

Northeast Educational Services Cooperative
Board of Directors Meeting
Monday, March 17, 2025

The Board of Directors for the Northeast Educational Services Cooperative (NESC) met in regular session on Monday, March 17, 2025 via Zoom and at Lake Area Technical College in Watertown, SD. The meeting was called to order by President Schuurman at 7:00 P.M. and adjourned at 8:09 P.M.

Members Present

In-Person:

Audrey Schuller, Britton/Hecla; Alisha Nielsen, Castlewood; Malory McIntire, Clark; Carie Knutson, Deubrook; Wade Gubrud, Deuel; Arend Schuurman, Elkton; Chris Verhoek, Estelline; Tara Abraham, Hamlin; Lisa Amdahl, Summit; Penny Thyen, Waverly/South Shore

Zoom:

Megann Murphy, Arlington; Lisa Lauterhahn, Enemy Swim Day School; Audrey Rider, Henry; Carrie Schiernbeck, ORR; Lana Sand, Rosholt – left at 7:36 P.M.; Jayme Trygstad, Sioux Valley; Martin Looyenga, Webster

Absent:

Jared Tolzin, DeSmet; Jon Kahnke, Florence; Greg Bich, Iroquois; Reid McDaniel, Lake Preston; Art Berger Jr., Wauby; Tia Felberg, Willow Lake; Heidi Pelzel, Wilmot

Others Attending:

NESC Staff Representatives: Sara Lorensberg (Z), Shelly Skogstad (Z), Stephanie Hayunga (Z), Nicol Huyvaert(Z), Teresa Landmark (Z)

Member District Superintendents: Travis Ahrens, Clark; Todd Obele, Henry (Z)

NESC Administration: Anneke Nelson, Director; Tiffany Stormo, Business Manager; Tim Frewing, Assistant Director

Call to Order

President Schuurman called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Introduction of Guests

Travis Ahrens, Todd Obele, Sara Lorensberg, Shelly Skogstad, Stephanie Hayunga and Teresa Landmark were introduced as guests.

Agenda Review, Changes, and Approval

Action #25-52 Motion by C. Knutson, second by T. Abraham, to approve the agenda as presented. All present voted, motion carried.

Public Comment

No public comment was presented.

Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were presented.

Financial Report

Action #25-53 Motion by M. McIntire, second by A. Schuller, to approve the financial report for the period ending February 28, 2025. All present voted, motion carried.

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Special Education Fund</u>	<u>Agency Fund</u>
February 1, 2025	\$195,187.66	\$852,930.46	\$10,978.48
<u>Receipts:</u>			
Local Sources	\$129,648.01	\$483,265.29	\$1,702.48
State Sources		\$2,480.67	
Federal Sources		\$161,197.00	
Other			
<u>Total Monthly Receipts</u>	<u>\$129,648.01</u>	<u>\$646,942.96</u>	<u>\$1,702.48</u>
Balance Forward	\$324,835.67	\$1,499,873.42	\$12,680.96
Manual Journal Entries			
Less Salaries	\$3,209.19	\$385,915.27	
Less Disbursements	\$11,908.18	\$209,063.20	\$2,650.00
<u>Total Salaries & Disbursements</u>	<u>\$15,117.37</u>	<u>\$594,978.47</u>	<u>\$2,650.00</u>
Ending Cash Balance			
February 28, 2025	\$309,718.30	\$904,894.95	\$10,030.96

Consent Agenda

Action #25-54 Motion by A. Nielsen, second by C. Knutson to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: 7a) Approval of February 17, 2025 Board of Directors minutes; 7b) Approval of payment of March 2025 budget claims; 7c) Approval of Contract Courtney Heath – School Psychologist – Interim - \$66,000; 7d) Approval of Resignation – Lindsay Edwards – Center Base Teacher; 7e) Approval of Contract – Sara Lorensberg – Behavior Specialist - \$80,000. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

March 2025 Accounts Payable

General Fund: ABC AUTOMATIC BUILDING CONTROLS FIRE ALARM MAINT 98.20; AUTOMATIVE SERVICE CENTER FLEET MAINT 152.08; AUTOMAXX CDJR, INC. FLEET MAINT 957.35; BND TOWING FLEET MAINT 225.00; BMO MASTERCARD PURCH SVCS, TRAVEL, PHONE, SPLS 201.10; BROOKINGS AUTO MALL FLEET MAINT 79.55; CENEX FLEETCARD FLEET MAINT 6,068.77; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, INC COPIER MAINT CONTRACT 16.47; DUST TEX SERVICE, INC. FEB RUG USE 6.36; FRANKMAN MOTOR COMPANY FLEET MAINT 117.96; HAMLIN COUNTY FARMERS COOP FLEET MAINT 487.32; HEALTH EQUITY HSA/FLEX 3.47; JB REPAIR FLEET MAINT 186.52; JURGENS OIL FLEET MAINT 58.90; KDM EQUIPMENT FLEET MAINT 348.59; KSB SCHOOL LAW SCHOOL MATTERS 4.64; MILLER, ALYSSA BACKGROUND CHECK 4.26; MINERT & ASSOCIATES, INC DRUG TESTING 421.00; NESC PAYROLL MARCH 2025 3,144.39; OTTERTAIL POWER CO. ELEC 29.07; ROB'S AUTO REPAIR FLEET MAINT 987.53; TIME MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, INC TIME CLOCK 2.20; TWIN VALLEY TIRE, INC - WEBSTER FLEET MAINT 235.54; W.W. TIRE SERVICE FLEET MAINT 1,688.73; WATERTOWN PUBLIC OPINION MINUTES 8.80; WEBSTER AUTO CARE FLEET MAINT 122.17

Fund Total: \$15,655.97

Special Education Fund: ABC AUTOMATIC BUILDING CONTROLS FIRE ALARM MAINT 1,129.35; BIG STONE THERAPIES WATERTOWN, LLC OT CONTRACTED SERVICES 947.00; BMO MASTERCARD PURCH SVCS, TRAVEL, PHONE, SPLS 24,347.11; CASTLEWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT FEB CB USE FEE 822.80; CENTURY BUSINESS PRODUCTS, INC COPIER MAINT CONTRACT 189.45; DEUEL SCHOOL DISTRICT REIMB SUBSTITUTE 839.70; DUST TEX SERVICE, INC. FEB RUG USE 73.19; HAMLIN SCHOOL DISTRICT FEB CB USE FEE 1,316.48; HEALTH EQUITY HSA/FLEX 39.93; JENKINS LIVING CENTER OT CONTRACTED SERVICES 1,090.00; KSB SCHOOL LAW SCHOOL MATTERS 53.36; LAKE PRESTON SCHOOL DISTRICT FEB CB USE FEE 617.10; MIDWEST MEDICAL SERVICE, INC. CB SUPP 375.00; MILLER, ALYSSA BACKGROUND CHECK 48.99; NESC PAYROLL MARCH 2025 395,702.22; PARENT JAN/FEB 2025 MI REIMB 251.52; OTTERTAIL POWER CO. ELEC 334.35; PROCARE THERAPY OT CONTRACTED SERVICES 1,995.00; SPEECH PARTNERS, LLC SLP CONTRACTED SERVICES 13,361.79; TEACHWELL SOLUTIONS OT CONTRACTED SERVICES 1,146.60; TIME MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS, INC TIME CLOCK 135.01; WATERTOWN PUBLIC OPINION MINUTES 101.24; WEBSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT FEB CB USE FEE 1,234.20; WILLIAMS, THEODORE PSYCH CONTRACTED SERVICES 6,821.16

Fund Total: \$452,972.55

Discussion Items

Assistant Director's Report

Assistant Director Frewing reported that NESC is updating its template for the comprehensive special education plan, which will be given to school districts in a few weeks. He talked about updating NESC's policy for criminal background checks and SLP interviews recently conducted. He also shared information about different immigration visas that could allow NESC to hire skilled foreign labor.

Director's Report

Director Nelson shared she has been focused on hiring for open positions and preparing for negotiations. The center-based programs will be renamed Pathways Learning Center. She is reviewing and selecting the curriculum for Pathways program and a form system for special education paperwork. The school psychologists have completed a planning process for training they will provide next year on pre-referral processes.

Board Advisory Report

Director Nelson reviewed the BOA minutes from March 5, 2025 meeting.

FY26 NESC Monthly Insurance Allocation

Business Manager Stormo presented FY26 NESC monthly insurance allocation including health, dental and basic life renewal rates.

NESC Teacher of the Year – Sara Lorensberg

Director Nelson shared Sara Lorensberg received NESC teacher of the year. Congrats Sara!

Discontinuing BCBA Contract with SWWC

Director Nelson shared with the board she has discontinued BCBA contract with SWWC for FY26.

Teacher Apprenticeship Program

Director Nelson shared information on Teacher Apprenticeship Program. This program will help paraprofessionals to become certified teachers.

Overview of Center-Base Program

Director Nelson shared an overview of the Center Base program. Going forward our Center Base program will be known as Pathways Learning Centers.

Executive Session

Action #25-55 Pursuant to Negotiations – SDCL 1-25-2(4) Preparing for contract negotiations or negotiating with employees or employee representatives and Pursuant to – Personnel SDCL 1-25-2(1) Discussing the qualifications, competence, performance, character or fitness of any public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee. Motion by C. Verhoek, second by M. McIntire to enter executive session at 7:49 P.M. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

President Schuurman declared the board out of executive session at 8:06 P.M.

Action Items

Approval of FY26 NESC Monthly Insurance Allocation

Action #25-56 Motion by C. Knutson, second by C. Verhoek to approve FY26 NESC monthly insurance allocation. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

Approval of NESC Participation in Teacher Apprenticeship Program

Action #25-57 Motion by W. Gubrud, second by A. Nielsen to approve participation in the Teacher Appreciation Program. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

Adjournment

Action #25-58 With there being no further business, motion by A. Nielson, second by J. Trygstad, to adjourn. All present voted, motion carried.

The next NESC Board of Directors meeting will be held at the NESC office building in Hayti, SD on Monday, April 21, 2025 at 7:00 P.M. A tour of the NESC building will take place at 6:30 P.M.

Arend Schuurman, President

Tiffany Stormo, Business Manager