

**State Accreditation Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2023**

The Nebraska State Accreditation Committee met via Zoom on January 19, 2023. Travis Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., declared a quorum present, and established the legality of the meeting. Members present were the following: LeeAnn Amm, Wayne Brown, Susan Christopherson, Susanne Cramer, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Jeff Ganz, Dale Hafer, Stacie Hardy, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Dan Koenig, Travis Miller, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott and Tiffanie Welte.

Members absent: Mitch Kubicek, Marco Pedroza, and Sarah Salem.

NDE staff members participating in all or some of the Zoom meeting were the following: Deputy Commissioner Deb Frison, Shirley Vargas, Micki Charf, Todd Wolverton and Sandra Suiter.

Meeting Opening

Travis Miller reviewed with members the purpose of Rule 10 (equity of opportunity, quality of learning, and accountability) and the Committee's role and responsibility. After brief introductions, Travis Miller asked for approval of the May 17, 2022, minutes. Josie Floyd moved to approve the minutes and Dan Schnoes seconded the motion.

Voting yes: LeeAnn Amm, Wayne Brown, Susan Christopherson, Susanne Cramer, Brad Dirksen, Josie Floyd, Dale Fornander, Jeff Ganz, Dale Hafer, Stacie Hardy, Pat Hoehner, Vickie Kauffold, Dan Koenig, Travis Miller, Dan Schnoes, Bess Scott and Tiffanie Welte.

Voting no: none.

Approval carried 17-0 with 3 absent.

Members were asked to approve the Agenda for the January 19, 2023, meeting. Dale Fornander moved to accept the Agenda and Pat Hoehner seconded the motion.

The January 19, 2023, Agenda was approved by a unanimous vote of the Committee.

State Accreditation Committee Handbook

Micki Charf reviewed the SAC Handbook outlining committee members' responsibilities, composition of current members, meeting logistics, and current vacancies. There are currently 20 members and 3 vacancies. Micki will be forwarding the membership application to committee members for their input on new member nominations.

Review of Past State Accreditation Committee Meetings

Micki Charf highlighted some key points from past meetings: E-learning, the Rule 10 Revision Project and ESSA Updates.

Technical Amendment Updates – Brad Dirksen

Brad Dirksen gave an overview of proposed revisions to Rule 10 and Rule 14. The purpose of the proposed revisions is to incorporate 79-724 (American Citizenship) and 79-725 (Character Education) into rules to ensure compliance with 79-727 (Rules and regulations; State Department of Education; duties.) Additionally, edits were made to reduce redundancy with Nebraska Revised State Statutes (e.g., the definition of "teach" now reflects a reference to the statutory definition), elimination of appendix documents, and other minor edits (e.g., replace "shall" with "must").

A Public Hearing will be held January 31, 2023 at 9:00 a.m., held via zoom.

AQuESTT Presentation: Accountability and School Supports

Shirley Vargas presented an overview of AQuESTT - A Quality Education System for Today and Tomorrow: A system of accountability and support.

An accountability system is required based on state and federal mandates to:

Set standards for all schools; ensure responsible use of taxpayer investment & focus funds for improvement; expose and close achievement gaps among student groups; and create a framework for school improvement.

AQuESTT is made up of classifications along with a framework for improvement. The accountability system is comprised of a set of indicators which is a way to measure student achievement; or elements perceived to influence those gains.. Information was shared on the 2022 Classifications, 2022 Designations and TSI/ATSI Distribution along with available resources.

2022-23 Compliance Data Review

Micki Charf discussed mandatory requirements for compliance and how school compliance is monitored: assurance statements, data reporting, and compliance visits. Last year we began messaging the importance of self-reporting on the assurance statements. Micki also shared a snapshot of a 4 year data trend on unmet regulations.

Nebraska Continuous Improvement

-Micki Charf talked about the Coherence Project and the collaboration between Accreditation and NeMTSS which has focused on identifying similarities between the 2012 Nebraska Framework and the NeMTSS problem solving model. The department has been working on revised resources for continuous improvement including the CNA, the Nebraska Perceptual Survey, and their connection to AQuESTT. The framework for these revised processes, procedures and materials developed for Nebraska Continuous Improvement will become available for implementation on January 31, 2023.

-Shirley Vargas talked more in-depth about the CNA and committee members were asked to participate in a simulation activity mimicking what a team would do when they are engaging with the CNA.

-Sandra Suiter highlighted some of the new materials developed by the NDE to help schools with continuous improvement. Hanover Research developed a Data Literacy Workbook which schools are encouraged to use as a teaching and orientation tool for staff. Some additional materials include both Host School System & External Lead Responsibilities handbooks.

Rule 10 Discussion

Guided group discussion around:

- Which regulations do you feel ensure equitable learning opportunities for Nebraska students?
- Which regulations are burdensome and / or difficult to meet?

Meeting Adjourned at 11:40 a.m.