



211 Tenth Street
Wakefield, NE
402-287-2061

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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 Teaching & Learning Team** provides support to superintendents, principals and teachers in the areas of instruction, assessment, data and school improvement. Teaching & Learning Specialists 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; Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS); technology integration and content area training.

✓ **The Technology Department** works to ensure that firewall protection, 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 a statewide purchasing consortium, ESU #1 secures digital rights to instructional videos.

✓ **The Media Center** supplies professional development resources materials, programs, virtual conferences, distance learning access, assistive technology and inventory distribution. The media center also completes individual orders for binding and

laminating 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 Vision Program** provides individualized learning environments, working to meet the unique and individual needs of students with verified visual impairments. Services provided include direct teaching in the areas of braille instruction, orientation and mobility, and 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 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 Tower School** houses our program designed to meet the individualized educational, emotional, social and physical needs of students who have not been successfully supported in their home district. The goal is to teach students appropriate behaviors required to function positively and ensure placement in the least restrictive setting possible. 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** uses a Primary Service Provider (PSP) approach to support all children who are referred and verified for special education services, ages birth to 5. Families and teachers receive support from a geographically based team that minimally consists of an early childhood provider, occupational therapist, physical therapist, services coordinator and a speech language pathologist. One team member is selected as a primary provider to work closely with each family or teacher while receiving support from an entire team of experts.

✓ **The Early Development Network** provides services and supports specifically for children birth to age 3 and their families. EDN strives to help families of children with special needs understand their child's disability and provide assistance in any areas that affect the child's development; find services to meet developmental, educational, financial, health care, child care, respite care and other needs; and to help families become coordinators of services for their children in the future.

✓ **The Migrant Education Program** (MEP) works to ensure that migrant children fully benefit from the same free public education provided to other children. To achieve this, MEP supports educational programs for migrant children to help reduce the educational disruptions and other problems that result from repeated moves.