

## **CNETC Governance Board Meeting – July 31, 2003**

### **Attendance:**

Esmeralda: Curtis Jordan

Lincoln: Lorell Bleak  
Nykki Holton – Via video conference

Lyon: Bill Swager

Mineral: Steve Cook

Nye: Dave Dispensa – Via video conference  
Robert Lane – Via video conference

Pershing: Dan Fox  
Amanda Burrows

UNR: Jacque Ewing-Taylor  
Ken Gibson  
Kim Vidoni  
John Davidson

### **Final Assessment –Year One:**

Kim highlighted the successes and challenges of the first year found in her evaluation report. Kim noted that the biggest problem in the first year was a lack of effective communication between the districts and UNR, and the districts and their school personnel. She also noted the continued technology discrepancies between CNETC member districts and others. These data are summarized on slides 4-10 on the final evaluation presentation on the CNETC Web site.

### **NOTIS/Communication Discussions:**

Kim's data were collected through NOTIS (Nevada Online Technology Information Survey). Bill Swager and Dave Dispensa called the results of the survey into question based on their previous negative experiences with NOTIS data. It was agreed that the data were not perfect but were "official" and therefore carried some weight. To further the data collection discussion, the poor response results for the IITTL (Institute for the Integration of Technology into Teaching and Learning) surveys were addressed. Basically, news of the survey was dispensed too late, if at all, in the school year to gather significant participation across member districts. To remedy this, it was decided that the survey will be taken again at the end of September. All agreed that the end of the year

survey needs to be completed in April or May to avoid conflict with the end of school. Thus, IITTL will be collected twice during the upcoming school year (September/April).

The lack of effective communication between consortium members and UNR personnel was addressed. It was determined that each individual member district will select a single point of contact within the district for CNETC, in the hopes that communications from UNR personnel would be better disseminated to the proper district personnel. This point of contact will be responsible for timely response to requests for information, dissemination of information to the proper teachers and administrators, and dissemination of materials to the appropriate schools. The choosing of a contact person will be determined at a later date by individual districts, but it was stressed that sooner would be better.

### **Planning for Next Year:**

District trainer trainings will be held over two days, every other month on a Monday and Tuesday starting in September. Governance Board meetings will take place in conjunction with District Superintendent meetings.

Jacque indicated that a modified mentor project could effectively address some of the concerns raised by the District Trainers in their evaluations of the first year's activities. She suggested that trainers be encouraged to travel to another trainer's sessions and assist, that UNR personnel are available to assist with the district training sessions, and that trainers be encouraged to be innovative in their approaches to their district training sessions. All members agreed that these ideas should be included in the next grant application.

Board members also approved the inclusion in next year's grant proposal of a laptop for each district trainer and a portable LCD projector for each district. This will facilitate district trainers' presentations as they move to and from locations with differing computer setups, and will ensure valuable continuity of hardware and software for the trainers. The equipment will be checked out to each district trainer through the school district.

Discussion was held over what new and/or different incentives should be given to teachers to attend the trainings held by the district trainers. Teachers indicated that they would like a stipend in addition to being able to receive university and in-service credit. The effectiveness of stipends was challenged as an incentive to attend meetings, although it was still seen as a positive. Curtis Jordan wanted to know if undergraduate credit could be earned for teachers in attendance. Bill Hemlin, director of an RPDP, was suggested as a possible resource. Nykki described her use of Lincoln's Title V grant to offer "carrots" for teachers in attendance. A \$750,000 school technology grant issued by Harry Reid was discussed.

No definitive solution was agreed upon for stipends; however, Nykki offered to give everyone a copy of her Title V grant to use as a model for the districts. It was agreed upon that district trainers would not be given training in writing grants, as "unsupervised" grant writing had cost Lincoln County countless hours of paperwork in the past.

Amanda Burrows offered Shelly Parrish's training method as a potential model for some trainers. Shelly goes into a classroom during her prep period to teach an individual teacher and his/her students. Involving the students was seen as a positive approach.

A third district trainer was approved for Nye county. Lyon was reminded that they have a third, unfilled trainer slot. Dave Dispensa and Bill Swager will coordinate the appointment of these new trainers.

### **New Members:**

For new district membership, Jacque noted that Churchill had submitted an application for membership and Douglas was in the process (although hampered by summertime communication problems). Lorell Bleak motioned that Churchill and Douglass counties be admitted into the consortium. Steve Cook seconded the motion. All votes cast were in favor of the motion. Jacque will notify the two new districts and make sure they get the necessary information to select their trainers for the first training session, September 8 & 9, at UNR.