



2022-2023 Annual Report

Serving the schools of Boone,
Butler, Colfax, Merrick, Nance,
Platte, and Polk counties

From Dr. Larianne Polk, Chief Administrator



The objectives of this yearly report encompass:

- Fulfilling the legal mandates outlined in §79-1228
- Disseminating details concerning ESU 7 activities to member schools
- Supplying data essential for informed decision-making.

Educational Service Unit 7 (ESU 7) is a leader and service provider, dedicated to providing leadership and support by delivering customized and innovative services across multiple school districts. Operating in Boone, Butler, Colfax, Merrick, Nance, Platte, and Polk counties, ESU 7 serves 19 public school districts with a collective enrollment of 13,003 students. This educational ecosystem involves nearly 1,390 educators and 84 administrators, alongside a workforce of 97 ESU 7 employees.

Our mission centers on bolstering schools as they mold the current generation of students, who will eventually become the future's leaders, educators, essential workers, and community members. We approach this responsibility with the utmost seriousness and thoughtful planning.

Annually, we extract insights from schools' data to determine the most effective means of support. These insights shape our service blueprint for the ESU 7 region and act as the foundation for tailoring services to the unique needs of each member school district. Our commitment to delivering top-notch supplementary services to schools, their leaders, teachers, and students stands as a paramount objective.

Within the framework of state statute, ESU 7 extends core services that encompass professional development, instructional materials, and technology/infrastructure assistance. Moreover, we extend our support by offering special education contracts and on-site technology personnel. ESU 7 is responsible for coordinating the Migrant Education Program, Early Learning Connection, and Autism Spectrum Disorders grants, which provide essential support to our schools, their students, and families.

Aligned with the expectations set by the Nebraska Department of Education's Rule 84, ESU 7 consistently maintains its commitment to high performance. Member school districts confidently rely on ESU 7's expertise in areas such as special education, professional development, technology and infrastructure support, production, and grant administration.

On behalf of the ESU 7 Board of Directors, I thank you for taking time to review this annual report highlighting the support our staff provides to our member schools. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dr. Larianne Polk, Chief Administrator

DEMOGRAPHICS

LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS: 6

15 - Senator Walz 24 - Senator Hughes
22 - Senator Moser 34 - Senator Lippincott
23 - Senator Bostelman 41 - Senator Briese

COUNTIES: 7

Boone, Butler, Colfax, Merrick, Nance, Platte, and Polk

BOARD MEMBERS: 12

Doug Pauley, President, District 8	Gary Wieseler, District 2	Joyce Baumert, District 9
Jack Young, Vice President, District 5	Richard Luebbe, District 4	Marni Danhauer, District 10
Jennifer Miller, Secretary, District 3	Bob Arp, District 6	Donald Ellison, District 11
Richard Stephens, District 1	Dan Hoesly, District 7	Dawn Lindsley, District 12

DEPARTMENTS: 13

Administration, Cen7ter, Early Childhood, Grants, Learning Academy, Mental Health, Migrant, Production/Print Shop, Professional Development, Psychology, Speech Language Pathology, Technology, and Vision

SCHOOL DISTRICTS: 19

Boone Central, Central City, Clarkson, Columbus, Cross County, David City, East Butler, Fullerton, High Plains, Howells-Dodge, Humphrey, Lakeview, Leigh, Osceola, Palmer, Schuyler, Shelby Rising City, St. Edward, and Twin River

STAFF MEMBERS: 97

SERVICES

- **Distance Learning** - ESU 7 efficiently orchestrates a diverse array of courses catering to K-12 students and offers innovative professional development opportunities for educators through a unique and dynamic delivery approach.

- **Grant Facilitation** - ESU 7 adeptly manages a comprehensive spectrum of state and federal grants, encompassing an array of vital initiatives, such as Title IA, Migrant Education (Title IC), Title IIA, Title III, Title IV, Carl Perkins, Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD), Early Learning Connection (ELC), Planning Region Team (PRT), Transition, Regional Transition, and PEaK (Promoting Engagement and Knowledge).

- **Instructional Resources** - ESU 7 operates a regional center dedicated to supplying a wealth of instructional resources, effectively bolstering curriculum standards and enhancing instruction. These resources encompass not only information literacy but also skill development, ensuring comprehensive support for educators and students alike.

- **LANMAN Partnership** - ESU 7 extends a commitment to deliver ongoing technical services as stipulated in our LANMAN Partnership service agreement. Within this framework, ESU 7 appoints a dedicated District Technology Coordinator, employed directly by the ESU, to serve schools that opt to engage with this invaluable service.

- **Mental Health** - The mental health team diligently seeks tailored solutions for each student and situation, employing an array of counseling strategies to address social and emotional needs effectively. Their collaborative efforts extend to educators, parents, and fellow professionals, culminating in the creation of safe, nurturing learning environments that fortify the bonds between home and school. With a focus on prevention, they provide counseling services to students and engage with individuals and their families, all with the overarching aim of promoting the optimal mental well-being of the student.

- **Production/Print Shop** - ESU 7 provides a streamlined and budget-friendly suite of print and art media services, encompassing tasks such as copying, collating, stapling, laminating, binding, folding, intricate letter and symbol work, and high-quality full-color poster printing.

- **Professional Development** - ESU 7 delivers comprehensive professional development support and technical expertise in the realms of curriculum, instruction, assessment, standards, and school improvement. These services are meticulously tailored to elevate the quality of learning, teaching, and the planning efforts of schools and districts, ensuring a profound impact on educational outcomes.

SERVICES

Special Education

- **Behavior Specialist** - Our services are dedicated to collaborating closely with administration, educators, paraprofessionals, psychologists, students, and families to cultivate and nurture positive social-emotional behavioral skills.
- **Cen7ter** - Cen7ter is meticulously crafted to cater to the unique requirements of individuals aged 14 to 21, specifically those with developmental disabilities. At the core of Cen7ter's mission lies the commitment to empower students, harnessing their innate strengths to facilitate their journey towards acquiring essential employment and independent living skills. Our program places a strong emphasis on a holistic approach, encompassing vital areas such as life skills, academics, social development, independent living, recreational pursuits, and meaningful prevocational experiences. Cen7ter's services are individualized, driven by IEP (Individualized Education Program) considerations, and flexibly available from one to five days a week to suit each student's needs.
- **Deaf Education** - Our dedicated Teacher of the Hearing Impaired delivers specialized deaf education services and offers expert consultation to students who are verified as deaf or hard of hearing. Collaboratively, Deaf Educators partner with audiologists to ensure the provision of tailored aural rehabilitation services, guaranteeing the most appropriate and effective support for each student.
- **Early Childhood** - Our intervention services encompass a diverse array of programs catering to children aged 0-5 years. These comprehensive offerings encompass evaluation, tailored intervention, and meticulous program planning, all geared towards addressing the unique needs of children facing learning challenges and developmental delays.
- **Learning Academy** - The ESU 7 Learning Academy is dedicated to empowering students aged 5-21 by fostering collaborative partnerships with stakeholders. We meet students at their individual academic, behavioral, and social levels, leveraging their strengths to facilitate a successful transition back to their original educational setting, thereby helping them unlock their full potential.

SERVICES

Special Education Continued...

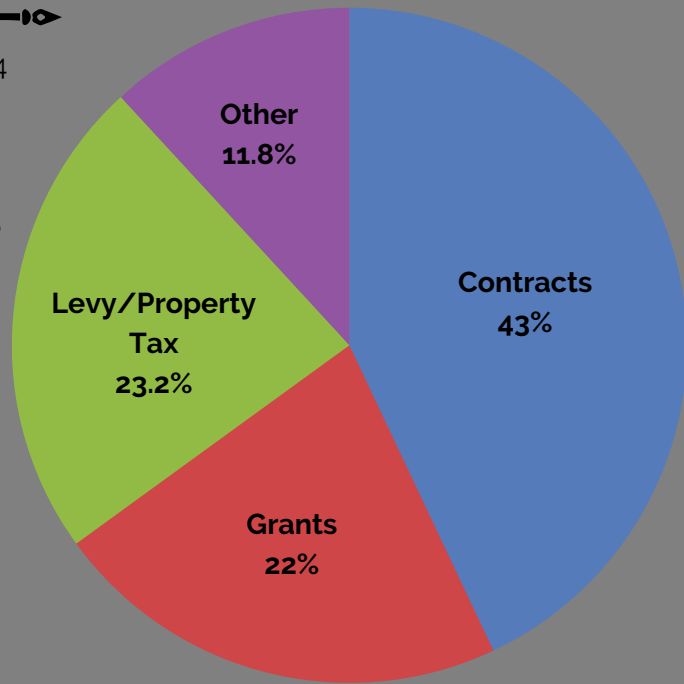
- **Program Supervision** - ESU 7's Special Education department stands as a beacon of leadership and unwavering support, fostering seamless collaboration with our member schools across multiple critical domains. Within this framework, our Special Education Director, alongside the administrative assistant and bookkeeper, extends invaluable financial services tailored to Special Education, including the administration of SPEDFRS and IDEA, while also facilitating a vital network for district bookkeepers. As a dedicated liaison between the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and districts, the Special Education Director ensures the alignment of compliance and best practices, offering expert IEP facilitation. Our resource teachers receive robust support through NDE guidance, training, and TIP (Teacher Induction Program) assistance. Furthermore, we extend an array of professional development opportunities to districts, encompassing a wide spectrum of topics catered to both teachers and paraeducators.
- **Psychology** - ESU 7 offers a holistic range of school psychological services, dedicated to nurturing the success of students, schools, and families. Our mission is to empower students in achieving academic excellence, acquiring essential social skills, fostering positive behavioral functioning, and cultivating robust social-emotional development.
- **Resource Coach** - Collaboratively engages with educators and district personnel to offer expert guidance, tailored training, valuable resources, and effective strategies for effectively working with students. This includes the judicious utilization of specialized programs and materials.
- **Speech and Language** - Speech Language Pathologists (SLPs) specialize in a comprehensive spectrum of services, encompassing evaluation, expert consultation, and targeted intervention for children encountering speech and language challenges. Furthermore, SLPs offer invaluable support to children grappling with articulation disorders, voice-related issues, and challenges related to dysfluency.
- **Vision** - In close collaboration with schools, families, and community agencies, we extend a wide array of resources, services, and supports to children grappling with visual impairments, ensuring their holistic well-being and growth.
- **Technology** - ESU 7 offers a comprehensive suite of technology services, encompassing expert support, consultation, hands-on assistance, tailored training, and skill enhancement for both hardware and software. Additionally, we facilitate cost-saving opportunities for internet services and software acquisitions, ensuring optimal technology utilization for our stakeholders.

FINANCIALS

REVENUE

Contracts	\$5,058,265.04
Grants	\$2,591,318.88
Levy/Property Tax	\$2,724,330.33
Other	\$1,394,204.65

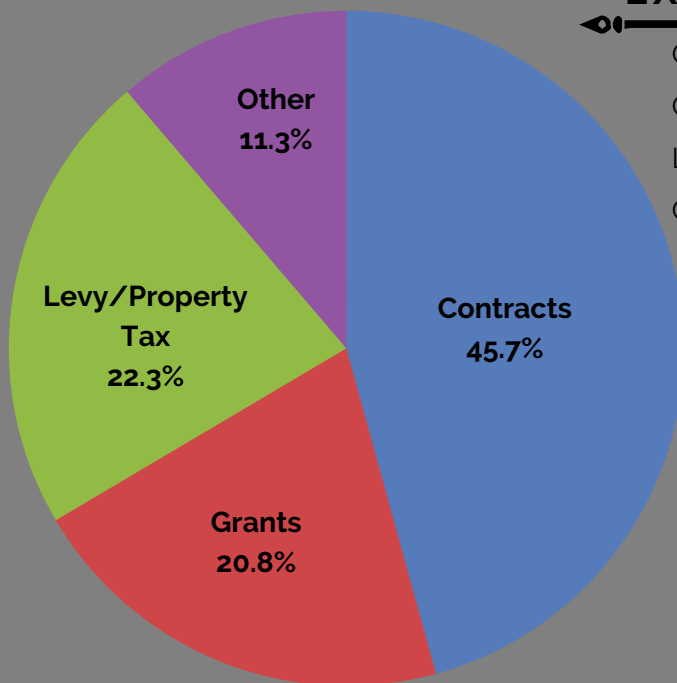
Total = \$11,768,118.90



EXPENDITURES

Contracts	\$4,960,799.34
Grants	\$2,254,329.31
Levy/Property Tax	\$2,414,425.82
Other	\$1,220,780.04

Total = \$10,850,334.51



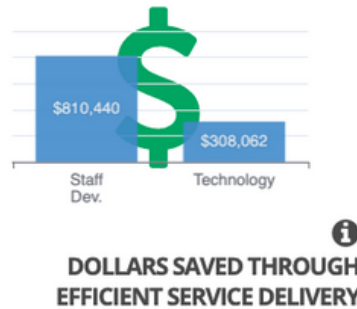
SIMPL

Service Implementation Matrix Process and Log



SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

13,272 ⁱ



AQESTT

for Nebraska

Percentage of ESU service offerings from the master catalog supporting AQESTT.



This visual represents how the ESU services align with AQESTT Tenets.
(see more real-time data about the AQESTT implementation)

ESU 7 takes the time necessary to assess data identifying areas needing support, develops a service plan to address those needs, and customizes services for each district. This comprehensive service planning process is called SIMPL (Service Implementation Model Process and Log). Information related to SIMPL is available at www.simpl.esucc.org.

*Service Hours only include Professional Development and Technology

SERVICE PLAN

2022-2023

	Boone Central Schools	Central City	Clarkson	Columbus	Cross County Community Schools	David Butler	East Butler	Fullerton	High Plains Community Schools	Howells-Dodge Consolidated Schools	Humphrey	Lakeview Community Schools	Leigh Community Schools	Osceola	Palmer	Schuyler Community Schools	Shelby - Rising City	St Edward	Twin River
Autism Spectrum Disorders Grant		●	●	●	●	●	●	●				●				●	●		
Before Age 5 Training	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Behavior & Mental Health Support	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●
Cen7ter	●				●	●					●			●	●		●	●	●
Classroom Coaching		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Continuous Improvement Process	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Contracted Interpretation-Translation Support					●	●	●										●		●
Contracted Technology Support	●					●	●	●										●	●
Coop Purchasing	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Crisis/ School Safety	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Deaf Education	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Develop, Revise, and Assess Curriculum based on Standards	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Digital Learning including BlendEd	●	●				●	●	●				●							
Distance Learning & Videoconferencing Support	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●					●
Early Childhood Special Education	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Early Learning Connection (ELC)				●												●	●		
EL Professional Learning	●		●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●			●	●	●
Electronic Recycling	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
English Language Arts (ELA) Content Training		●			●	●	●	●					●	●	●	●	●	●	●
E-Rate	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Hardware Repair	●	●	●		●	●	●	●			●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Information Security	●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Instructional Materials Adoption	●			●				●	●	●	●		●		●	●	●		
Instructional Models	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Instructional Strategies	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Internet and WAN Support									●	●	●	●				●	●	●	●
LAN Manager Program	●	●	●		●	●				●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Leadership				●	●	●	●		●	●	●					●	●	●	●
Learning Academy	●			●	●	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●				●
Math Content Training	●		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Media Lending Library	●	●	●		●	●	●				●	●					●	●	●

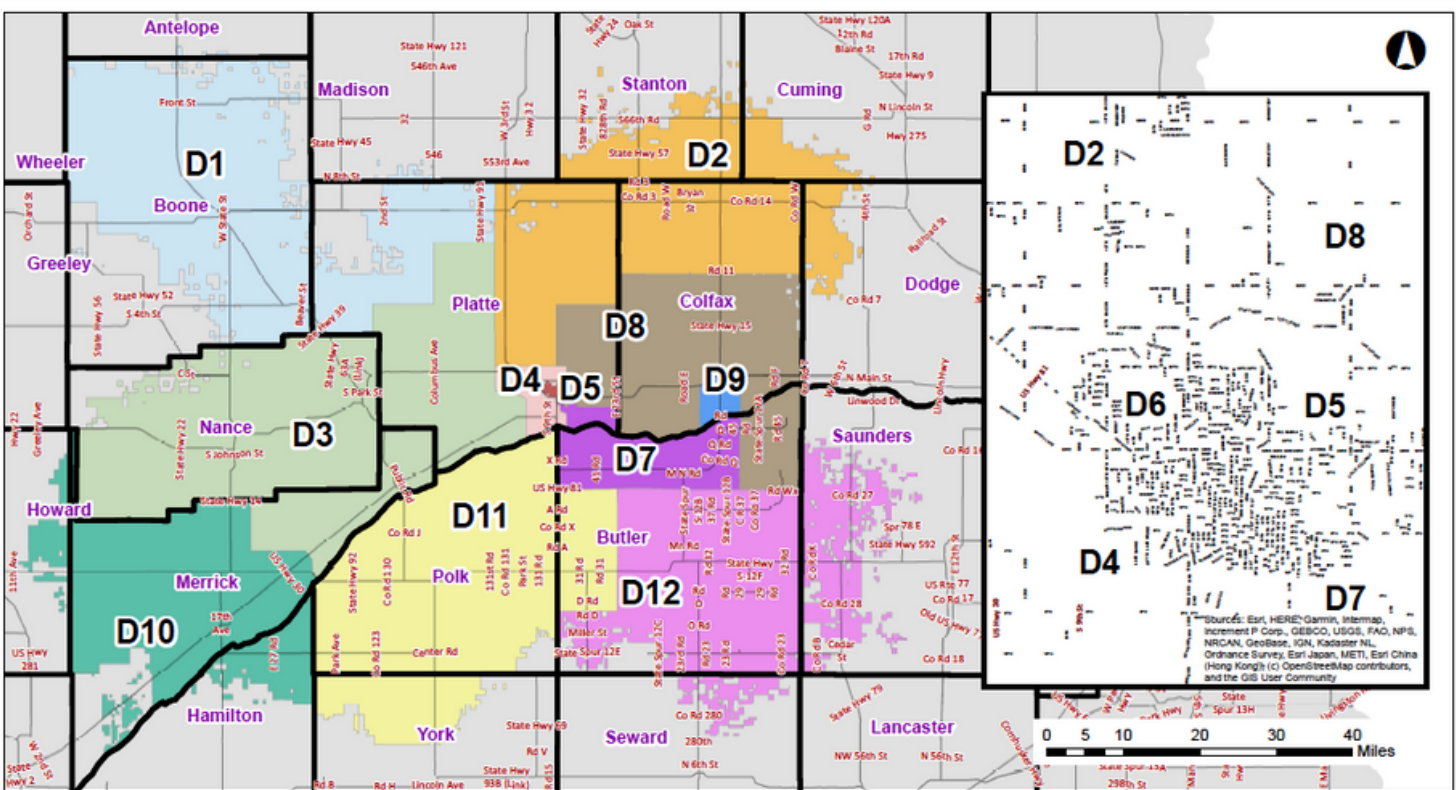
SERVICE PLAN

2022-2023

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Service Planned ✓ Service Accessed 																			
Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/RDA)	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	●	✓	✓
New Teacher Cohort	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
NWEA Training/Support								✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
Other/Non-NSCAS Content Trainings	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
PEaK	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Perkins Grant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Personalized PD																			✓
Planning & Consultation	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓			✓
Planning Region Team	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Principal Coaching	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Principal Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Principal/Teacher Evaluation			✓			✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓
Production/Art Media	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Products and Subscriptions	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Program Supervision	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Psychology			✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Resource Coach	✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Science Content Training				✓					✓		✓	✓	✓				✓		
Server Hosting									✓										
Special Education PD	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Speech Language	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Superintendent Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Technology Integration	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓			✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
Technology Support	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Title 1 Contract	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Title IC Migrant Education Program	✓	●	●	✓	●	✓	✓	●	✓	●	✓	✓	✓	●	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Title II-A Consortium		✓	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓
Title III - English Learners	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓
Title IV					✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓				✓	✓	✓
Transition	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transition Grant	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Vision	●	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓				✓		✓		✓			✓

EDUCATION SERVICE UNIT #7 DISTRICT MAP

LEGEND District D1 D2 D3 D4 D5 D6 D7 D8 D9 D10 D11 D12



ESU 7 Policy Manual

It is the policy of ESU 7 to not discriminate on the basis of sex, disability, race (including skin color, hair texture and protective hairstyles), color, religion, veteran status, national or ethnic origin, age, marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical condition, gender identity or sexual orientation, or other protected status in its educational programs, admission policies, employment policies or other administered programs. Persons requiring accommodations to apply and/or be considered for positions are asked to make their request to the Chief Administrator.



@esu7_ne



#esu7

North Building

2657 44th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601
402.564.5753

Learning Academy

2567 44th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601
402.564.0815

South Building/Cen7ter

2563 44th Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601
402.564.0815