



Educational Service Unit # 17

Annual Report 2008-2009

207 North Main Street
Ainsworth, NE 69210
402-387-1420
www.esu17.org

Educational Service Unit 17 provides this annual report for the 2008-09 fiscal year as a brief description of all areas of service to our member schools.

Educational Service Unit 17 provides services in a four county area consisting of Brown, Cherry, Rock, and Keya Paha counties.

The ESU 17 Advisory Council meets four times yearly to discuss and review Educational Service Unit services. State statute requires the Advisory Council to give direction in prioritizing Core Services by demonstrating a two-thirds majority approval of the districts served that represent over 50% of the student population.

This annual report meets Nebraska Department of Education requirements. Rule #84 subsection 03.03 states "An annual written program report on the various programs of services to the schools for the past year shall be provided by each Educational Service Unit to the Educational Service Unit board, member school districts, and State Department of Education."

CORE SERVICES

Staff Development

ESU 17 hosted and/or facilitated numerous training opportunities for educators, including 6-Trait Writing, After the Holocaust, BMIT, Nebraska Career Connections, School Chemical Cleanout Campaign, Baylor ACT Prep, eTranscript, NDE Chats, DataWalk Training for Principals, Problem-Based Case Learning, and Seven Habits of Highly Effective People. Additionally, onsite assistance was provided regarding science curriculum revision (Cody-Kilgore), language arts curriculum

revision (Rock County and Valentine), assessments revision (Valentine) and school improvement (Cody-Kilgore and Valentine).

The creation of topic-specific listservs was added in order to streamline information directly to teachers, administrators, and staff, thanks to the ESU 17 technology staff.

Instructional Materials Department

The Educational Service Unit 17 Media Center enhances the instructional programs of its member schools through its distribution of print and non-print resources and provision of web based information retrieval sites. During the school year of 2008 – 2009 the Media Center circulated 29,264 items and our member schools accessed our PowerMediaPlus Media On Demand offering 11,929 times.

In support of the Educational Service Unit 17 CIP the Media Center updated its Homepage, revised its Online Media Catalog, created Brochures for Online Media Catalog, Media Center and PowerMediaPlus and enhanced Media Trainings for PowerMediaPlus, Library Organization and Media Center Homepage and Online Catalog.

Workshops and special offerings conducted by the Educational Service Unit 17 Media Coordinator during the 2008 – 2009 school year included: Spring Buy Preview Process; Subject Bibliography creations; PowerMediaPlus trainings; Beginning year In Services, Library Organization assistance; Media Center Homepage and Online Catalog trainings and NNC Fall Media presentation.

Computer Services

The ESU 17 Technology staff provides technical support and training in the schools and at the Tech Center on East Highway 20 in Ainsworth. A total of ninety-six workshops serving three hundred ten staff members and 315 students were held during the 2008-09 school year. Workshops included: Angel Learning Management System, Podcasting, Microsoft Office, GarageBand, Audacity, iMovie, Using Digital Cameras, Using Smart Boards, Videoconferencing Using Polycom Units and Skype, Internet Safety, Manila, Inspiration, Kidspiration, and various other educational software applications. ESU 17 staff also conducted workdays for area school staff members who are submitting NSSRS reports and Erate applications.

ESU 17, as part of the NNNC consortium, provides broadband Internet access and video services for schools through Network Nebraska.

The Technology Center staff is currently maintaining more than four hundred-fifty Internet accounts. School web pages and email accounts are hosted on a server owned by the NNNC consortium (ESUs 1, 2, 7, 8 and 17). Teacher web pages are hosted on servers at the Tech Center in Ainsworth.

ESU 17 also provides Internet content filtering services, a web based calendar system, a podcasting and blogging server, iPod lab, support for Internet and distance learning video equipment located in the schools, network support, computer repair and troubleshooting.

Federal Programming

The Carl Perkins Grant provided \$28,344 to the ESU 17 Perkins Grant Consortium. Beginning July 2008, ESU 17 partnered with ESU 1-Wakefield and ESU 8-Neligh in the formation of a Northeast Nebraska Perkins IV Collaboration [NNP4C]. The goal of the NNP4C is to work collaboratively in promoting 21st century teaching and learning opportunities for the school districts that they serve.

Specific components of the 2008-2009 program year included the formation of a Design Team comprised of career educators and school counselors who will assist in formulating long-range goals and a 5-year implementation plan, partnering with Northeast Community College in

the development of a Career Academy, participation in 8th grade career day at Northeast Community College, educator participation in a Performance-Based Case Learning workshop, support for districts using Baylor ACT Test Prep, Nebraska Career Connections, eTranscript, and continued support for educators attending professional conferences.

Cooperative Purchasing

E.S.U. 17 participates in statewide Cooperative Purchasing, a buying consortium that mass purchases school supplies and equipment for Nebraska school districts and State Colleges. Because of the huge volume involved, school districts have been able to realize dramatic savings of tax dollars when participating in the program.

In calendar year 2008, ESU 17 schools purchased \$111,020 worth of goods and services through their statewide cooperative purchasing service.

Nebraska ESU Cooperative Purchasing

ESU 17 has an agreement with the Nebraska ESU Cooperative Purchasing to provide facilities and support to the statewide coop.

The Nebraska ESU Cooperative Purchasing is dedicated to delivering quality products at discounted prices to the schools of Nebraska. For example, the 2008 Coop Annual buy offered over 2500 items to ESU Affiliated Schools at a 35-50% savings. Other purchasing opportunities available are food programs, paper annual buy, and custodial. Year round opportunities include contracted pricing on: technology products, vehicles, sports supplies and equipment, roofing, flooring/carpeting, a wide variety of software, and much more.

Go to www.neesucoop.org for details.

Special Education

Children between the ages of 0-21 are eligible for special education services if they meet state verification guidelines.

ESU 17 provides special education services to students and schools in the areas of

speech, resource, school psychology, assistive technology, transition, and supervision.

Early Intervention and service coordination finds services for families to help meet the needs of children below age three. The services coordinator provides assistance in services to families to meet developmental, educational, financial, health care, respite care, and other needs of children.

ESU 17 employs 21 special education staff. Services are provided to all schools in the ESU #17 area. Program supervision is a support service provided to the schools to provide effective supervision and to provide consulting and guidance to special education services.

ESU 17 financial services are available to all schools in the ESU area. Final financial services, IDEA Poverty/Enrollment, and Medicaid in Public schools are examples of support to school districts.

ESU 17 uses the Student Record System, which provides consistency in documentation to meet state and federal requirements on a web-based service.

Health Services

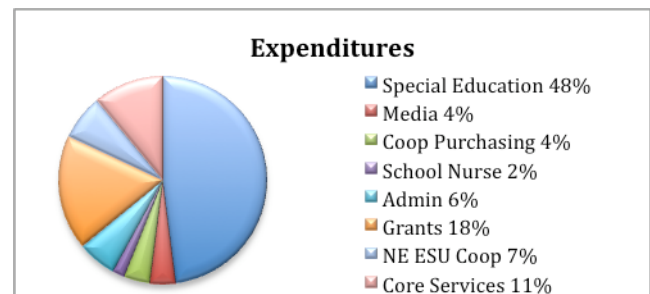
The nurses collaborate with teachers and administrators to promote wellness, and a safe, nurturing environment. Basic health services are provided to the students and staff on an ongoing basis. This process would include assessment, planning, nursing intervention and evaluation of day-to-day health concerns. This would include seeing those whom become ill or injured while at school or who may have a health concern they want to discuss.

Educational Service Unit 17 nurses provide health services to students and staff members of any school contracting for a school nurse. The services provided vary from school to school depending on the expectations, needs, and time available at each school.

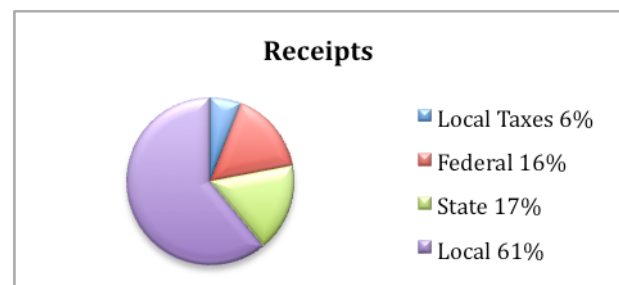
The primary goals of school nursing include intervention to improve student health and promote healthy life styles, which, in turn, will impact student achievement and success. Nurses would also be able to provide training and assistance with the implementation of the "Attack on Asthma" protocol.

There is a realm of possibilities when considering a school nurses' role within the school setting. School nurses may be key

members of the Crisis Response Team or the Workplace Safety Committee. They may be involved in Individualized Education Plans (IEP's) when the student has health issues. The nurse can create Health Care Plans for those students with ongoing medical issues so that staff is prepared. These plans may be for a student with diabetes, seizures, a tube feeding, or other similar issues. Training the staff in proper medication administration procedure, blood borne pathogen protection, first aid and CPR are key when trying to provide a safe environment. Under special circumstances, the school nurse may teach staff how to give injections on a daily or emergency basis, or how to catheterize a student. The nurses assist in the prevention of absenteeism every day. Last, it is the school nurses' commitment to identify any student who may have emotional needs or who may be suffering from some type of abuse or neglect. In this case, appropriate referrals and interventions are made.



TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$3,238,749



TOTAL RECEIPTS: \$3,681,402

Dennis Radford

Administrator

Governing Board

The ESU #17 Governing Board met on the fourth Thursday of each month at the Unit Office located at 207 North Main Street in Ainsworth, Nebraska.

2008-2009 Board Members

Sue Weston, Pres., Springview
Renee Adkisson, V. Pres., Ainsworth
Elwin Walkling, Sec., Valentine
Jean Pinney, Wood Lake
Helen Lopez, Valentine
Dr. Richard Lackaff, Bassett
Jody Dexter, Valentine
Chet Wilkins, Ainsworth

Advisory Council

2008-2009 Council Members

Jamie Isom
Supt., Valentine Community Schools
Rodger Lenhard
Supt., Keya Paha County Schools
Darrell Peterson
Supt., Ainsworth Community Schools
Terry Hazard
Supt., Cody-Kilgore Public Schools
Dave Zumbahlen
Supt., Rock County Public School

Educational Service Unit 17

207 North Main

Ainsworth, NE 69210

ESU 17 MISSION STATEMENT

ESU 17 IS COMMITTED TO PARTNERING

WITH OUR SCHOOLS BY PROVIDING

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES TO ENHANCE

TEACHING AND LEARNING

