



NSSEO May Governing Board Brief

May Shining Stars - Student Infinitec Winners

Jonathan - Miner



Jonathan Burgos, a 7th-grade student from District 59, was recognized for notable gains in the area of communication over the last year utilizing his dedicated communication device, an iPad with Tobii Dynavox Snap Core First App.

Jonathan utilizes his device across the day to support engagement in academic and functional instructional opportunities and enjoys using the device to joke around and share preferences across his day. Jonathan has excellent ownership of his device and carries it everywhere across his school day. Jonathan's school team has observed growth in engagement in learning across the day, as well as more confidence in social interactions, while also noting Jonathan has spoken more consistently since the introduction of his AAC device. Great work, Jonathan!

Abby - District 214



Abby uses an iPad with the voice control accessibility feature, a computer (material management for college) with a voice control accessibility feature and Siri, and a motorized wheelchair with a joystick.

Abby is attending college-level courses through Early College Center in District 214's Life Skills program. She is able to interact with her college professors and attend high-level learning classes while still learning life skills in the high school education setting.

Abby has grown tremendously in not only her ability to use her technology tools, but her desire to use those tools. She has tried a myriad of tools and has come to the understanding of what things cost, what works for her, and truly has integrated assistive technology into her life. Way to go, Abby!

May Shining Stars - NSSEO Retirees



At the May Governing Board meeting, we extended our sincere gratitude and appreciation to four extraordinary retirees who have dedicated countless years to NSSEO-- over 125 years of service in total to be exact. The positive imprint they leave on students, families, and colleagues will be valuable reflections of their ongoing contributions to NSSEO. There are new chapters to write in our retirees' life journeys, and

our hope is that retirement offers precious time to embrace those opportunities and further pursuit of passions and interests that continue to contribute to their communities in impactful ways. NSSEO extends congratulations and the best of life ahead to each of our remarkable retirees:

Dave Jefferson - Sunrise Lake Teacher

Lois Bacigalupo - Miner School Classroom Assistant

Dr. Judy Hackett - NSSEO Superintendent of Schools

Nancy D'Andrea - Transition Specialist/DRS Liaison for NSSEO and District 211

Incorporating a Customized Equity Plan in the NSSEO CIP

The Diversity Equity Leadership Team (DELT) presented the scope of the work across the 2022-23 school year. Over the year, the DELT team worked to create NSSEO's Equity Action Plan (EAP), reflective of the *Five Strands of Systematic Equity* (systems, teaching and learning, student voice, climate and culture, professional learning, and family and community agency). The EAP established actionable items for the 2022-23 school year and prioritized areas for continuous improvement as we approach the 2023-24 school year.

A very special thank you to the following committee members for engaging in incredibly meaningful dialogue and discourse to guide the planning and creation of the EAP that will transcend and serve as a guiding resource at NSSEO for years to come.

Bryan Bolger, Erik Brekke, Michelle Brinson, Kristen Calvallo, Trinidad Canas, Katie Carberry, Dr. Brad Carter, Rylee Coteus, Christy Crabtree, Molly Dunne, Rebecca Franta, Amy Gallinger, Pam Guio, Dr. Judy Hackett, Dana Healy, Lauren Kimura, Erlind Laci, Gina Lozano, Deb McAtee, Christine Pasquesi, Tiffany Probst, Ruby Rodriguez, Laura Schoenfield, Michael Wagrowski, and Linsey Wypych

NSSEO Budget Approval and District Next Steps

Working closely through the support of the NSSEO Finance Advisory Committee represented by several district Board members, all district business managers, special education leaders, and NSSEO leaders, the NSSEO Governing Board conducted a public hearing. Following the hearing, they approved the transmittal of the proposed 2023-2024 NSSEO Budget to NSSEO member districts for their review and approval. Ms. Julie Jilek and Mr. Gavin McGinn facilitated the intense efforts to complete this process and included facility updates and a coop-wide facility needs assessment to begin in May 2023.

Continued Focus on Recruitment and Hiring

NSSEO has continued the recruiting and hiring efforts this spring as NSSEO continues to participate in multiple university/college fairs, online job fairs searching for “one like our next best” and extensive advertising and responsive interview schedules. Available positions for the upcoming year are posted for the upcoming 2023-24 school year.

[Click this link to check out any job vacancies.](#)

Upcoming NSSEO Events:

Kirk High School Graduation
Miner Graduation
Timber Ridge Graduation
NSSEO Last Day of School for Students
NSSEO Last Day of School for Programs
Extended School Year (ESY) Begins
NSSEO June Governing Board Meeting

Date/Time

May 23rd @ 6:30 PM
May 24th @ 6:30 PM
May 25th @ 6:30 PM
May 31st
June 1st
June 9th
June 13th @ 6:00 PM

Making a Difference

NSSEO is continually looking for ways to expand partnerships with parents, districts, community leaders, and legislators to join together as a community committed to deepening understanding and positively impacting NSSEO students and families. To learn more about how to make a difference visit us at [Make A Difference](#) as well as on our social media platforms:

Twitter

[@NSSEO_org](#)

Facebook

[@NSSEO](#)

Instagram

[NSSEO_org](#)