

ESU 13 ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

**Wednesday, October 29, 2025
10:00 AM (MST)**

**Scottsbluff Public Schools
Education Center
2617 College Park, Scottsbluff, NE
[Zoom Link](#)**

AAC Google site <https://sites.google.com/esu13.org/esuaac/>

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome & Introductions**
- 2. John Schwartz, Ed.D., Superintendent, Millard Public Schools- School Financing Review Commission**
- 3. Elizabeth Everett, Deputy Director & Public Policy Manager - First Five Nebraska Policy Update**
- 4. Craig Peterson, ESUCC COOP Purchasing Director**
 - [Sales & Savings by ESU](#)
 - [Sales & Savings by Member](#)
 - [Sales & Savings by Program](#)
 - [Sales & Savings by Vendor](#)
- 5. Computer Science Standards* - Jennifer Gier**
- 6. Website Accessibility* - Lori Biesecker & Jennifer Gier**
- 7. Distance Learning (DL) program* - Dr. Derek Peil**
- 8. Foundational Restorative Practices Training* - Kristin Kasten and Sara Gentry**
- 9. ESU 13 Behavior Training at a Glance* - Dr. Katie Carrizales and Jessica Broderick**
- 10. Adaptive Schools Workshop* - Deirdre Amundsen**
- 11. Partner Updates**
 - Chadron State College
 - Western Nebraska Community College
 - Panhandle Public Health District

- NCSA

12. Superintendent Discussion Topics

13. Adjournment

**ESU 13 Program Updates & Input*

Program Reports

Administrator's Items of Note

- Next meetings
 - December 17, 2025 (10:00am)
 - Dr. Jane Stavem, Deputy Commissioner, NDE
 - Elizabeth Tegtmeier, Nebraska State Board of Education
 - February 18, 2026 (10:00am)
 - Katelyn Larson, Director-Educator Certification
 - April 29, 2026 (10:00am)
- KSB School Law Quarterly Webinar Series
 - December 4, 2025 - [Not My Job? Think Again: Special Ed for the Rest of Us](#)
Special Ed isn't just a department - it's a district-wide reality. That is one reason why special education law is the topic that you all overwhelmingly identified as an area where you need more training. This session gives general ed leaders the legal survival guide they didn't know they needed. We'll cover inclusion pitfalls, IEP basics, collaboration hacks, and what to do when your teachers panic. No, you don't need a law degree to stay compliant-but you do need this training.
~ Ideal for superintendents, principals, assistant principals, and curriculum and special education directors
 - February 18, 2026 - [Lights, Camera, Hearing!](#)
If you think you'll never be called into a hearing, let us gently burst that bubble. Whether it's discipline, discrimination, Title IX, special ed, or tort claims, school leaders are on the hot seat more than ever. We'll walk you through what really happens-complete with video clips of a fake-but-very-realistic hearing featuring heroes, villains, and a school psych who saves the day. Learn how to prep like a pro, give confident testimony, handle cross-examination, and navigate the legal theater without losing your cool-or your case.
~ Ideal for superintendents, principals, assistant principals, special ed directors, and activity directors.
 - April 7, 2026 - [All Things Activities \(Eligibility, Discipline, Rights, Etc.\)](#)
From concussions to locker room controversies, student activities are packed with legal risk-and public scrutiny. This session covers eligibility rules, academic standards, and disciplinary procedures, along with critical issues like transgender participation, NIL rights, and mandated abuse reporting. We'll break down duty of care, SafeSport, CAPTA, and what to do when complaints come from parents, coaches, or the media. Whether you're dealing with a cleat-to-head injury or a viral video, we'll help you keep your programs compliant, your students safe, and your inbox drama-free.
~ Ideal for superintendents, principals, assistant principals, activities directors, and athletic staff. This session might also be valuable for board members who have a particular interest in activities.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- October is Spooky Season in the special education world! Since our last meeting, your district has completed the Indicator 11, 12, and 13 data reports, the September FTE collection, and worked through October 1 child count errors. ...And it's no coincidence that SPEDFRS is always due on Halloween 🎃
- NDE Released a new "S.O.S. Statement on Special Education" answering the question - How does a district ensure that alternative education programs meet students' diverse needs while remaining aligned with district goals, state standards, and legal requirements such as IDEA, Rule 51, and Section 504? [You can check out the answer here.](#)
- The ESU 13 Special Education Department holds 6 grants on behalf of our region - NeMTSS Regional Support Lead, NE Autism Spectrum Disorder Network, Journey to Inclusion (formerly PEaK), Secondary Transition, Planning Region Team 13, and Planning Region Team 14. Take a glance at what these funds are doing to support your schools by accessing the [ESU 13 "Grants at a Glance" document here.](#)

Psychology & Behavioral Health

- EIHFT is now taking referrals from our Title IVA consortium schools. Reach out to your ESU13 school therapist if you have a family you think can benefit.
- Western Nebraska School Mental Health Conference, success! Thank you to presenters, host sites and attendees. Next year's conference will be hosted by Hemmingford Schools (THANK YOU!). If you are interested in hosting a conference in future years please reach out, this is a great opportunity to have your whole staff attend and learn about mental health topics.

Quick Resources to share

- DHHS Behavioral Health / Mental Health Resources:
 - [2025-26 Behavioral Health Resource Guide for Schools.pdf](#)
- NDE Suicide Prevention & School Resources: [Toolkits](#)
- Risk Assessment Refresher Trainings (crisis response, policy, re-entry)
 - [Refresher-2025 \(1\).pdf](#)

Professional Learning ~ Deirdre Amundsen - damundsen@esu13.org

Our team looks forward to meeting and discussing your District Action Plans throughout the month of November.

What's happening this month?

Event	When? Link to info & register	Details
A's With Amy	Oct 29 Zoom Nov 19	Assessment, Accountability, Accreditation and... with Amy
Leading for Impact: Behavior Data & Systems	Oct 30	Designed to help leadership teams embed behavior goals within their school's broader CIP, ensuring that behavior supports are not a separate initiative but a fully integrated and aligned part of school improvement planning. Leadership teams will: develop a sustainable, data-driven behavior goal using relevant district data AND identify aligned action steps to support progress toward that goal.
CTE Collaboration Day	Nov 4	Designed to support Career & Technical Education (CTE) professionals across the Panhandle to strengthen instructional practices, share innovative strategies and explore statewide updates..
Pyramid Model Nebraska (Day 5 of 6)	Nov 7	Based on modules produced by the Center on the Social Emotional Foundation for Early Learning (CSEFEL), Module 3A - Relationship-Based Individualized Interventions: Back to the Basics
Panhandle Autism Mini Conference	Nov 11	Panhandle Autism Mini Conference - Intended audience includes special education teachers, Paraprofessionals, SLP, OT, PT, School Psychologists, Parents, Administrators, Advocates
New Teacher Academy	Nov 13	This series supports new teachers in their first three years of teaching creating a networking and collaboration system. Topics include: Survival 101, engagement strategies, NDEstate standards/assessment, IEP meetings, behavioral techniques, technology and MUCH more.
Title III Cadre	Nov 17	Educational professionals responsible for the development, delivery, and monitoring of educational programs for English learners.
HQIM Selection Series:	Nov 21	The selection and use of HQIM is one of the best ways to ensure

Evaluation & Selection Day (Day 4 of 5)		equitable instruction for each student. These sessions help your district be successful in your selection and implementation process. You will work as a team to evaluate materials using your chosen evaluation tool.
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Early Childhood Partnerships

Technology

VALTS Program

Title I-C Migrant Education Program