

2004-2005 ANNUAL REPORT



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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

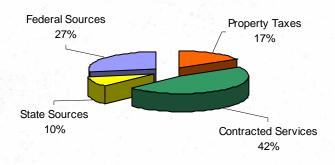
ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2004—2005:

- Provided the leadership for the ESU2 Improvement Process through board and staff Action Plans that:
 - (1) assist schools in developing their capacity to increase local ownership of their School Improvement Plans
 - (2) facilitate the delivery of resources to improve school services
 - (3) increase site-based delivery of services at each local school district
- Participate in the statewide educational service unit projects to provide statewide services to school districts by providing leadership in surveying school needs and management of statewide initiatives.
- Organized an area board member and administrator program on "Linking Grades to Standards" by Ken O'Connor, an internationally known consultant on assessment and evaluation who also presented workshops to area teacher and administrator teams.
- Facilitated services to schools, their staff and students by ESU2 leadership and management of regional consortiums for shared high school courses (Eastern Nebraska Distance Learning Consortium), American history curriculum (Westward Waters & American Independence Federal Grants), internet connectivity and staff development delivery (Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium).
- Responded to school needs for special education consultants for preschool children needs and school improvement needs to help with requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

During 2004-2005, the ESU provided five counselors (2.60 FTE) whose services were shared by nine 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.







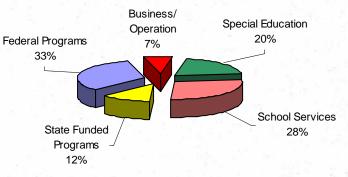
Revenues:	2004	- 2005
Property Taxes	\$	792,992
Contracted Services	2,	224,614
State Sources		462,993
Federal Sources	1,	314,860
TOTAL	\$ 4,7	95,459

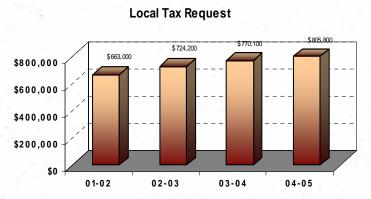


TOTAL

Expenditures:	2004-2005
Special Education	\$ 1,022,128
School Services	1,448,573
State Funded Programs	611,571
Federal Programs	1,683,611
Business/Operation	349,766

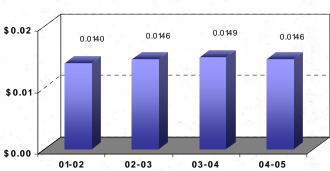
2004-2005 EXPENDITURES - ESU 2





5,115,649

Local Tax Levy











WESTWARD WATERS

- A three year Federally Funded Teaching American History Grant awarded in September of 2002 for \$845,000
- Over 30 educators from ESU 2 and ESU 1 were selected to participate
- Year three area of study was the trails west through the Louisiana Purchase territory
- A November trip to Washington DC to visit the new Smithsonian Museum of the Native Americans and Virginia to the home of Thomas Jefferson
- April workshops traveled to Nebraska City freighting museum and Council Bluffs Union Pacific museum
- 11 days in July of 2005 were spent following the Overland trails in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Utah, Idaho, and Oregon exploring significant locations along the Oregon and Mormon trails.
- Teachers read and discussed several books, numerous articles, and additional resources.
- Lesson plans, instructional video, and photos will be posted to the Westward Waters website for dissemination of the project.

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

- A grant of \$23,000 provided special video journalism training to school teams of teachers and students in a retreat format at Camp Calvin Crest in July.
- A series of workshops including Photoshop Elements 3.0, Windows Movie Maker 2.0, Word, Excel, Power Point and Classroom Jeopardy were held.
- E-Rate filing assistance and technology planning workshops were conducted to assist schools in securing discounts for technology services.

AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

- Federal Teaching American History Grant for the amount of \$1 million was awarded for a three year project in 2004.
- Over 25 educators from the ENDLC service area were accepted into the program
- Year 1 of the project focused on the American Revolution
- Historians led three weekend workshops, had students participate weekly in an on-line format, assigned six books, numerous articles, and documents for teachers to read.
- Twelve day tour of Revolutionary War locations including Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Rhode Island









TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The ESU 2 Technology Center functions to provide the local schools technology training, full Internet Services, media distribution, duplication, printing and print reproduction services. The following is a breakdown of services offered:

- Manage 30 School Buildings Internet Access
- Provide Internet Security consulting
- Distance Learning Technical Support
- Manage 23 Internet Filtering Servers
- Manage e-mail servers for over 1500 school staff members
- Manage e-mail virus protection
- Disaster Recovery Services
- Consulting for local area network design, deployment and monitoring
- Consulting for wide area network design, deployment, maintenance and monitoring
- Provide web co-location services, web consultative services and web training
- Provide other appropriate Internet Services such as e-mail, Domain Name Service and Microsoft, Apple and Unix server and client support services.
- ESU 2 manages Federal Universal Service Fund Reimbursement for voice, video and data connectivity.
- ESU 2 works as a cooperative with ESUs 1,7,8 and 17 for enhanced technical services through the NNNC (North East Nebraska Network Consortium).
- Negotiate High Speed Internet access.

2005-2006 GOALS

- The ESU 2 Network Operations Center (NOC) emphasizes network security and continues to upgrade and deploy better security monitoring and enhanced security services.
- ESU 2 NOC plans for the following: Deployment of an NNNC based an school based directory services
 to include enhanced staff searching services as well as other enhanced
 communication and collaboration services.
- ESU 2 NOC strives to maintain 100% uptime for network connectivity.

DISTANCE LEARNING

- Total of 70 courses offered for the 2004-05 school year
- 313 students registered for DL courses
- Thirty-eight member high schools
- Connectivity to Northeast Community College, Metro Community College, and Wayne State College
- Northeast Community College and Metro Community College offering several adult education distance learning classes through out the year.
- Universal Service Fund Discounts awarded for the 2004-05 school year in the amount of \$425,039
- ESU #2 Special Education Updates delivered through Distance Learning meetings.
- Purchased membership in My e-learning network
- Conducting staff development project to involve my e-learning format with traditional distance learning. Twenty teachers participate in the project.



WEB SERVICES

ESU #2 Web page services increased steadily in 2004-2005 with Online Registration and the Media Catalog searching and booking. New features added this year was the current workshops and links on the front page of the Website.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

CASES Administration:

• All school districts in Nebraska are required to participate in the special education continuous improvement process called "Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities". The main objective is identifying the district's strengths as well as any areas in need of further development regarding provision of special education services. Five districts became very involved with the process last year and will continue this year: Cedar Bluffs, Fremont, Oakland Craig, Wahoo and Wisner Pilger Public Schools. Twelve more districts will begin the ILCD process this year: Bancroft Rosalie, Beemer, Dodge, Logan View, Lyons Decatur Northeast, Mead, North Bend Central, Prague, Raymond Central, Scribner Snyder, Tekamah Herman and Yutan Public Schools. The remaining two districts and Class 1's will begin this process in the 2006-07 school year: Ashland Greenwood and West Point Public Schools.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK:

- ESU#2 serves all school districts in Burt, Cuming, Dodge and Saunders counties.
- 2 full time and one part time Service Coordinators serve all 4 counties (Region 2) except Fremont Public Schools. 1 full time Service Coordinator was hired to just serve the Fremont Public Schools (Region 25).
- 116 families were served in Region 2 and 101 families were served in Region 25.
- 37 students transitioned into the 3-4 year old preschool program in Region 2 and 25 students transitioned in Region 25.
- 26 children who were referred did not qualify for services in Region 2 and 22 children did not qualify for services in Region 25.
- Region 2 had 27 CAPTA referrals and Region 25 had 17 CAPTA referrals. Child Abuse Protection
 and Treatment Act (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.
- Sources of referrals were: Parents, Speech Language Pathologists, physicians, Head Starts, Women Infants and Children's (WIC) program, Day Care providers, hospitals, grandparents and relatives, A & D Waiver program, Medically Handicapped Children's program, Tracking Infant Progress Statewide (TIPS-statewide program that provides specialized developmental follow up for babies who have been in a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit) program and out of state Early Development Network programs.

STAFFING:

- 1 full time consultant/Service Coordinator Supervisor
- 4 school psychologists tested 420 students in 22 school districts
- 10 Speech Language Pathologists served 364 students in area districts
- Early Childhood Special Education Services were provided by utilizing a contract with three private providers and also with 1 part time Service Coordinator. These private providers served 13 students in 04-05.
- 4 Service Coordinators handled 217 cases in our four county area.



TITLE I SERVICES

- The ESU #2 Title I Cooperative had 11 participating school districts in 2004-2005. The total approved Title I budget was \$687,761. 18 certified teachers and 3 paraprofessionals provided Title I students the following:
- Grades 1-3 reading-4 buildings
- Grades K-4 reading and math-4 buildings
- Grades K-6 reading and math-8 buildings
- Grades 1-4 reading and math-1 private school

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

The ESU#2 Professional Development Center provides area schools with needed services in:

- School Improvement
- Curriculum
- Instruction
- Assessment
- Leadership in all areas

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 2004-05

- Consultative Services (STARS coaching and information sessions both fall & spring for all ESU#2 STARS consortium schools; Phone/E-mail/Web Information).
- Staff development opportunities for improving Curriculum, Instruction, Assessment, & Leadership.
- Expert presenters enhanced the ESU#2 PDC programs to deliver additional support services for area schools (Dr. Timothy Rasinski Two Fluency workshops; Dr. John Dudley Crisis Team Training, Levels 1, 2 & 3; Ken O'Connor How to Grade for Learning: Linking Grades to Standards, Principal's Role in Report Carding Admin. Session, Board Dinner/Speaker; Sheree Person-Pandil Text Book Adoption; Marilyn Friend Creating Schools for ALL Students Through Inclusive Practices & Co-Teaching... and others).
- Grant Writing & Management (STARS, Title I, Perkins, Safe & Drug-Free Schools)
- Three schools have been trained in D.I.B.E.L.S. assessments.

2005-2006 Goals

PDC will...

- Provide the necessary resources to support the school improvement process.
- Increase school-based delivery of services.
- Assist schools in developing their capacity to increase local ownership of their school improvement process.









MEDIA SERVICES

- The media department continued to grow with the addition of 154 new video titles this year, complete with rights to duplicate for classroom usage. This collection of video tapes covered many different aspects of education from Science issues to help with reinforcing the new standards being set at the state level this year, Industrial Technology, Physical Education, Fine Arts, and Language Arts. All new video titles included the state standards, which serve as a guideline for our teachers to use in their curriculum area. With Reading being reinforced in all the schools this year, at all levels, many classical theatre titles were ordered during the Preview Seminar that occurred earlier this fall. All titles that were purchased this year in video format were also purchased in DVD format with digital rights being licensed for duplication.
- 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. This past year the libraries for Special Education, including their toy library, and the Professional Development Center were added to the database to increase circulation of their materials. Teachers have been very open to this concept and usage has already increased. The number of items being shipped in 2003-2004 was 3673 and for 2004-2005 was 7773... over a two-fold increase.
- Media meetings and workshops are conducted several times throughout the school year
 to keep media specialists informed of the ever changing technology issues such as webbased lesson planning, new software, video titles, copyright issues, etc. This year the
 IMAT meetings moved toward Video On Demand...or video streaming. All videos will
 eventually be downloaded to a server and shown in the classroom.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2004 - 2005:

- 154 new video titles with state or national standard attached as a guideline for curriculum were purchased under the state-wide CONESU Spring Buy.
- The Online catalog was fully functioning with complete school access to all approved staff. PDC and Sped library materials were added to the database. Data is updated daily.
- 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 titles, copyright laws and web-based instruction.

COOPERATIVE PURCHASING

- In 2004-2005, the schools in Educational Service Unit No. 2 purchased \$173,076. of supplies/equipment and \$56,566. of paper through this program. Total purchases for the annual buys was \$229.642. The savings to the schools was 35% to 40% under listed retail price.
- The total for the year round buys, which are food purchases, custodial purchases, and special purchases was \$922,876.
- Year round and annual cooperative buys are now online through world wide web. All materials are ordered through the cooperative website and this has made the COOP ordering process a very efficient process.



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