



## LOWER PLATTE SOUTH natural resources district

3125 Portia Street | P.O. Box 83581 • Lincoln, Nebraska 68501-3581 | P: 402.476.2729 • F: 402.476.6454 | [www.lpsnrd.org](http://www.lpsnrd.org)

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### Memorandum

**Date:** July 16, 2018  
**To:** Each Director  
**From:** Mike Mascoe, Public Information Specialist  
**Subject:** I&E Subcommittee Meeting

The Information and Education Subcommittee met Wednesday, July 11th at 7:00 PM at the NRD office. Subcommittee members present were Deborah Eagan (Chair), Gary Aldridge, Mike DeKalb, Chelsea Johnson, Anthony Schutz, Milt Schmidt and Dan Steinkruger. Subcommittee member Vern Barrett joined the meeting via telephone. Other directors present were Board Chair Ray Stevens and Larry Ruth. Legal Counsel Steve Seglin also attended, along with staff members Paul Zillig and Mike Mascoe.

Chair Eagan called the meeting to order to further discuss outdoor classroom grants to private schools. Legal Counsel Seglin reviewed his opinion about whether the NRD appropriating public funds to any school of learning not owned or exclusively controlled by the state or a political subdivision is constitutional. The question was brought-up at the June Board of Directors meeting and a motion to approve the grant was tabled, pending investigation by Legal Counsel. Seglin gave a history of related legal opinions on the issue, including his own in 2003. Opinions have been based on Article VII, Section 11 of state statutes. Schutz discussed several court exceptions to statutes, but observed that the LPSNRD Board's current issue does not seem to fit within any of those exceptions.

Stevens advised that the tabled motion is on the July 18<sup>th</sup> LPSNRD Board Meeting Agenda and will be discussed further at that time. No action was taken by the subcommittee.

There being no further business, Chair Eagan adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

MM/mm