

Minutes of the C-NET-C Meeting October 23, 2002

ATTENDING:

UNR: Kim Vidoni, LaMont Johnson, Jacque Ewing-Taylor, John Davidson, Mary Johnson, Dean Sparkman, Allison Bussa

Nye: Rob Roberts, Robert Lane

Lincoln: Nykki Holton, Lorell Bleak

Lyon: Russ Colletta, Robert Lane

Mineral: Steve Cook, Chris Hegg

Esmeralda: Curtis Jordan (via teleconference call)

Pershing: Not Represented

Nevada DOE: Mark Knudson

MINUTES:

Please note that bulleted items require your immediate attention.

I. C-NET-C Overview

Grant packets were given to each represented district, and Jacque provided an overview of the C-NET-C grant, its structure and goals. It is part of the No Child Left Behind Act and the Enhancing Education Through Technology Initiative. Our application for funding was cut only slightly: \$13,650, which had been designated for the technology leadership conference in Las Vegas (sponsored by the State Department of Education).

It is vital that we begin our organizing and planning now, as our funding ends July 1, 2003.

- Jacque asked that each superintendent appoint a district coordinator for this C-NET-C project as a liaison between the district office and UNR, to handle logistical and other training issues (because of the already heavy schedules of the superintendents). Please let Jacque know who that individual will be, whether a tech coordinator, district secretary, or other individual, as soon as possible.

Jacquie introduced Mark Knudson as the technical adviser to the consortium, representing the Nevada Department of Education. She also thanked Nykki Holton and Lincoln County School District for their willingness to act as LEA and fiscal agent.

The C-NET-C Web site will be a model where we can schedule trainings, do evaluations, etc.

Each time a workshop is done in a particular district, we want to also do a two-hour workshop for parents that evening. We will try to find a way to provide food for these parent trainings. We will be training the parents with the same types of skills that their children are learning so that they can help them with their homework. This training will be done either by the regular trainer for that day or by one of our C-NET-C staff.

We will be giving the 12 individuals (2 from each district) coming to our 8 workshops a \$300 stipend for participating. They will, in turn, go back to the districts and conduct 4 workshops for which they will receive another \$300 per workshop/training. Although we have not budgeted for it, we will also pay substitute pay if necessary.

Russ Colletta mentioned that, with the Regional Professional Development Program (RPDP), substitute days can be designated as professional development days to meet these needs.

Lorell Bleak stated that, if your board approves it, you can have at least five in-service days.

Mark Knudson mentioned that we should provide an incentive for participation, either continuing education credit or university credit. Graduate-level credit would be a good incentive for these rural teachers to move up on the pay scale.

With regard to attending workshops, there was some discussion about the attitude of many teachers, who do not want to take time for “one more thing.” Nykki Holton stated that it is the “passionate” teachers who we want to train anyway.

Shawn Franklin stated that, with the size of Lyon County S.D., it would work well if they could send three district people to be trained. It was the consensus of the other districts represented that this would be okay with them.

Mark mentioned that for every two hours of workshop training, trainers would be allowed one hour of preparation time. However, there is no maximum number of hours set for the trainings that would be done back in the district and the State Department is more interested in numbers, not names. So there is indeed some flexibility as to number of “teacher workshops” and number of hours spent doing the training. In the final analysis, what the State Department will need is the number of trainings and the number of attendees.

It was agreed that the actual trainings should meet the needs of the individual districts and that we need input from the superintendents as to what those needs are. Jacque will essentially push the train-the-trainer classes. With the workshops done back in each district, she essentially will act as an adviser.

Mark mentioned that, while there is no equipment essentially for the districts this year, in future years of the program there may be. He gave the example of the Northeast Nevada Technology Consortium which during the first year had no allowance for equipment but in the second year they were able to equip with grant funds a regional technology center.

Jacque suggested the idea of a “mobile training center.” She was also asked what a “workshop in a box,” for the eight Train-the Trainer sessions would consist of. These will be instructional kits prepared for the trainers, and will consist of printed instructions, CDs, tutorials, etc.—all the tools they will need to provide trainings in their districts.

Robert Lane mentioned that for his district, Nye, what they need are basic classes, not anything elaborate or technically difficult.

II. Evaluation Plan

Kim Vidoni, the independent evaluator on the project, gave an outline of her plans for the needs assessment:

- a. Based on the fact that there is a wide area as far as distance is concerned, she would like to do some telephone interviews. If she cannot make it out to the rural areas, she will begin phone interviews next week or sooner.
- b. She will be using the State Departments “On*Trac” (<http://ontrac.ccsd.net>) for self-assessment of teacher technology skills and classroom integration. On*Trac is a voluntary and confidential assessment tool. (NOTIS is not voluntary; it must be done.)
- Teachers are to do the On*Trac assessment twice—once now (**on or before December 1, 2002**) and once on or **before June 1, 2003**. All districts will have every teacher do the On*Trac assessment, with the exception of Lyon County S.D., which will do a random sample because of their large number of teachers.
- c. The On*Trac assessment will give us some good information as to what kinds of training is needed. It is important to note that school administrators can only pull certain assessment data, but a district can look at it all. Kim will have state-level access.

III. Governance Board Meeting Timeline

The Governance Board of C-NET-C consists of the six superintendents and LaMont Johnson.

- The following dates were set for Governance Board meetings and will be held in most instances in conjunction with the superintendents' regular monthly meetings.

December 18, 2002	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Carson City Silver Ore Conf. Rm 112, NDE
February 12, 2003	10 a.m. – 12 p.m.	Carson City Silver Ore Conf. Rm. 112, NDE
May 14, 2003	1 p.m. - 3 p.m.	UNR COE Dean's Conf. Rm.

- Jacque will communicate with superintendents via e-mail

IV. Paperwork Needed

- Every district has to have an updated long-range strategic technology plan, **which is needed no later than November 15. Mark Knudson pointed out that this requirement is not arbitrary; it is a federal mandate.** Mark will get the checklist to each superintendent and to Jacque. We cannot get second quarter funding without these plans in place. Send them to Jacque.

- **DUE NO LATER THAN NOVEMBER 15, 2002:**

Esmeralda Verify NOTIS & Update technology plan

Lincoln Verify NOTIS & Update technology plan

Lyon Verify NOTIS & Update technology plan

Mineral Update technology plan

Nye Verify NOTIS. Provide updated technology plan (none received)

Pershing Verify NOTIS & Update technology plan

- Jacque needs the names of each district's two master trainers—three for Nye—**by November 15, 2002.**

A number of options were discussed regarding times for trainings. The consensus was that Fridays or Saturdays would be best. It was pointed out that technicians are not licensed teachers, and we should use licensed teachers to do trainings wherever possible.

Steve Cook, Mineral County, said that he had a 12-person lab.

We have tentatively set our first Train-the Trainer session for Saturday, December 7, in Tonopah. We also plan to do a TOPs session on that date to train parents. Further details will be forthcoming.