



2003-2004 ANNUAL REPORT

EDUCATIONAL SERVICE UNIT 2

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ACCREDITED BY THE NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

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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

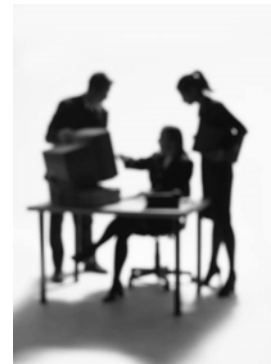
Our primary focus is meeting area schools needs

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 2003-2004:

- ◆ Provided the leadership for the ESU2 Improvement Process through board and staff Action Plans that:
 - (1) use multiple data sources to obtain information about the changing needs of area schools,
 - (2) communicate best educational practices in a variety of formats, and
 - (3) develop a program review that supports changing needs of area schools.

- ◆ Participated in the statewide educational service unit regionalization/reorganization study by providing leadership for the research and writing of the Organization Section of the final report; and the presentation of the final report to Legislators and school superintendents.

- ◆ 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 Federal Grant), internet connectivity and staff development delivery (Northeast Nebraska Network Consortium).

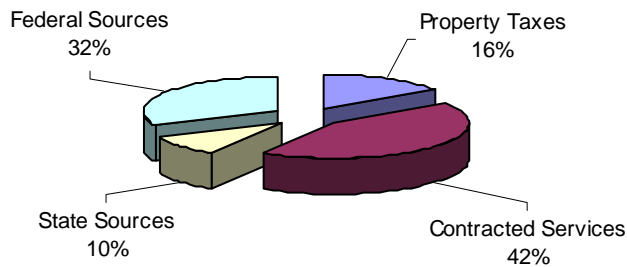


- ◆ Organized an area board member and administrator dinner program for informational discussion of current challenges and a perspective of the future of Nebraska education by Commissioner Doug Christensen; and facilitated a state senator/school superintendent discussion of current legislative issues.
- ◆ Responded to school needs for a special education/school improvement consultant that assisted area school districts with their individual improvement plan, paraprofessional testing, and other No Child Left Behind Act requirements.

COUNSELING SERVICES:

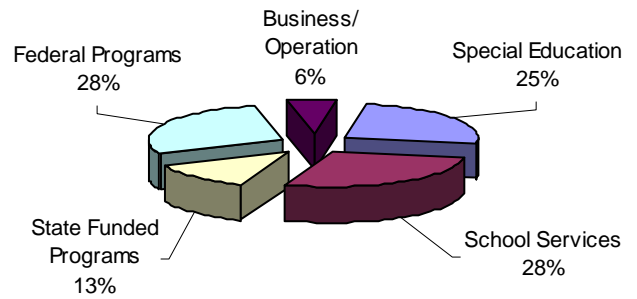
During 2003-2004, the ESU provided three counselors (3.00 FTE) whose services were shared by nine school districts. The role of the counselor at the elementary level is one of early intervention such as group discussions on bullying, while the role of the counselor at the secondary level is directed to help students who have problems with self-discipline.

2003-2004 REVENUES - ESU 2



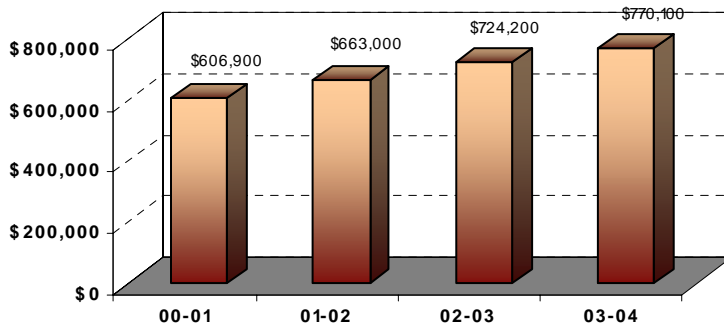
Revenues:	2003 - 2004
Property Taxes	\$ 758,303
Contracted Services	2,089,513
State Sources	469,074
Federal Sources	1,536,175

2003-2004 EXPENDITURES - ESU 2

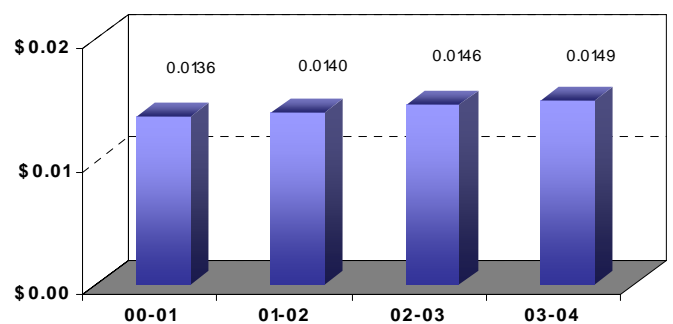


Expenditures:	2003-2004
Special Education	\$ 1,176,555
School Services	1,359,334
State Funded Programs	600,336
Federal Programs	1,337,353
Business/Operation	297,418

Local Tax Request



Local Tax Levy



SPECIAL EDUCATION

CASES Administration:

Information on Improving Learning for Children with Disabilities (ILCD) was presented to all ESU#2 district Superintendents and Principals. Seven school districts were in Phase I of ILCD in the 2003-2004 school year. ESU#2 staff provided these districts with technical assistance materials, training for the districts ILCD steering committee, helped develop a local timeline for ILCD activities and identify potential data sources. ILCD website training was held for districts in Phase I. Information displayed about districts by NDE on this ILCD website is a resulting compilation of district's submissions of information to NDE. The ILCD self-assessment process consists of five phases that work in conjunction with local school improvement efforts. During each of these phases, districts will be expected to participate in various activities working in collaboration with the larger School Improvement Committee. The ILCD process documents, through the self-assessment activity, the effectiveness of a district's special education program and related services based on student performance and outcomes. For each of the 8 ILCD Self-Assessment Inquires, the district will gather the appropriate data and analyze it to determine the district's level of performance.



ESU#2 is a pilot site for the new Special Education Student Data Information System (SEIS) that is being tested by NDE. Once this SEIS program has been approved student information that has been entered into the SRS program will be merged into the new SEIS program.

EARLY DEVELOPMENT NETWORK:

The ESU#2 preschool numbers continue to grow. As the Birth to age 3 students increase, so do the number of children who will transition to a center-based program, generally at the age of 3. The placement of 3 to 5 year olds in preschool programs becomes a challenge. This challenge is being met by utilizing public school districts preschool classrooms, Head Starts and private preschool programs in each community. Referrals to this program were made by parents, physicians, school districts, Head Start, WIC and Social Services.

STAFFING:

- ◆ 3.5 school psychologists tested 400 students in 22 school districts

- ◆ 10 Speech Language Pathologists served 350 students in area districts
- ◆ Early Childhood Special Education Services were provided by utilizing a contract with a private provider and also 1 part time ESU#2 staff member
- ◆ 2.5 Service Coordinators handled 110 cases in our four county area
- ◆ 1 part time Preschool Consultant coordinated services for 86 children 3-5 years old.
- ◆

TITLE I SERVICES

The ESU #2 Title I Cooperative had 11 participating school districts in 2003-2004. The total approved Title I budget was \$677,078. 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 2003-04

- ◆ 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/Fluency workshop; Sue Presler/Reading in the Content Areas; Ann Beninghof/Practical Strategies for Diverse Learners; Connie Miller-Manter/Performance Assessments in Social Studies; Susan Johnston/Creating Rubrics... and others).
- ◆ Analytical scoring of Statewide Writing Assessments was provided for the third straight year.
- ◆ The PDC library goes on line for ease in seeing the offerings of the library and checking out materials for all ESU#2 schools.
- ◆ Grant Writing & Management (STARS, Title I, Perkins, Safe & Drug-Free Schools)

2004-2005 Goals

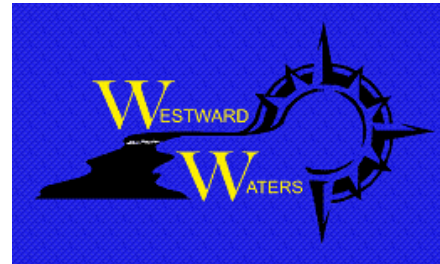
PDC will...

- ◆ Improve services to meet individual school districts' needs.
- ◆ Increase participation at each school district site.
- ◆ Continue to develop & promote professional resources in the PDC library for use by area schools.
- ◆ Work collaboratively with schools to provide professional development services to enhance the schools' learning goals.



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 two area of study was the Native American Peoples of the Louisiana Purchase territory
- ◆ A January camping experience at Fort Mandan in North Dakota where Lewis and Clark spent the winter of 1804.
- ◆ Eleven days in July of 2004 were spent in Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Nebraska exploring significant Native American lands.
- ◆ Teachers read and discussed seven 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.



AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE

Federal Teaching American History Grant for the amount of \$1 million was awarded for a three year project.



- ◆ Teachers belonging to the ENDLC are eligible to apply
- ◆ History topics to include the American Revolution, Native Americans of the early country, and the War of 1812
- ◆ Travel to historic locations, workshops, instructional materials, stipends, and resources will be paid by the grant.

TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

- ◆ A grant of \$19,000 provided special web development training to school teams of teachers and students in a retreat format at Mahoney State Park.
- ◆ Internet Safety training through I-Safe America was conducted with over 95% of schools participating.
- ◆ A web design series of workshops including Photoshop, Macromedia Flash, and Fireworks were held.
- ◆ E-Rate filing assistance and technology planning workshops were conducted to assist schools in securing discounts for technology services.



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.

2004-2005 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 on 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 52 high school courses offered for the 2004-05 school year
- ◆ 20 dual credit courses offered
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ Wayne State College offering Foreign Language to area schools via Distance Learning.
- ◆ Universal Service Fund Discounts awarded for the 2003-04 school year in the amount of \$425,039
- ◆ ESU #2 Special Education Updates delivered through Distance Learning meetings.

WEB SERVICES

ESU #2 Web page services increased steadily in 2003-2004 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.



MEDIA SERVICES

- ◆ The media department continued to grow with the addition of 176 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 social studies issues dealing with Lewis and Clark, Native American tribes and their great leaders, state histories and past presidents to other areas covering Industrial arts and the Fine Arts. Language Arts titles were included as well as updating some of the Science subjects. This year, our new video titles also include the state standards, which serve as a guideline for our teachers to use in their curriculum area. The state-wide assessment this year is for Social Studies and the majority of the titles to be ordered at the preview seminar this Fall, hosted by CONESU, will have this as their base.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ 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 web-based 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. This new technology requires more bandwidth availability and servers are being purchased and installed this year.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2003 - 2004:

- ◆ 176 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.
- ◆ 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 2003-2004, the schools in Educational Service Unit No. 2 purchased \$185,906. of supplies/equipment and \$63,340. of paper through this program that had a retail value of \$494,594. + \$86,419. totaling \$580,923., resulting in a total savings to the schools of \$331,676. under listed retail price.
- ◆ 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.
- ◆ The year round special buys purchases were \$124,311.



Ashland Greenwood
 Bancroft Rosalie
 Beemer
 Cedar Bluffs
 Dodge
 Fremont
 Logan View
 Lyons Decatur NE
 Mead
 North Bend Central
 Oakland Craig
 Raymond Central
 Prague
 Takamah Herman
 Stribner Central
 Wahoo
 West Point
 Wisner Pilger
 Yutan
 Class I Districts

SCHOOL SERVICES

AutoCad Consortium				☒			☒		☒		☒	☒	☒	☒		☒	☒		☒	
Building Capacity Grant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CASES (SPED)		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓
COOP Purchasing	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Counselors		☒				☒	☒	☒		☒			☒	☒	☒			☒		
Distance Learning	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
ILCD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Internet DNS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Internet E-mail	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒		☒	☒	☒	☒	☒		☒	☒	☒		☒	☒	☒	☒
Internet/Network Tech	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
K12 TLC Website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
LAN Consultant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mac/PC Repair	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
PDC On-Site Training	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
PDC Consultation	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
PDC ISA Cooperative			✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓		✓	✓					
Perkins Grant		\$		\$	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$					\$	
Printing and Production	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Region 2 Grant (SPED)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Regional Training	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
Science Fair	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓			✓	✓
SCIP Grant (SPED)	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
SDFS Grant			\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Service Credit Dollars	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Services Coordination	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
STAR Grant		☒	☒	☒	☒		☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒			☒	☒
Student Record System-SRS	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Teacher Center	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
TECH Workshops	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Title I Consortium	✓			✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		
USF Fund Consult	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Van Routes	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒
Video Buy Coop	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Video Dubbing	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Web Media Catalog	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Westward Waters Grant		\$	\$	\$		\$	\$	\$		\$		\$	\$	\$						