



211 Tenth Street
Wakefield, NE
402-287-2061

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www.esu1.org



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Service is our middle name!

Educational #1 Service Unit 1

Check out what ESU #1 does for your local school districts in Cedar, Dakota, Dixon, Knox, Thurston and Wayne counties in northeast Nebraska.

✔ The Staff Development Team provides support to superintendents, principals and teachers in the areas of curriculum, instruction, assessment, data and school improvement. Staff developers assist in organizing and analyzing data; facilitating data retreats; NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) MAP assessment training and implementation; AdvancED and Nebraska Frameworks school improvement process, overview and preparing for external visits; alignment of curriculum; state writing assessment preparation; reading intervention training and core reading program fidelity; iPad apps; Response to Intervention (RTI); and 21st-century teaching and learning.

✔ The Technology Department works to ensure that email access, email service, filtering and access to the Internet are smooth and seamless for area districts. In addition, the department provides districts with comparative data collections and assists with visioning for the future.

✔ The technology trainer assists students, teachers, support staff and administrators by providing instruction in the areas of technology, tech integration and instructional materials.

✔ Instructional materials are provided to schools in northeast Nebraska. As a member of IMat (Nebraska's instructional materials affiliate group), ESU #1 secures digital rights to instructional video titles such at Magic School Bus. Other services include Learn360, World Book Online, Visual Thesaurus and SAFARI Montage.

✔ The Media Center supplies professional development resources materials, programs, satellite teleconferences, distance learning access, assistive technology and inventory distribution. The media center also completes individual orders for duplication, binding, laminating and die cuts for administrators, teachers and staff.

✔ The Audiology Department serves all the children of northeast Nebraska with audiological screening, testing and follow-ups in their homes, schools and in a soundproof testing suite at the Wakefield office.

✔ Speech/Language pathologists work with other specialists to provide: assessment and intervention to students from birth to 21 years of age; and services in areas that adversely affect student's education such as articulation, language, phonology, apraxia, voice, fluency, literacy readiness, hearing, social skills, autism and traumatic brain injuries.

✔ The Deaf Education Program provides direct and consultative services to students from birth to 21 years of age who have verified hearing loss. The program offers in-services to staff; provides input at Individual Education Plan (IEP), Multidisciplinary Team (MDT) and Student Assistance Team (SAT) meetings; assists schools with equipment needs for deaf and hard-of-hearing students; and advocates for families and children who have hearing loss.

✔ The School Psychology Program provides services in consultation, assessment and intervention to assist

educators, parents and other professionals in understanding the learning, social-emotional and behavioral needs of students, and in identifying effective strategies to help children be successful learners.

✔ The Physical and Occupational Therapy Department works to enhance learning and participation, achieve physical milestones and to foster independence through consultations with students and their families, as well as school personnel.

✔ The Transition Program is designed to help students with disabilities bridge the gap between school experiences and adult life, and helps students function as productively and independently as possible within an integrated adult environment.

✔ The Vision Program provides individualized learning environments, working to meet the unique and individual needs of students with verified visual impairments. Services provided include direct guidance in the areas of braille instruction; orientation and mobility; technology access; as well as in the areas of the expanded core curriculum for the visually impaired. Consultation, material preparation/adaptation, functional vision evaluations and orientation and mobility evaluations also are provided.

✔ The Tower School: Severe & Profoundly Handicapped Program is designed to meet the educational, emotional, social and physical needs of students placed in the program

who have been diagnosed as mentally handicapped: severe/profound.

✔ The Tower School: Behaviorally Disordered Program goal is to teach students placed in the program appropriate behaviors required to function positively within a traditional academic and social setting. Working in a structured environment with a small student-to-adult ratio, students have greater opportunities to improve academic, social and vocational skills.

✔ The Early Childhood Program works to provide appropriate comprehensive services to all children who are referred, ages birth to five, and are verified as behaviorally disordered, deaf, developmentally delayed, hearing impaired, learning disabled, mentally handicapped, multihandicapped, orthopedically impaired, speech/language impaired, visually handicapped or children with other health impairments. The program evaluates children, coordinates necessary services, and assists parents in meeting the needs of children with a variety of disabilities.

✔ The Early Development Network strives to help families of children with special needs below age three understand their child's disability and provide assistance in dealing with situations that interfere with the child's development; find services to meet developmental, educational, financial, health care, child care, respite care and other needs; work with multiple providers to make sure services are provided as needed; and become coordinators of services for their own children in the future.