

NESC Board Meeting

Thursday, June 11, 2026, 9:30 a.m.

Lake Region Special Education, Devils Lake, ND

Board Members present: Jay Slade, Dakota Prairie; Ned Clooten, Devils Lake; Jeff Olson, Four Winds; Rhandi Knutson, LRSE; Ben Allmaras, Maddock; Dave Ambers, Minnewaukan; Robert Bubach, Munich; Natalie Becker, New Rockford/Sheyenne; Jeff Hagler, North Star; Sarah Beck-Connot, Starkweather; and Penny Morin, Tate Topa.

Board Members not present: Sheri Olson, Devils Lake; Darren Sheggerud, Fessenden/Bowdon Dr. Carmen Simone, LRSC; Gil Black, Kensal; Dr. Kelly Peters, Lakota; Jeff Manley, Leeds; Daren Christianson, Langdon Area; Kristi Halvorson, Midkota; Kent Dennis, Minnewaukan; Brad Nash, Mount Pleasant-Rolla; Donna Sorensen, NDSD; Jordan Brown, Oberon; Chris Triggs, Pingree/Buchanan; Catherine Anderson, Rolette; Michelle Clouse, St. Joseph; Mary Langley, Warwick; and Angela Brandt, Warwick.

Others present: Jennifer Carlson, NESC Executive Director

Welcome & Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rhandi Knutson, Governing Board Vice President, at 9:30 a.m.

Review of Agenda

No changes were made to the agenda.

Board Minutes Approval

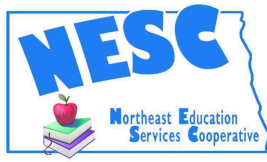
A motion to approve the [April 8, 2026](#), minutes on pages 3-5 of the board packet was made by Ned Clooten and seconded by Sara Beck-Connot; motion carried.

Fiscal Report

The financial report for 6/11/2026 was reviewed on page 6, along with a draft budget for 2026-2027 on page 7. The financial report for 2025-2026 will be completed after July 1, and a copy will be sent to the board for email approval. A motion was made by Jeff Olson and seconded by Ned Clooten; motion carried.

NESC Operations

NESC Governing Board Terms are expiring for Daren Christianson, President, and Rhandi Knutson, Vice President. A motion to nominate Rhandi Knutson as President, and to nominate



Jeff Olson as Vice President was made by Ned Clooten and seconded by Jeff Hagler. No other nominations were cast. Motion carried.

NESC Office Space

An updated lease agreement has not been received yet for the decreased office space; it is anticipated that we will have it sometime in July.

NESC Audit Update

The 2024-2025 audit has not been completed yet. As soon as it's received, a copy will be sent to the board.

Grants and Contracts/Professional Learning

ND COUNTS - [Essentials of Math Instruction professional development](#) is being offered through the NESC with the following schedule below (handout on page 12):

Option/Cohort #1: Aug 10, Sept 17, Oct 22

Option/Cohort #2: Jan 18, Feb 19, Mar 18

Option #3: Asynchronous (ND Educational Hub) course forthcoming

ND Science of Reading / NDCC 15.1-21-12.1 Upcoming professional learning includes the [July 22-23, 2026 Literacy Summit](#) (pages 13-14) and also the [2026-27 LETRS Volume 2 workshop series](#) (pages 15-17, registration deadline July 22)

Other 2026-27 Professional Learning Topics/Potential Topics

ND A+ Office Hours: [Recordings](#)

A discussion was held regarding Infinite Campus and whether there is a need for regional collaboration or support through NESC, such as regional user groups. At this time, the level of need remains unclear, and no specific plans have been established. Schools operating 21st CCLC programs were reminded to include Jennifer Carlson as a user within the Infinite Campus 21st CCLC module to ensure appropriate access and program oversight.

[CHAMPS & Discipline in the Secondary Classroom](#) (June 10 and August 5 or 7, 2026); information on page 18.

[Tough Kids](#) (August 6, 2026) Information on page 19.

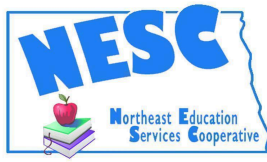
[Standards Alignment for ELA Curricular Resources](#) information on page 20 for this 2026-2027 learning series. Registration information [here](#).

Please submit 2026-27 District Calendars to erin.lacina@nescnd.org.

NESC [Cafeteria Credit](#) is available for member districts/educators.

Student Activities

The NESC and DLPS 21st CCLC cohorts continuation grant applications are being finalized for the 2026-2027 school year (due June 12).



TLC equipment will remain at participating schools throughout the summer and continue into the first rotation of the upcoming fall term. The TLC Padlet contains consortium resources, including access to all program modules and supporting materials. The group also discussed the use of the “Turf Tank” system and whether it may be a valuable addition for future TLC consideration. Several schools currently own or lease a Turf Tank, while others are exploring potential purchase options. Members shared experiences and discussed interest levels across participating districts.

The NESC Scrubs Camp was awarded 2025-2026 “Scrubs Camp of the Year” at the 2026 Dakota Conference on Rural Health. Jennifer Carlson was presented the award for the NESC at the conference on June 3, at the Alerus Center in Grand Forks.

[2025-2026 NESC Calendar](#) is linked, and the [2026-2027 NESC Calendar](#) is on page 21.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:48 a.m.