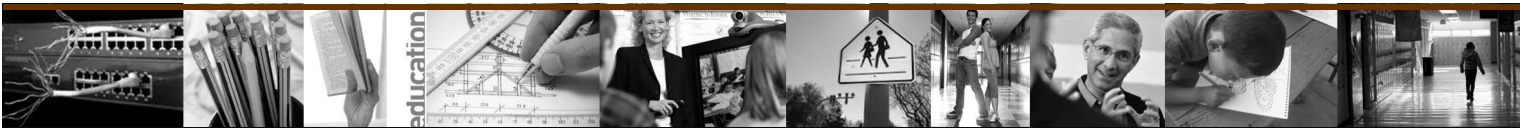
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LEVY FUNDS



- ESU 2 Governance & Operation
- Infrastructure & Distance Education (Extra Support)
- Teacher & Staff Support Services
- Service Credit—Counselors
- Service Credit—School Services

Learning
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develop
partnerships
Collaboration
Leader
beliefs



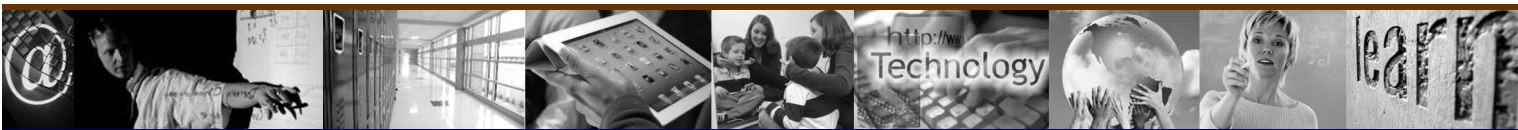


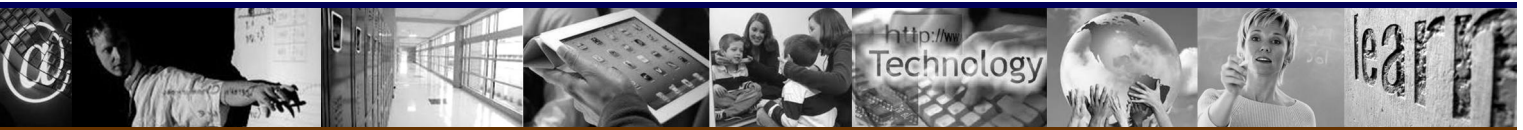
SUMMARY OF SERVICES

This table alphabetically summarizes the primary CORE and district-requested CIP services described in the preceding pages and illustrates the extent to which these are utilized by individual districts.

| | Ashland | Bancroft | Cedar Bluffs | Lyons | North Bend | North Decatur | Oakland | Raymond | Tekamah | West Point | Wisner | Yutan |
|---|-----------|----------|--------------|---------|------------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|------------|--------|--------|
| | Greenwood | Rosalie | Dodge | Fremont | View | NE | Central | Central | Snyder | Herman | Beemer | Pilger |
| | | | | | | | Mead | Craig | | | Wahoo | |
| SCHOOL SERVICES | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Autism Grant | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Behavioral Counselors | | | | | x | | | | | | x | |
| Cooperative Purchasing | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Distance Education & Online Learning Technology | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Early Childhood Services Coordination | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Instructional Media Materials, Online & ESU2 Lending Library | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Internet Domain Name Service | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Internet Email | | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | | x | x |
| Internet Filtering | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Internet/Wide Area Network Management | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Local Area Network Consultation | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Professional Development Training & Consultation | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Perkins Grant | | x | | | | x | x | | x | | x | x |
| Printing & Production | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Planning Region 225 Grant | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Regional Training | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Special Ed Continuous Improvement Project Grant | x | x | x | x | | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Service Credit Dollars | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Special Education Services | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Student Record System | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Teacher Center (final year) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Technology Training | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Title I Consortium | | | x | x | | x | | x | x | | x | |
| USF-SLD (E-Rate) Consultation | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |
| Van Route (final year) | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x | x |

Leadership





ESU 2 AGENCY IMPROVEMENT

In 2010-11, the ESU 2 Continuous Improvement Process focused on the following three goals agendas:



ESU 2 has renewed and reaffirmed its shared purpose, or overall agency mission, and made specific provisions to communicate purpose and to appropriately share decision-making data not only internally but also externally with our partner schools, service units, and communities in general.

PROCESS

By means of exchanges among large group, focus groups, and a coordinating committee, every service department and every employee has had a voice in the improvement process.

Utilization of the same statewide proprietary online learning management system available to our districts (known as Angel or myeLearning), as well as common access communications technologies like Skype, Google Documents and Wikis, has been essential to an inclusive collaboration. Technology is important because many Special Education and counseling personnel do not office at ESU2 but at districts where they provide direct student services. Moreover, ESU2 department directors and staff consultants and technicians are frequently in schools providing on-site facilitation, assistance, and training.

OUTCOMES

- 1) Recent implementation of a unified communications system (known as Zimbra) integrates email, calendar, address book, meeting, tasks, and briefcase functions; and makes it possible to share any of these items with other system users in a secure online environment accessible anywhere, anytime. This technology investment provides an efficient tool for essential internal communications. Additionally, those districts utilizing ESU2 technology for their Internet DNS and email exchange services experience the same user benefits and share in the cost.
- 2) Structural and visual redevelopment of the ESU 2 web site (www.esu2.org) is visible evidence of agency renewal and communications efforts.
 - ◆ Structurally, each services division has its own public access section. Each starts with a welcome and overview; then, expands into second and third levels so visitors can easily navigate within departments. Common to each services division are a "Current Headlines" page, a "Meetings & Workshops" index, and, soon, a "Calendar." Timely news and calendar highlights from every division are featured on the ESU2 home page.
 - ◆ The website management software (known as SOCS) also includes its own public and private communications and sharing tools, which are the focus of site development and user orientation during the 2011-12 fiscal year.





Nebraska Educational Service Unit

2320 N Colorado Avenue Fremont, NE
402-721-7710 www.esu2.org

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