

**Nebraska Council on Teacher Education**

**Nebraska State Board of Education Educator Preparation Advisory Committee**

**Full Council Meeting Minutes**

**June 9, 2023**

**Country Inn & Suites – Lincoln, NE**

**Present:** *HED* – S. Alford; D. Chism; T. Frey; J. Hearn; J. Jansky; B. Jech; D. Karr; D. Mickey;

M. Ritzdorf; C. Rust; L. Sankey; S. Skretta;K. Swain;

*NASB –*D. Blakely; S. Summers

*NCAPE –*  V. Kauffold

*NCCA* –

*NCSA –*  C. Boyer; J. Fields; J. Harris; K. Jessop; M. Lenihan;

*TSB* – T. Jacobs; M. Fouts

*NSEA* – J. Benson; S. Brown; B. Hodges-Bolkovac; P. Ludeke; D. Moss; C. Rice;

D. Rohan; M. Simsic; S. Stake; E. Ventura

*NDE* – B. Dirksen; K. Heineke

**Alternates:**

*HED* – A. Fette; S. Holmes; S. Kemp; K. Rempp

**Guests:**

*HED* – D. King; C. Romanuck Murphy; M. Reid; M. Simmons

*NSEA –* T. Tystad

*NDE* – M. Beiermann; L. Carr; K. Elmshaeuser

*OTHER –* S. Butler - Project Harmony; B. McNiff - ESU 5

**Absent Without Alternate Replacement:**

*HED* – P. Adams; E. DeHart; L. Nelson;

*NCCA*  - P. Illich

*NCSA* – D. Lewis; J. Schwartz; J. McDowell; S. Smith; C. Worrell

*NSEA* – D. Casey; M. Edquist; D. Garcia; L. Perez; S. Loney

HED - Higher Education NCSA-NE Council of School Administrators

NCCA-NE Community College Association TSB – Teachers State Board Appointed

NASB-NE Association of School Boards NSEA - NE State Education Association

NCAPE-NE Council on American Private Education NDE – NE Dept. of Education

9:30 A.M. **First General Session** – President Mark Lenihan

* Declaration of Legal Meeting – 9:49 a.m.
* Announcement of placement of Open Meetings Act information
* Call for Public Comments - None
* Approval of February 17, 2023 Full Council Meeting Minutes - motion: Ventura; seconded: Benson; minutes approved
* Report of April 14, 2023 Executive Committee Meeting
* Recognition of NCTE Retiring Members’ Service – D. Chism, D. Lewis, C. Rice, J. Fields, E. McDonnell-Jones; N. Shudak; K. Danielson; K. Lofquist, J. McDowell, K. Saum-Mills; D. Jankovich; B. Hodges-Bolkovac

**Guest Speaker**  Scott Butler—Project Harmony

* **Legislative Update** – Lane Carr, NDE

Discussed last legislative session; Two big tax cut packages were implemented that could affect education; significant changes were made to TEOSA funding.

**Key Education Bills**:

LB298—Creates true reciprocity between states;

LB705 – NE Teacher Recruitment and Retention Bill; includes:

--Providing grants and extra money/training for teachers;

--Teacher Apprenticeship Program for on-the-job training;

--Rule 23 was repealed which eliminated the need to pass a Basic Skills

Competency exam;

--Alternate certificate program now offered;

--School Safety & Security fund available;

--Increase in SPED funding;

--Mental Health Training;

--FAFSA Graduation Requirements changed;

--Adjustments to Computer Science Graduation Requirements Systems,

including Youth Data Sharing

LB814 – CTE Funding provided for each district

In the next session the need is to focus on implementation and stakeholder engagement and will clean up bills. Priorities: Early literacy; continued focus on educator shortage; continued investment in non-academic needs and reduction in chronic absenteeism.

* **Special Education Endorsements -** Kris Elmshaeuser - NDE
  + 1. Special Education endorsement recommendations from February 17 NCTE

meeting were reviewed.

* + 1. SPED Early Childhood Special Educator endorsement is not recommended for deletion at this time— ad hoc meeting on June 27 for more discussion.
    2. Vision endorsement and Deaf and Hard of Hearing endorsement will remain as Subject endorsements.
    3. Deaf and Hard of Hearing endorsement language was updated to use the words ‘deaf or hard or hearing’ rather than ‘hearing impaired.’
    4. Grade level bans were reviewed on endorsements so they align;
    5. SPED Early Intervention Specialist endorsement had language changes so it aligns with the SPED Generalist endorsement.

11:15 – 11:25 A.M **Break**

11:25 A.M. **Informational Items, cont.**

* **Teacher Shortage Steering Committee Summit** – S. Skretta

Gave a synopsis of the report given at NACTE; explained work done by the committee; provided the April meeting points. Points to bring forward to the legislature include:

1. Providing emphasis on Teacher Recruitment, Preparation, and Teacher

Retention; Up-to-date teacher retention data is needed

2. Teacher trainings need to be better designed

3. Additional funding needed to help retain educators as teachers

* **NCTE Accomplishments/Highlights 2018-2023** -Lenihan;

1. Many endorsement revisions were implemented
2. Rule revisions were implemented, including the repeal of Rule 23
3. Revised the NCTE Organizational Policies
4. Adjusted NCTE meeting structure
5. Formalized new member orientation
6. Emphasis on working with State Board and keeping it informed of the work

done by the NCTE;

1. Continuing work on educator recruitment and retention

* **Rule Status Reports** – NDE; Dirksen
* Rule 20, *Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs*

Public hearing was held and obtained state board approval; now Rule 20 is at the Attorney General’s office.

* Rule 21, *Issuance of Certificates and Permits to Teach, Counsel, Supervise, and Administer in Nebraska Schools*

Obtained state board approval; now Rule 21 is at the Attorney General’s office; a work group to continue discussion on Rule 21 issues is being formed.

* Rule 23, *Regulations for the Basic Skills Competency Testing of Teachers, and Administrators*

Rule 23 was officially repealed.

* Rule 24, *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements* Update

Obtained state board approval; now Rule 24 is at the Attorney General’s office.

* + - **Program Approval Schedule** – Heineke

• Wayne State College Offsite Visit completed

• College of St. Mary Offsite Visit July 17-21 2023 State Review

• Union College Offsite Visit September 18-23, 2023

• University of Nebraska-Kearney Offsite Visit January 2024

• York University Offsite Visit Fall/Winter TBD

* + - **NDE Updates**
    - **Educator Loan Programs** - Shirley Vargas;
    1. Enhancing Excellence in Teacher Preparation (EETP) – For certified educators; is a forgivable loan.
    2. Attracting Excellence in Teacher Preparation (AETP) – For students in undergraduate teacher educator programs, is a forgivable loan;
    3. Teach in Nebraska Today Program (new program) – Tracks individuals to teaching profession and offers a student loan to these individuals. Requirements include the need to be a NE resident; must have a full-time contract at the time of application; up to $5000 can be given over a 5-year period; prioritization based on financial need.
    - **RESPECT Grant** - Heineke;

1. Is a multi-year grant to create alternate pathways for teachers to get certified
   * + **Special Education Endorsement Update** - Heineke;
2. SPED ad hoc committee will meet on June 27 for continued discussion on SPED endorsements.
   * + **Teacher Educator Forum** – Heineke

1. Date for Forum is August 7, 2023 at Cornhusker Marriott

* + - **Folio Reviewers Needed** - Heineke

1. College of St. Mary July 17-21, 2023

12:15 P.M. **Standing Committee Agenda Review** – Lenihan

* Special education endorsement revisions.
* Committees complete a self-assessment of NCTE, via SWOT analysis.

Prepare a recommendation for improving upon the strengths and opportunities, strategies for addressing weaknesses and threats affecting NCTE.

Share with the full council.

* Second committee session discuss recommendations from committees and recommend goals moving forward.  Goals will go to Executive Committee in August for review for October NCTE meeting.

12:25 A.M. **Lunch/Standing Committee Meetings**

* Committee ‘A’ – Committee completes a self-assessment of NCTE, via SWOT analysis.
* Committee ‘B’ – Committee completes a self-assessment of NCTE, via SWOT analysis.
* Committee ‘C’ – Committee completes a self-assessment of NCTE, via SWOT analysis.

1:00 P.M. **Standing Committee Reports**

Standing Committee Chairs present recommendations and findings:

* Committee ‘A’ –Stake, Chair

--Support deletion of SPED endorsements listed

--Support SPED grade level changes

--Support redline & edits on SPED endorsements

* Committee ‘B’ – Rice, Chair

SPED – supported all the changes made to SPED endorsements

SWOT analysis:

--Strength of NCTE is a plus; is a continued need to build relationships, especially with the state board and NDE

--Three meetings a year is too little, more would be better;

--The training at beginning of year is good—need more trainings

--Continued need to show how relative we are as a group

* Committee ‘C’ – Jansky, Chair

SWOT Analysis:

--NCTE does have representation from all across the state. Are a stakeholder advisory group to the state board and are statutorily protected as a group.

--Need to better inform members of their roles; member turnover is a weakness; finances are a weakness.

--Need to keep state board aware of NCTE—how can we communicate more directly with board?

--Don’t want NCTE to become more of a political group.

--Are losing historical perspectives of NCTE due to turnover in the group.

--SPED—voted unanimously to approve SPED endorsements as presented in the morning session.

1:16 P.M. **Second General Session** – Lenihan

* Discuss and recommend goals moving forward.  Goals will go to Executive Committee in August for review for October NCTE meeting.

2:00 P.M. **Standing Committee Meetings**

* Committee ‘A’- Stake; Discussion and recommendation for NCTE goals to move to the Executive Committee
* Goals: Develop a comprehensive communication plan between NCTE groups and stakeholders;
* Strengthen communication with State Board
* Develop a clear chain of command for communication
* Evaluate representation of NCTE members
* Need to meet more frequently
* More NCTE members should attend school board meetings and report back to NCTE
* Look into conducting NCTE meetings at different parts of the state.
* Committee ‘B’- Rice; Discussion and recommendation for NCTE goals to move to the Executive Committee
* Explore ways to increase efficiency and production of our meetings, especially Standing Committee meetings
* Explore better ways to communicate between members and alternates
* Explore more ways to communicate with State Board
* Increase efficiency and productivity of our meetings
* Committee ‘C’- Jansky; Discussion and recommendation for NCTE goals to move to the Executive Committee
* Enhance advisory relationship with State Board
* Structure/revision of NCTE meetings – maybe Standing Committees can do zoom meetings before full council meeting meets which may help new members
* Meet more frequently
* Explore committee/work group meetings to allow for more frequent discussion and feedback between full NCTE meetings in order to provde richer dialogue and understanding
* Seek funding for opportunities to address board and department needs in order to make effective recommendations through supportive interactions with one another.

2:35 P.M. **Standing Committee Chairs present recommendations:**

* Committee ‘A’ – Stake, Chair; accept all changes to SPED endorsements
* Committee ‘B’ – Rice, Chair; accept all changes to SPED endorsements
* Committee ‘C’ – Jansky Chair; motion by Committee C to accept proposed SPED changes. Roll call vote taken – motion approved.

**NCTE President Elect Nomination and Vote**

* NSEA representative Ludeke nominated Susan Stake as next President-Elect of NCTE. Roll call vote taken – approved.
* President Skretta presented plaque of recognition to Mark Lenihan upon completion of his term as NCTE president for 2021-2023.

2:24 P.M **Adjournment**

***Please mark your calendars! NCTE Meeting Dates for 2023-2024:***

***October 6, 2023, February 9, 2024, and June14, 2024***

***Thank you for your service this year!***