

NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA

- Meeting Date:** Friday, October 8, 2021 9:00 AM
- Meeting Title:** State Board of Education Meeting Notification and Agenda
- Location:** Embassy Suites by Hilton Lincoln
Regents Ballroom A
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE 68508
- Web Streaming:** Live web streaming will be available through the State Board of Education website: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/
- Agenda:** Except for emergency items added at the time of the meeting, the agenda will not be changed less than 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and any changes will be immediately posted on the website. The Board will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed.
- Interpreter:** If you need interpreter services or other reasonable accommodations, please contact the Nebraska Department of Education at (402) 471-5059 five (5) days prior to the meeting to coordinate arrangements.
- Website:** An electronic version of the agenda and support materials are available on the State Board of Education's Agenda page: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html
- Lunch:** On Friday, October 8, 2021, if necessary, the State Board of Education may break for lunch at 12:00 p.m. The lunch will take place in Conference Room C at the State Office Building, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Board may resume work on the agenda at approximately 1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Nickels

1. Roll Call

President Nickels

2. Pledge of Allegiance

President Nickels

3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information

President Nickels

4. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner Blomstedt

1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt

A. Commissioner's recommendations and items to be removed from consent agenda

Commissioner Blomstedt

2. Report On Rules

Commissioner Blomstedt

3. Board Operations Information

Ryan Foor

4. Provide updates to the Board on first-year implementation of the Purple Star Schools Program

Lane Carr

5. Provide updates to the Board on the three rounds of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds

Lane Carr

6. Authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's mid-biennium budget adjustments for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 on behalf of the Nebraska State Board of Education

Commissioner Blomstedt and Jen Utemark

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

President Nickels

1. Sign Language Across the State (10 minutes)

Whitney Mertens and Reese Pedersen, Students

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Nickels

5. CONSENT AGENDA

President Nickels

I move to approve the Consent Agenda

1. Board Member Out-of-State Travel Approval

2. Committee Appointments

A. Appoint the recommended individuals to fill vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)

Amy Rhone

3. Contract Approvals

- A. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to facilitate the coordination of joint initiatives, projects, and services
Lane Carr
- B. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Hanover Research for three years from October 2021 to October 2024 to provide access to the Hanover Digital Portal to participating ESUs
Lane Carr
- C. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to provide technical assistance and implementation services for ReadyRosie to school districts, Head Start/Early Head Start Grantees, and select community-based early childhood education and care programs statewide
Melody Hobson
- D. Approve amendment to the Teaching Strategies contract for ReadyRosie
Melody Hobson
- E. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Northeast Community College to continue the development of the Nebraska Apprenticeship Collaborative for Computer Science and Technology Youth Registered Apprenticeships in the state through the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students grant
Katie Graham
- F. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit 2 (ESU 2) to continue the development of the Nebraska Apprenticeship Collaborative for Computer Science and Technology Youth Registered Apprenticeships in the state through the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students grant
Katie Graham
- G. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of providing leadership, management, and organizational support for youth and young adult tobacco initiatives
Zainab Rida
- H. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with CEDARS for three years, October 2021 – October 2024, to employ an Education Director to establish a Rule 18 program to serve students from across the state and share best practices regarding the education of youth in this program statewide
Shirley Vargas

- I. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to contract with Heather Robbins dba Heather's Behavior Support Services
Amy Rhone
 - J. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with MTW Solutions, LLC for services and continuing support for the Nebraska Department of Education Grants Management System for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022
Jen Utemark
 - K. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Children's Hospital and Medical Center to oversee the development of a statewide messaging campaign on COVID-19 safety protocols targeting parents and students
Lane Carr
 - L. Authorize the Commissioner to obligate resources for staff augmentation services in support of providing aid distributions, fiduciary accountability, and mitigate financial risk efforts required under the COVID-19 pandemic Federal relief aid programs (CARES Act, CRRSA Act, and ARP Act)
Jen Utemark
 - M. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with FACTS Education Solution, LLC for services and support for the Nebraska Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS II) program for the period of October 10, 2021, through December 30, 2024
Jen Utemark
 - N. Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet Education
Cory Epler
 - O. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant 2.0 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Zainab Rida
4. Grant Approvals
- A. Authorize the Commissioner to accept FY2021 COVID Project AWARE-SEA Grant to address the high level of mental and behavioral health needs of school-aged children in Lexington Public Schools, Nebraska City Public Schools, and Valentine Community Schools
Zainab Rida
 - B. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to ESU #1 in partnership with the Liber Institute to provide the Cangleska Project
Amy Rhone
 - C. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to the University of Nebraska Lincoln and Educational Service Unit 13 for the Nebraska Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities – Improving

Retention of Special Education Teachers and Early Intervention Personnel Project
Amy Rhone

D. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a continuation grant to the University of Nebraska Lincoln for Project PARA
Amy Rhone

5. Lease Approvals (NONE)

6. Minutes of the Previous State Board of Education Meeting

7. Miscellaneous Approvals

A. Approve school districts' requests for exclusions to the budget limitation in accordance with the provisions of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act
Bryce Wilson

B. Authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's mid-biennium budget adjustments for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 on behalf of the Nebraska State Board of Education
Commissioner Blomstedt and Jen Utemark

C. Authorize the Commissioner to expend funds for the purpose of renovations at the NDE office space at 500 S. 84th Street, Lincoln
Ryan Foor

D. Accept the Resignation of Patricia Timm from the State Board of Education

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Nickels

1. Policy Committee (NO REPORT)
Patricia Timm

2. Legislative Committee (NO REPORT)
Robin Stevens

3. Commissioner's Appraisal Committee (NO REPORT)
President Nickels

4. AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee
Lisa Fricke

5. AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain Committee
Patsy Koch Johns

- A. Action Item: Approve the Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Morrill Public Schools
Melody Hobson
 - B. Discussion Item: Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP)
- 6. Budget and Finance Committee
Patricia Timm
 - A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report
 - B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports
- 7. Strategic Planning, Performance, and Improvement Committee (NO REPORT)
Deborah Neary
- 7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS
President Nickels
 - 1. In accordance with Board Policy B9, set public comment time limits for Friday, November 5, 2021
President Nickels
 - 2. Discuss the Development Process/Policy for Standards in the Future
Jacquelyn Morrison
 - 3. Discuss Process for Adding Items to the Agenda
Deborah Neary
 - 4. Discuss Contracts Related to the Brain Injury Capacity Building Project
Deborah Neary
- 8. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS
President Nickels
 - 1. Contracts Approved by Commissioner
 - 2. Grants Approved by Commissioner
 - 3. Contested Case Update
 - 4. Written Public Comment
- 9. GOOD OF THE ORDER
This section of the agenda is intended for Board members to offer informal observations of the work of the State Board. Board members may make brief announcements about attendance at future events for the purpose of informing other Board members. No business or motions, or suggested actions of the Board may be offered at this point in the

agenda; nor should Board members engage in substantive discussion about other agenda items or introduce new agenda items.

President Nickels

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, November 5, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined. As needed, a work session will be held on Thursday, November 4, 2021 at a time to be determined.

The agenda contains a list of subjects known at the time of its distribution on September 30, 2021. A copy of the agenda reflecting any changes will be available for public inspection during the normal business hours in the Office of the Commissioner of Education and on the State Board of Education's Agenda

page: www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html. *Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda will not be changed later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting.*



Nebraska State Board of Education
Covid-19 Meeting Protocol

Meeting date/time: Friday, October 8, 2021

Meeting location: Embassy Suites by Hilton Lincoln
Regents Ballroom A
1040 P Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline and detail measures and protocols that seek to protect and ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the purposes of this protocol document, “attendee” shall mean any individual person who is attending the meeting, but not limited to: state board members, Nebraska Department of Education staff members, other State of Nebraska employees, hearing respondents, and members of the public.

Maximum attendance

Maximum attendance at the meeting is limited to the rated capacity of the meeting room. However in order to maintain physical distancing between individuals, the room will be setup with chairs spaced three (3) feet apart. Standing is not allowed in the meeting room. If the meeting room becomes full or crowded, members of the public may wait in the pre-function area.

Considerations for Attendees to Access Public Meetings

Attendees are asked to comply with the following directives:

- a. **Accessibility:** Members of the public are encouraged to maintain 3 feet of physical distancing between others when entering and exiting the room.
- b. **Masks:** Masks that cover the mouth and nose are recommended for all attendees. Individuals who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.
- c. **Hand sanitizer:** Use of hand sanitizer is strongly recommended upon entrance to the meeting room and after attendees touch their face, cough, or sneeze.
- d. **Physical distancing:** The meeting room will be arranged to ensure that all attendees are able to practice physical distancing with a space of at least three feet between individuals. Arranged chairs and tables are not to be moved. Attendees are encouraged to avoid shaking hands or making physical contact with other attendees.

e. **Personal questionnaire:** Attendees will be presented with the following questions on signage at the entrance to the meeting room and asked to self-identify responses of “Yes” or “No” to each question.

1. Are you experiencing, or experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 14 days?
 - i. Fever or chills
 - ii. Cough
 - iii. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - iv. Fatigue
 - v. Muscle or body aches
 - vi. Headache
 - vii. New loss of taste or smell
 - viii. Sore throat
 - ix. Congestion or runny nose
 - x. Nausea or vomiting
 - xi. Diarrhea
2. Have you been in physical contact with or in close proximity to anyone who tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?
3. Have you traveled outside of the United States in the last 14 days?
4. Have you been in physical contact with or in close proximity to anyone who has traveled outside of the country, or who has been ill?
5. Do you have a temperature of greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit?

Should an attendee be able to identify a “Yes” response to any of these question, the Attendee should self-select to not enter the meeting room and leave the meeting venue.



TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner

FROM: Brenda Wid, Legal Services

DATE: September 22, 2021

SUBJECT: Report on Rules

RULES AWAITING APPROVAL FROM AGO

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24, *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements*
Sent to AGO August 9, 2021

RULES AWAITING APPROVAL FROM THE GOVERNOR

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 1, *Rules and Regulations Governing the Audit of Nebraska Public School Districts*
Sent to Governor August 11, 2021

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 2, *Uniform System of Accounting for Nebraska Public School Districts*
Sent to Governor August 11, 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Provide updates to the Board on first-year implementation of the Purple Star Schools Program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Each year, Nebraska's schools serve nearly 4,000 military-connected students, those students who are dependents of current or former members or reserve members of Nebraska National Guard or the United States Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or Space Force. A military connected student may also be a student who was a dependent of a member or reserve member who served in any of the above branches and was killed in the line of duty.

Signed into law in May 2021, the Purple Star Schools Act provides that the state board may annually designate Purple Star Schools for those public, private, denominational, or parochial schools that:

- Designate a staff member as a military liaison
- Maintain an easily accessible webpage on the school's website that includes resources for military-connected students and their families
- Maintain a transition program led by students, where appropriate that assists military-connected students in transitioning to school
- Offer professional development for staff members on issues related to military-connected students, and
- Does at least one of the following:
 - Posts a resolution showing support for military-connected students and their families on the school's website
 - Recognizes April as Military Child Month or November as Military Family Month with relevant events hosted by the school, or
 - Partners with a local military installation that provides opportunities for active duty military members to volunteer at the school, speak at an assembly, or host field trips for students.

This update will provide a high-level overview of the proposed first year of the program, and a timeline for its implementation.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: N/A
- New or Renewal: N/A
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



LAUNCH NEBRASKA



Purple Star Schools

October 8, 2021



Objectives

- Provide context for the Purple Star Schools recognition program
- Outline proposed timeline
- Answer any questions



A blue-tinted photograph of an astronaut on the moon. The astronaut is in the foreground on the left, wearing a full spacesuit and saluting. In the center, the lunar module is visible with an American flag planted in the ground. To the right, there is a large satellite dish antenna. The background shows the lunar horizon under a dark sky.

Purple Star Schools Act

Context



- Nebraska schools serve almost 4,000 military-connected students. These students represent:
 - Any student who is a dependent of a current or former member or reserve member in the NE National Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Space Force, and/or
 - Any student who was a dependent of a member or reserve member who was killed in the line of duty during such service
- Military-connected students and their families have unique needs and require specific attention and strategies

Purple Star Schools Act

- Signed into law in 2021, Purple Star Schools Act recognizes schools making a commitment to supporting the needs of military-involved students and their families.
- Recognition for public and non-public schools
- To qualify, schools must
 - Designate a military liaison
 - Maintain a website that provides resources to students & families
 - Create or implement a transition program for military-involved students
 - Offer professional learning for staff, and
 - Do one of the following:
 - Recognize April as Military Child Month or November as Military Family Month and host events
 - Post a resolution supporting military-connected students on website
 - Partner with local military installation



Proposed Timeline

- Open applications ASAP
- Close early November
- Review applications
- Recognize schools in November

Future work:

- Consider future iterations and embedding into data collections
- Continue to raise awareness on military-involved children's needs and provide professional development opportunities



Thank you!



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Provide updates to the Board on the three rounds of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) funds.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Congress passed three separate stimulus packages to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic - The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, and the American Rescue Plan. All told, Nebraska K-12 public education will receive an influx of nearly \$854 million. As part of this allocation, the NDE may set aside 10% for statewide uses.

This update will provide a high-level overview of Nebraska's allocations, priorities, and investments to date, as well as detail the support being provided to schools as they navigate the one-time funds.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: N/A
- New or Renewal: N/A
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund
October 5, 2021

Congress passed three separate packages to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic – The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act, and the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act. As part of these allocations, Nebraska K-12 public education system will receive an influx of nearly \$854 million.

These three sets of funds provide support through varied means, the largest of which is the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund, with 90 percent of funding going directly to school districts. Each allocation also provides funds for statewide activities administered by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE). A separate and specific funding stream provides assistance for non-public schools. *The purpose of this document is to outline the use of funds across the three allocations.*

Overview of Public School ESSER Allocations

	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) March 2020	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) December 2020	American Rescue Plan March 2021
Total Allocation	\$65 million	\$243 million	\$546 million
Allocation to Districts	\$59 million	\$218 million	\$492 million
NDE Set-Aside	\$6 million	\$24 million	\$54 million

Grant Timelines

ESSER Grant & Performance Period

It is important to remember that these are one-time funds that must be used to prepare for and respond to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. LEAs should consider multi-year budgets in alignment with the priorities outlined in [Nebraska's Framework for School Renewal & Acceleration, 2021-2022 School Year](#), mapping out how they will support their schools in meeting the social, emotional, and academic needs of their students through the fall of 2024.

ESSER I	April 2020	September 2022
ESSER II	January 2021	September 2023
ESSER III	March 2021	September 2024

Funds for Public School Districts

The ARP Act requires ESSER III funds to be allocated based on their respective share of funds received under Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 in federal fiscal year 2020. The district ESSER III Allocation Table is available [here](#) for review.

To access ESSER III allocations, districts were required to consult with a broad group of stakeholders including parents, educators and their unions, civil rights organizations, tribes, and other community groups. Districts were also asked to consider the evidence-basis for their investments and how these funds and projects would specifically impact those students who were most affected by the pandemic and students who have been historically marginalized, including students of color, students with disabilities, English learners, and the economically disadvantaged.

Uses of Funds

Approved Uses of Funds for ARP ESSER	
Administration – 10% administrative cap, includes indirect cost rate charged against direct costs.	Planning, coordinating, and implementing activities during long-term closures.
Any activity authorized by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, and Perkins.	Purchasing educational technology (including hardware, software, and connectivity) for students who are served by the district that aids in regular and substantive educational interaction between students and their classroom instructors, including low-income students and children with disabilities, which may include assistive technology or adaptive equipment.
Coordination of preparedness and response efforts.	Providing mental health services and supports.
Providing principals and other school leaders with resources necessary to address the needs of their individual schools.	Planning and implementing activities related to summer learning and supplemental after-school programs.
Activities to address the unique needs of low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities.	*Addressing learning loss among students, including low-income students, children with disabilities, English learners, racial and ethnic minorities, students experiencing homelessness, and children and youth in foster care
Developing and implementing procedures and systems to improve the preparedness and response efforts of districts.	*School facility repairs and improvements to enable operation of schools to reduce the risk of virus transmission and exposure to environmental health hazards, and to support student health needs.
Training and professional development for district staff on sanitation and minimizing the spread of infectious diseases.	*Inspection, testing, maintenance, repair, replacement, and upgrade projects to improve the indoor air quality in school facilities.
Purchasing supplies to sanitize and clean the facilities of a district, including buildings operated by such agencies.	*Development of strategies and implementation of public health protocols that align with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance on

	reopening and operating school facilities to maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff.
Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation and continuity of services in districts and continuing to employ existing staff of the district. Any entity that receives funds under the Education Stabilization Fund shall, to the greatest extent practicable, continue to pay its employees and contractors during the period of any disruptions or closures related to COVID-19.	

*New to ARP

	ESSER I (CARES)	ESSER II (CRRSA)	ESSER III (ARP)
District Distribution	\$58,576,577	\$218,766,177	\$491,317,757
Timeline	Obligated by September 2022	Obligated by September 2023	Obligated by September 2024
Budget Investments	42% Technology 26% Closure/ Employ Staff 19% Response/ Supplies 1.2% Vulnerable Populations 0.4% Professional Development 0.3% Social/ Emotional	<i>ESSER II applications are being analyzed for trends and themes.</i>	<i>ESSER III applications closed September 15, 2021. The NDE continues to review and approve.</i>
Stated Purpose of Funds	Provide direct funding to school districts to support areas impacted by the disruption from COVID-19.	Measure and address learning loss among students disproportionately affected by COVID-19 and school closures, particularly students with high-needs	Reopen schools and sustain safe operation aligned to CDC guidance for in-person learning. Provide evidence-based interventions to meet social, emotional, and academic needs.

NDE’s Statewide Priorities and Investments

Across 14 roundtable discussions with myriad stakeholders and a survey of [nearly 450 respondents](#), the following themes emerged:

- Provide access to *comprehensive mental health services* for students, staff, and communities
- Reimagine *family and community engagement*
- Develop high-quality *professional learning* opportunities and bolster the *teacher pipeline*
- Ensure all students have equitable access to grade-level instruction to *address unfinished learning and support learning acceleration*
- Comprehensively *modernize information, data, technology, and process systems*

The table below details a few of the highlighted investments across the five priority areas. These investments include both ESSER II and ESSER III statewide set-aside funds. The commitments/contracts are generally spread between two and three years. Priority investments are approved through a joint

decision-making process by the deputies and officers of the NDE, and any initiative over \$50,000 has been or will be approved by the State Board of Education.

When selecting interventions or initiatives, the NDE prioritized districts serving students that were most affected by COVID-19 and initiatives serving historically marginalized student populations.

Priority Area	Highlighted Investment(s)
Comprehensive Mental Health Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Health Support Staff, Equipment, Training- \$14 million ● Social-Emotional Learning Supports - \$400,000
Family and Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Community Schools Pilot - \$900,000 ● Transitions Supports for Students - \$460,000 ● Translation Services - \$226,650 ● Nebraska Statewide Family Engagement Center - \$500,000 ● Early Childhood Family Engagement Software - \$2.4 million
Professional Learning & Teacher Pipeline	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Educator Certification Capacity - \$1.2 million ● Pre-K Leadership Academy - \$350,000 ● Special Education Inclusion Training - \$950,000
Accelerated Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Expanded Learning Collaborative - \$11 million ● YRTC Academic Investments - \$501,000 ● Schools Ineligible for ESSER II & III - \$800,000 ● Learning Acceleration for K-8 Math; Integration of NeMTSS, HQIM, and CIP -\$5.6 million ● Statewide Support for Learning Acceleration; Support for CSI Schools - \$2.7 million ● Professional Learning to Strengthen School-Tribal Partnerships - \$750,000
Data, Infrastructure, and Systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Support for Redesigning Accountability System - \$193,000 ● Continued Consultation for COVID-19 Safety Protocols- \$150,000 ● School Safety and Security Reporting System - \$1.7 million ● Staffing Capacity - \$2.5 million ● Technology Modernization, Security and Risk Management, and Systems Infrastructure - \$15 million

Governor’s Emergency Education Relief (GEER I and II) Fund

Under CARES and CRRSA, governors were allocated funding specifically dedicated to educational investments. Governor Ricketts worked closely with the NDE and provided the authority for the NDE to administer the funds aligned to the priority of filling technological gaps.

	GEER I
Program	CARES Act
Nebraska GEER Aid	\$16,358,075 <i>(Revised June 2021)</i>
Allocation Method	Based on Public, Nonpublic, and Homeschool Needs

Use of Funds	Digital learning infrastructure including devices, software, and hotspots. NDE partnered with the ESUCC to maximize economies of scale, and use their already designed purchasing and distribution.
	GEER II
Program	CRRSA Act
Nebraska GEER Aid	\$7,162,159 (<i>Revised June 2021</i>)
Allocation Method	Governor Discretion; Awaiting Priorities
Use of Funds	Preventing, Preparing for, and Responding to COVID-19

Emergency Assistance for Nonpublic Schools (EANS)

With the CARES Act, States received an allocation based on the State’s relative share of children ages 5-17 who are from families at or below 185 percent of the poverty level and enrolled in non-public schools. Under GEER I/EANS and ARP EANS, nonpublic schools identified with high-poverty and most in need receive an award for services.

The Department provides services or assistance to eligible nonpublic schools serving K-12 students accredited or approved to operate in accordance with Nebraska Administrative Rule 10 or 14, respectively, prior to March 13, 2020. A non-public school is still eligible for EANS if the school was granted a Personal Paycheck Protection (PPP) prior to December 27, 2020 and/or will not apply for and receive a PPP loan on or after December 27, 2020.

GEER I/EANS Award:

- Total Award: \$17,272,129
- The Department administers the entire program under expedited timelines
- Contracted with FACTS Education Solutions to provide the services and assistance
- 50% of the total EANS funds are calculated based on Student Enrollment counts and 50% based on reported Free and Reduced Lunch (FRL) counts.
- The formula assigns a K-12 per pupil amount for each student enrolled regardless of a student’s socioeconomic status and an additional amount provided for students identified as low-income.
- Each eligible school is provided a minimum of \$5,000 services and assistance. Recipient participation requires application, assurances, budgeting, approved allowable services, award performance assessment, and reporting activities.

ARP EANS Award:

- Total Award: \$18,618,767
- The Governor and the Department await Certification and Agreement approval from the U.S. Department of Education on thresholds the State will use to determine if a non-public school enrolls a significant percentage of students from low-income families and is most impacted and data utilized prior to standing up the second relief aid program for nonpublic schools.

Summary

This federal infusion of funding to education represents an opportunity of a lifetime--a moment for Nebraska educators to create significant, transformational investments in closing achievement gaps for historically marginalized student groups (i.e. students of color, students with disabilities, English learners, and economically disadvantaged). Schools are using these funds for critical infrastructure upgrades, needed interventions, and supplemental activities to respond to unfinished teaching and learning. As part of the state’s commitment to education, we cannot withdraw from our responsibility for funding,

oversight, and vision. In fact, one requirement of these funds is a “maintenance of equity” which ensures:

- The State does not disproportionately reduce per-pupil State funding to high-need districts.
- The State does not reduce per-pupil State funding to the highest-poverty districts below their FY 2019 level.
- A school district does not disproportionately reduce State and local per-pupil funding in high-poverty schools.
- A school district does not disproportionately reduce the number of full-time-equivalent (FTE) staff per pupil in high-poverty schools.

The NDE is working to ensure transparency on the use of funds at all levels, evaluation of the return on investment, and impact beyond the three year lifespan of the investments.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE October 8, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jen Utemark, Office of Budget & Grants Management Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's mid-biennium budget adjustments for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 on behalf of the Nebraska State Board of Education.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 81-126 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 2014, provides for the Governor to make recommendations to the Legislature as to the deficiency funding requirements of the various agencies, boards, and commissions of State government.

Section 81-126 further defines deficiency as “any increase or decrease in any fund source for any budget program for the biennium in progress.”

The Department’s biennial budget request for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 must be submitted to the State Budget Division for consideration by October 24, 2021.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

October 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

The Department is requesting adjustment to State General Fund, Cash Fund, Federal Funds, and PSL appropriations for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: N/A
- New or Renewal: N/A
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - October

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Lisa Fricke	(NONE)		
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)		
Deborah Neary	(NONE)		
Patricia Timm	(NONE)		

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - October

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Patsy Koch Johns	(NONE)		
Patti Gubbels	(NONE)		
Maureen Nickels	(NONE)		
Robin Stevens	(NONE)		



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 7, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone – Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Appoint the recommended individuals to fill vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The State Board approves all SEAC members. Six new members were approved by the Board at the August 2021 Board meeting leaving two member vacancies to be filled. To meet the requirements of the federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), it is necessary to fill these vacancies. Members chosen represent all eight of the State Board of Education election districts. The Council voting membership shall not be fewer than 15 members nor more than 30 members.

Below is listed the recommended new members. The completed application(s) for the recommended members are on file in the Special Education Office, available upon request; not included due to IDEA confidentiality requirements.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Representation</u>
Carlos Serván (i) (viii) <i>*State Board District 1</i>	Individual & Deputy Director – Nebraska Commission for the Blind

Carlos has been the Deputy Director of the Nebraska Commission for the Blind for 19 years, and as such, works with the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind and Visually Impaired (NCECBVI), the NDE-Office of Special Education, Nebraska VR Transition Services, and different special education supervisors from across the State. He has been the Executive Director of NCBVI for the last four years, and as such is responsible to direct efforts to comply with the Workforce innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), which mandates that VR agencies make efforts to coordinate services with the local education entities (LEA) to provide pre-employment transition services across the state. By being a part of this Advisory Council Carlos would be able to contribute about NCBVI services regarding transition, and at the same time, learn from this Council new information to share with counselors and supervisors.

Lupe Stevens (viii)

Pre-ets Program Director – Nebraska VR

**State Board District 1*

Lupe has worked as a Nebraska Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor and has been a Pre-ets Coordinator for the over 16 years. She has attended staff meetings at various schools to educate them on VR availability to students and has attended individual IEP meetings for students to provide input for the IEP regarding the various activities that the student has completed while working with her along with providing information regarding VR Pre-ets services.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to facilitate the coordination of joint initiatives, projects, and services.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The NDE has expanded its presence in community-based and youth-serving organizations over the past year. Additionally, the NDE has expanded upon a partnership with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to bolster parent and family engagement and support, build additional expanded learning capacity, and develop and strengthen community-based initiatives. This contract would enable NCFE to hire or contract with a person yet to be determined to ensure consistent presence and coordination between the two organizations. Projects may include:

- Representation and reporting between NCFE's community collaboratives and NDE
- Connecting dots among other community groups and advising on strategic alignment of projects
- Providing support for the evaluation of full-service community schools project
- Coordinating and supporting rural community and school capacity building projects
- Updating the "Community Playbooks" and providing resources to schools and community

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed \$70,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Hanover Research for three years from October 2021 to October 2024 to provide access to the Hanover Digital Portal to participating ESUs.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Hanover's Digital Portal archives over 1,200 education-related reports, toolkits, dashboards, and quarterly webinars on topics of national interest. Report topics vary widely but may cover content related to curriculum, intervention, student support, technology, operations, and school climate.

Access to ESUs would include:

- Access to actionable research, tools, and complex datasets 24/7
- Access for up to 20 staff members at each ESU
- Ability to share up to three reports per month with member districts
- Professional learning on use of materials, resources, and bridging into action

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed \$840,000 (\$17,500 x 16 interested ESUs x 3 years)

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 21, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve a contract with the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to provide technical assistance and implementation services for ReadyRosie to school districts, Head Start/Early Head Start Grantees, and select community based early childhood education and care programs statewide.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This contract will provide implementation services for the ReadyRosie initiative that is being funded by the NDE through ESSERIII funds, and federal Preschool Development Grant funds. Multiple ReadyRosie initiatives are being implemented through federal funds. This initiative will consolidate the technical assistance and other support for the ReadyRosie statewide roll out. This will ensure that a common entity is recruiting schools and community programs to participate and standardizing the technical assistance so that any program can get assistance regardless of the source of the funding.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$277,500

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 21, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve an amendment to the Teaching Strategies contract for ReadyRosie.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: ReadyRosie: ReadyRosie is a birth through third grade family resource tool that utilizes video modeling and mobile technology sent from teachers to parents to provide research-based and standards-aligned content that supports the growth and development of the child outside of the school setting. In May, the Nebraska State Board approved a contract for \$175,000 to allow school districts and Head Start/Early Head Start birth through kindergarten classrooms and home visiting programs the opportunity to access the ReadyRosie parent engagement resource. That opportunity was funded by the Nebraska Preschool Development Grant.

At this time, we would like to expand the reach of ReadyRosie to the elementary grades - first through-third grade. This amendment would fund up to 200 classrooms in that grade range.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$70,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal ESSER III funds
- New or Renewal: Amendment to a new (May of 2021) contract
- If renewal, date of first approval:



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 21, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Katie Graham, Ph.D.
Administrator, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Northeast Community College to continue the development of the Nebraska Apprenticeship Collaborative for Computer Science and Technology Youth Registered Apprenticeships in the state through the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students grant.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2018 NDE was awarded the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education students grant from the US Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. A number of individuals, including our core partners Northeast Community College, ESU 2 and the Department of Labor have been carrying out the work of this three-year grant. Because of COVID, a one-year no-cost extension was granted to use the funds. NDE serves as the recipient of the grant and fiscal manager. This contract with Northeast Community College directly aligns to the work outlined in the original grant application.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$125,368.07

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Grant (Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students) awarded to NDE
- New or Renewal: New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Katie Graham, Ph.D.
Administrator, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Educational Service Unit 2 (ESU 2) to continue the development of the Nebraska Apprenticeship Collaborative for Computer Science and Technology Youth Registered Apprenticeships in the state through the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students grant.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2018 NDE was awarded the Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education students grant from the US Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education. A number of individuals, including our core partners ESU 2, Northeast Community College, and the Department of Labor have been carrying out the work of this three-year grant. Because of COVID, a one-year no-cost extension was granted to use the funds. NDE serves as the recipient of the grant and fiscal manager. This contract with ESU 2 directly aligns to the work outlined in the original grant application.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$55,158.34

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- **Indicate the Funding Source:** Federal Grant (Pathways to STEM Apprenticeship for High School Career & Technical Education Students) awarded to NDE
- **New or Renewal:** New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 23, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Administrator Office of Coordinated School Student Support & Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services for the purpose of providing leadership, management, and organizational support for youth and young adult tobacco initiatives.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nebraska Department of Education will partner with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) in their goal to educate youth on tobacco prevention efforts by supporting a fulltime position for the management and coordination of youth tobacco prevention programs and resources.

This position is also responsible for assisting with the development of grant activities and leading implementation to assure all program goals and objectives are met. Funding for this position is through one federal grant from the Centers for Disease Prevention and Control.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$155,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal- Centers for Disease Prevention and Control (CDC) National and State Tobacco Control Program to DHHS
- New or Renewal: New



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with CEDARS for three years, October 2021 – October 2024, to employ an Education Director to establish a Rule 18 program to serve students from across the state and share best practices regarding the education of youth in this program statewide.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: CEDARS Youth Services is a nationally accredited, and fully licensed childcaring and child placing agency, serving Nebraska children, youth, and families since 1947. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the impact on education, and the risk of educational failure, CEDARS requests funding to hire an Education Director, who will support CEDARS in establishing a Rule 18 program to serve students from across the state, develop processes and practices to support youth and share them statewide, and engage in regular collaborative planning sessions with the NDE to identify statewide needs and supports.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed \$318,576

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III statewide funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to contract with Heather Robbins dba Heather's Behavior Support Services

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Heather Robbins is the sole source of the specific services listed in this contract. She is named as the provider in the federally awarded Nebraska State Personnel Development Grant (NSPDG #H323A160013) to assist in meeting the goals and objectives of the grant due to her expertise, education, and experience. She has also served in this role through a contract with the Office of Special Education for the 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 contract period, working specifically with Nebraska's Special Education - identified Priority Schools. This contract will allow an opportunity to work with additional (Nebraska identified needs improvement) schools. The scope of this contract has not been modified from the previous year, rather one additional scope of work was added.

Heather Robbins' credentials and past experience with PBIS training provides NDE with the expertise needed to meet the contract goal and objectives. Ms. Robbins has provided this service in Nebraska and has served in an advisory and consultive capacity in building the NPBIS and NeMTSS process. In addition to NeMTSS supports, The Office of Special Education will begin to utilize Ms. Robbins in supporting school districts with positive behavior interventions and supports that are found to be disproportionate in the areas of identification and discipline as required per the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

The contractor fee is reasonable for the nature of the work and the background experience. The professional service fees are similar in cost to other contractors for professional training services. Teaching Strategies LLC #36119, Jack Consulting Group, #36112 and Catapult Learning West, LLC, contract #36198.

ESTIMATED COST: \$92,300

- Indicate the Funding Source: IDEA – Part B Federal Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: December 2017

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Heather Robbins has provided services and has served in an advisory capacity in building the Nebraska PBIS process since the first State Personnel Development Grant. She serves as sole source for the federally awarded Nebraska State Personnel Development Grant (NSPDG) #H323A160013 to assist NDE in meeting the goals and objectives of the grant due to her expertise, education, and experience.

Heather Robbins currently has three contracts with the department; #40185 for \$92,300.00 approved at the November 2019 State Board Meeting, #40119 for \$2,000.00 and #40216 for \$36,000. Combined, these four contracts total \$206,800.00.

ESTIMATED COST: \$73,120

- Indicate the Funding Source: Nebraska State Personnel Development Grant (NSPDG) No cost extension
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 2016

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE October 8, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jen Utemark, Office of Budget & Grants Management Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with MTW Solutions, LLC for services and continuing support for the Nebraska Department of Education Grants Management System for the period July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

What is Grant Management?

In short, grant management is all of the administration and work that goes into using and fulfilling the requirements of a federal grant and critical to mitigating financial risk, avoiding audit findings, and efficiently managing grant activities. Both the NDE who distributes and the subrecipients who receive the financial aid and provides the programs are involved in grant management. A grant is more or less a contract – it stipulates how the money is used, how that use is reported, and what period time it covers.

Fiscal Accountability

With federal grant funding accounting for 23% of pass-through aid and 66% of the NDE operations, accountable grant management is incredibly important. An effective grant management technology system ensures valuable funds are spent within program guidelines and are above scrutiny.

The NDE Grant Management System (GMS)

The NDE grant management technology system successfully supports federal grant planning, tracking, communication and sets a vision; specifically proving throughout the life cycle of a grant:

- For Subrecipients – applications, assurances, awards, implementation, reimbursement, and reporting
- For the NDE – application approval, awarding, program/budget management tracking, program evaluation, tracking results of programs, financial auditing, database integration, and cybersecurity.

Historical Information

- The Department conducted a formal Request for Proposal bidding process in 2003 to select this contractor.
- The Department has continued to contract with MTW since that time with no increases in hourly support billing or software licensing.
- The Department conducted a formal Request for Information process in 2017 and Department staffs' analysis and recommendation was to continue to contract with MTW.

The Department is in the beginning stages of conducting a formal Request for Information process. Since developing that scope of work and what elements a modernized grant management system should support,

In order to develop the scope of work, infrastructure, and functionality of a modernized grant management system, changing contractors over the assessment, development, and beginning integration stages would seriously disrupt services to school districts, Education Service Units, and the NDE.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

October 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

Up to \$237,000 for services identified within the support proposal

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Approximately 90% Federal Funds and 10% General Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: July 2004



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Children's Hospital and Medical Center to oversee the development of a statewide messaging campaign on COVID-19 safety protocols targeting parents and students.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

By the end of the year, vaccines for COVID-19 will likely be available to all children ages 5-11. Additionally, continued misinformation and disinformation have created confusion and anger surrounding the safety protocols implemented in schools. For both reasons, the state needs a clear, strong, consistent message from healthcare officials and pediatricians on the safety and efficacy of vaccines and necessary safety protocols. Messaging directly to parents, families, students, and other caregivers is needed to ensure the continued safety and continuity of learning.

Children's Hospital and Medical Center is perfectly positioned to oversee the development and messaging for a statewide campaign. Their national experts know the intricacies to communicating with parents, assuaging their concerns, and tailoring messages to different audiences. The COVID-19 vaccine and safety campaign will amplify the voice of trusted pediatricians and specialty physicians at Children's, local pediatric providers, and key influencers throughout the state.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$500,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: October 8, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jen Utemark, Office of Budget & Grants Management Administrator

PROOPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to obligate resources for staff augmentation services in support of providing aid distributions, fiduciary accountability, and mitigate financial risk efforts required under the COVID-19 pandemic Federal relief aid programs (CARES Act, CRRSA Act, and ARP Act).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

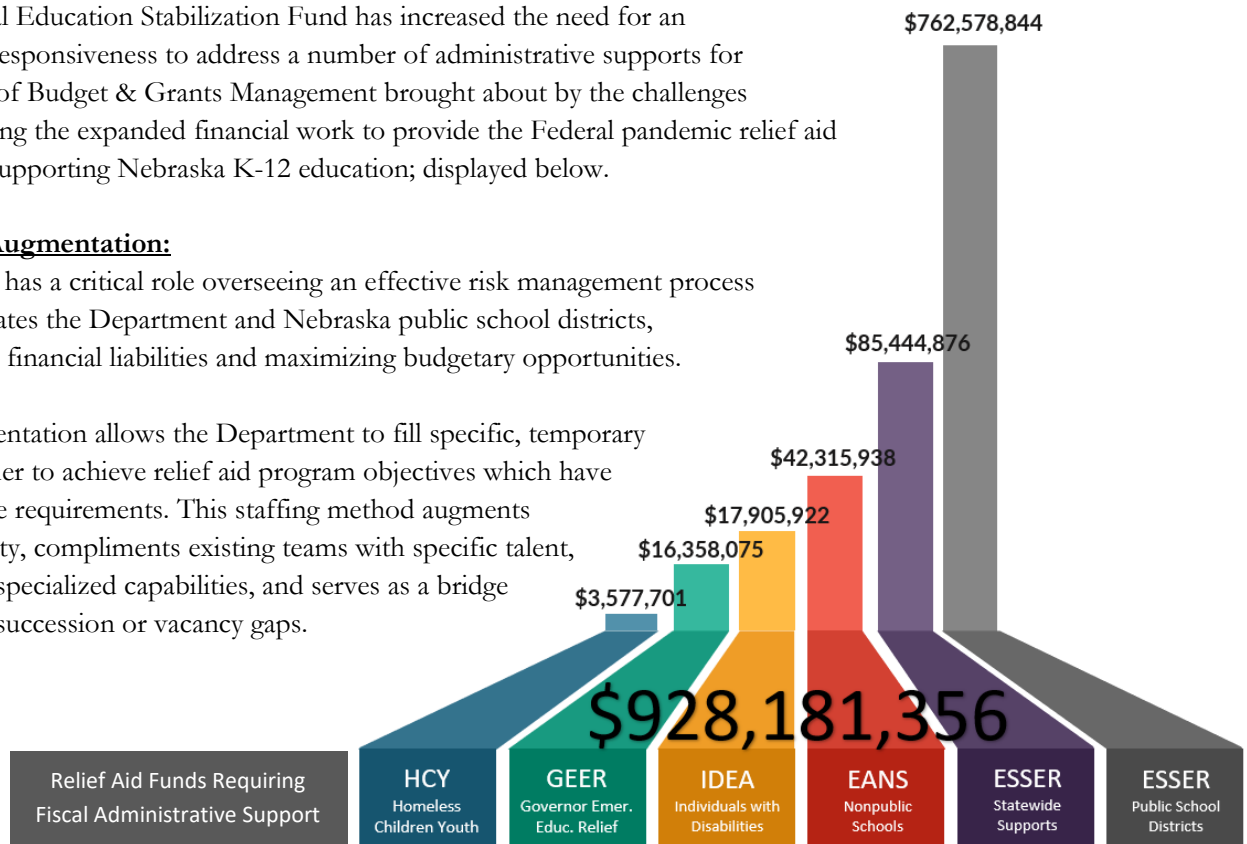
Purpose of Motion:

The Federal Education Stabilization Fund has increased the need for an expanded responsiveness to address a number of administrative supports for the Office of Budget & Grants Management brought about by the challenges of supporting the expanded financial work to provide the Federal pandemic relief aid programs supporting Nebraska K-12 education; displayed below.

Scope of Augmentation:

The Office has a critical role overseeing an effective risk management process that permeates the Department and Nebraska public school districts, minimizing financial liabilities and maximizing budgetary opportunities.

Staff augmentation allows the Department to fill specific, temporary roles in order to achieve relief aid program objectives which have limited time requirements. This staffing method augments staff capacity, compliments existing teams with specific talent, enhancing specialized capabilities, and serves as a bridge to hire for succession or vacancy gaps.



Augmentation vs. Outsourcing:

Rather than outsourcing aspects of the fiscal administrative requirements to an external provider, staff augmentation adds resources to the in-house budget and grants management/compliance teams.

In order to deploy the most cost-effective strategies, outsourcing is not feasible without incurring additional and substantial costs to oversee operational efficiencies, manage legal compliance, and ensure fiscal accountability.

Fiduciary responsibility to the State, public school districts, nonpublic schools, ESUs, and other educational entities, warrants utilizing existing infrastructure for cost effectiveness, specialized technical knowledge, automated technology solutions, mitigating risk, improved decisions, supporting the State Board Vision and Direction Plan, and drives better public outcomes.

Targeted Areas of Support & Timeline:

In an effort to address the challenges, resources have been identified to augment the capacity of the Office by way of fix-term and employer/employee relationships through the life of the federal awards, September 30, 2024, for continued, consistent, and comprehensive service without disruption.

This motion intends to provide the Commissioner authority to address the regulatory deliverables with the most appropriate and fiscally responsible infrastructure:

- **Grant Management Specialist (2)** – desk audit for aid distribution to schools and ESUs
- **Federal Fiscal Monitor (2)** – financial on-site audit, regulation governance, and risk management
- **Budget Specialist (1)** – budget management, core accounting, and financial reporting
- **Transparency Specialist (1)** – technology administrative support for clear lines of financials, performance metrics, stories, and strategic leadership dashboard communication.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING:

October 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

The authority to enter into contracts to achieve fiscal administrative capacity for Federal aid programs supporting Nebraska K-12 education not to exceed \$2,050,000 of Federal relief administrative funds.

Costing Analysis Basis: Scope of work and historical costs for similar work performed to meet fiscal administrative objectives and length of the performance period of the grant awards.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source:
 - Federal funds provided for grant administration under the following relief aid awards:
 - Governor’s Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER I)
 - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER I, II, & III)
 - Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS I & II)
 - Individuals with Disabilities Education Act/ARP Act of 2021 (IDEA-ARP)
 - Homeless Children and Youth/ARP Act of 2021 (HCY-ARP)
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of the first approval: N/A



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE October 8, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jen Utemark, Office of Budget & Grants Management Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with FACTS Education Solution, LLC for services and support for the Nebraska Emergency Assistance for Non-Public Schools (EANS II) program for the period of October 10, 2021, through December 30, 2024.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, provides Nebraska with emergency assistance for non-public schools and delegates the Department administrative responsibilities for providing by way of:

- \$16,208,515 in EANS II relief aid,
- \$2,210,252 for contracting services to provide EANS II services or assistance, and
- \$200,000 for Department administration.

Under the EANS II program, services or assistance is provided to eligible non-public schools to address the impact that the Coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) has had, and continues to have, on non-public school students and teachers in the State.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: contract for services up to \$18,418,767

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: 100% Federal ARP EANS Funds
- New or Renewal: New Formula Grant
- If renewal, date of first approval: First Approval



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 27, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

PROPOSED ACTION ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet Education.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In their current contract, Rivet Education is developing an overarching strategy for teachers and school leaders, including a professional learning scope and sequence, that supports the exploration of Nebraska's revised standards for English Language Arts (ELA). With this amendment, Rivet Education will build out the educator-facing trainings based on the scope and sequence developed. This includes the materials for four, turn-key sessions that support exploration of the revised ELA standards.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Contract is amended not to exceed \$100,000 (from current contract amount of \$47,000)



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 16, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant 2.0 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nebraska Department of Education was awarded a Project AWARE 2.0 (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) State Education Agency Grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. This project addresses the high level of mental and behavioral health needs of school-aged children in rural schools, including depression, anxiety, suicide ideation, and trauma

As documented and approved in the grant application, the Department intends to contract with the following partners through September 30, 2022:

- University of Nebraska Board of Regions—Lincoln Public Policy Center for project evaluation, including data collection, performance measurement, and written reports;
- Lexington Public Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection;
- Nebraska City Public Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection, and;
- Valentine Community Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed \$1,364,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal SAMHSA Project AWARE Grant
- New or Renewal: New



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 16, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to accept FY2021 COVID Project AWARE-SEA Grant to address the high level of mental and behavioral health needs of school-aged children in Lexington Public Schools, Nebraska City Public Schools, and Valentine Community Schools.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska's AWARE-SEA Project 2.0 addresses the high level of mental and behavioral health needs of school-aged children in rural schools, including depression, anxiety, suicide ideation, and trauma. Educators statewide have reported feeling unprepared to handle the severity of mental health issues arising daily in schools. Training for school staff to better address students' mental and behavioral health needs has been identified as a critical priority. In response, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services - Division of Behavioral Health (DHHS-DBH) are partnering at the State level to collaborate with the three Local Education Agencies (LEAs) to improve school-based mental health services.

The LEAs of Lexington, Nebraska City and Valentine are demographically and geographically diverse, with varying levels of poverty and scarcity of mental health resources. Two sites have higher free/reduced lunch, indicative of poverty and student mobility. All three LEAs have strong, long-standing track records of successful collaborations with State and local partners, including mental health providers, community organizations, the business and private sector, and stakeholders, including students and families.

The project's goals include: 1) prevention of mental health and behavioral disorders among students by providing positive, supportive, and trauma-informed learning environments; 2) increasing student resilience and pro-social behaviors; 3) increasing availability of school-based mental health services; 4) increasing schools' capacity to identify and immediately respond to the mental health needs of students exhibiting behavioral or psychological signs requiring clinical intervention; and 5) increasing schools' capacity to identify and intervene in bullying and aggressive behaviors of students which may contribute to school violence. Through the implementation of evidence-based, trauma-informed practices in mental health screening, assessment, interventions, and treatment, up to 5,227 students will be served through the project each year, with up to

6,795 served in the schools across five years. Selected practices to enhance school climate, student resilience and pro-social behaviors, such as Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), will be employed in each of the three districts, accompanied by Functional Behavioral Assessment and Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS).

Nebraska is a recipient of the FY 2018 Project AWARE Grant, and the FY 2021 Project will have the opportunity to build upon the successes and lessons learned from the initial grant.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED AWARD: \$8,935,636

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal SAMHSA AWARE-SEA grant
- New or Renewal: New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 24, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to ESU #1 in partnership with the Liber Institute to provide the Cangleska Project.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: In working with ESU 1 throughout the 2020-21 school year, there was a high number of member districts with Native American schools that were identified as being disproportionate or significantly disproportionate. In working with one of the significantly disproportionate districts in developing a root cause analysis, it was evident that the relationship of the tribal entity and the school district was in need of repair. Not having expertise in the area, The Office of Special Education turned to The Liber Institute to provide the Cangleska Fellowship opportunity.

At the heart of many collectivist cultures is kinship. In serving Indigenous young people, families, and educators, we seek to support education efforts in communities as the act of being a good relative is reclaimed. The Cangleska Project is a year-long fellowship program consisting of four components: professional development, coaching support, community engagement, and data processes, all of which are grounded in “Relative-ships”.

The Office of Special Education, ESU 1 and the Liber Institute will work with school leaders to conduct empathy interviews and school and community focus groups. This provides a starting point for creating a design team to guide a process to deepen or strengthen community “Relative-ships.” The Design Team will, create a vision for affirming Indigenous identities for learner success, determine how success is defined, identify priority areas of school community growth (focusing on existing strengths, guided by passion), inform educator goal setting for individual educator success

- Planning for next steps for support

Educators participating in the Cangleska Project will receive foundational training (or review) of culturally responsive pedagogies, with emphasis on the unique lens one must use when applying these concepts to Indigenous communities. The trainings will build participants' capacity to engage in community design processes and interacting as relatives. They will also learn about how to utilize the Wo'awacin: Framework for Enhancing Teacher Practice to guide their growth.

Teams will explore options for on-going professional development support through hybrid options, online courses, or quarterly convenings. The professional development will be customized for partner school needs and priorities.

Cangleska Project partner schools will receive two levels of coaching and support: classroom teacher and school leader. Each coaching plan will be tailored to the individual's self-identified area of growth and will maximize opportunities for virtual support.

Partner schools will have access to a shared repository for data collected by the teacher cohort.

This project will be a three year project with additional schools brought on each year based on readiness and disproportionality needs.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$180,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSERS III Funding
- New or Renewal: New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 16, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to approve a grant to the University of Nebraska Lincoln and Educational Service Unit 13 for the Nebraska Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities – Improving Retention of Special Education Teachers and Early Intervention Personnel Project.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: On August 1, 2021, the Office of Special Education was awarded a US Department of Education Grant for the Nebraska Personnel Development of Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities – Improving Retention of Special Education Teachers and Early Intervention Personnel. This is a 5-year grant. The first-year grant award is for \$241,838. These funds will not be used to hire people at NDE rather, a portion of Kris Elmshaeuser’s salary currently will be allocated for grant project oversight at the department, and we will be using the funds to subgrant to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska and Educational Services Unit 13 to hire and carry out the grant activities.

The ability of States to deliver high quality special education instruction to students with special needs is contingent upon the availability of specially trained teachers with appropriate backgrounds, credentials, and certifications. Unfortunately, special education staff shortages are a growing problem nationally (Billingsley, 2002) and in Nebraska (Nebraska Special Education Teacher and Provider Shortage Task Force, 2019), leaving many students with special needs at further risk for compromised educational outcomes. Prior to the start of the 2019-2020 school year, nearly one third of Nebraska schools responding to a survey reported unfilled special education positions (Nebraska Special Education Teacher and Provider Shortage Task Force, 2019). The impact of these shortages is felt in schools and by students across the state. Therefore, a systematic state-wide program is needed to address special education teacher retention and ultimately teacher shortages.

During the 2021-2022 project period, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln will develop a system for collecting and reporting statewide special education teacher retention data. A comprehensive, web-based data system that will allow the collecting and monitoring of special education teacher retention data in Nebraska. Staff at UNL will also identify and describe the key components of the comprehensive retention plan. Further they will create professional development materials, both for the administrator leadership training academy and for an induction and mentorship program, implementation procedures and fidelity measures.

The Principal Investigator, Dr. Amanda Witte, will be responsible for the overall contract project management. Dr. Witte will work closely with Amy Rhone and Kris Elmshaeuser and will be responsible for conducting organizational meetings, providing expertise, and serving as the primary liaison with the evaluation and communications teams. She will serve on the project management team and will help guide all project efforts.

Map Academy Faculty, Dr. HyeonJin Yoon will lead the evaluation team and all evaluation efforts. Dr. Yoon will serve on the project management team and will provide ongoing consultation. The MAP Academy is a service center housed within CYFS that provides statistical and methodological assistance in research design, analysis, and dissemination.

Nebraska Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families, and Schools (CYFS) Communications & Media is a service center housed within CYFS that provides Computer, technology and web support, database development, website design and interactive learning modules, articles, press releases and social media promotion, videos, photography, animation, graphics and other materials for print and web designs. The Communications and Media team will be responsible for the development and maintenance of the project website and the creation of the project brand, digital multi-media modules, video training materials, interactive web platforms, and social media messages (blogs, Facebook pages, Twitter feeds). They will support overall dissemination of project findings via the web, social media, and other means.

Education Service Unit 13 will hire a Project Manager during the 2021-2022 grant year. The Project Manager will address day-to-day management details such as working with budget and office staff; addressing challenges and barriers to overall project execution; and providing regular progress updates to the project directors. She will help develop retention plan materials and procedures, will lead the academy and mentorship programs, and will collect fidelity measures. She will serve as a bridge between the implementation, operations, and evaluation arms of the project.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: University of Nebraska-Lincoln \$ 96,950
Educational Service Unit 13 \$110,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: US Department of Education Discretionary Grant: IDEA Personnel Development to Improve Services and Results for Children with Disabilities.
- New or Renewal: New



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Amy Rhone, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve a continuation grant to the University of Nebraska Lincoln for Project PARA.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Project Para provides a locally controlled web-based paraeducator training package that meets the requirements of Rule 11, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), and Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA). The project will continue the maintenance of a management system and on-line training materials, monitor the on-line training system, and disseminate project evaluation reports. Strategies to promote the security and reliability of the training systems will be monitored and updated as necessary, including updating of hardware, software and procedures.

The Web-based study program has been designed to assist schools by providing an easily accessible training tool that can be adapted for the particular needs of a school and/or paraeducator. Project PARA is intended to augment the introductory training provided by school agencies as well as to fulfill the paraeducator training requirements of Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I, and IDEA.

The Paraeducator Self Study program is based upon training modules originally developed with grants from the U.S. Department of Education. The project's philosophy, the school-based model and the content that became the Special Education units were carried forward from these earlier grants. Changes have been made to the program that greatly enhanced the technology and updated and expanded the content. Supplemental units and assessments have been added and the program has been approved to meet the Title I and elements of the Early Childhood requirements for the Nebraska Department of Education.

Project PARA offers a Special Education certificate of completion for participants who have completed and passed the special education units. They include: Roles & Responsibilities of Paraeducators, Organization and Management of the Classroom, Developing Instructional Skills, Effective Communication with Students, Teachers and Other Professionals, Ethical Issues for

Paraeducators, Introduction to Special Education, Behavior Management and Observing and Recording Student Performance.

For schools and participants interested in meeting the Nebraska Department of Education requirements for Every Child Succeeds Act -Title I, participants need to pass six tests that include three posttests for units in the Assisting in Content Areas component. These units include: Assisting with Reading Instruction, Written Language and Fundamental Mathematics Skills, as well as three assessments for Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Participants who are interested in meeting the NDE Rule 11 or Early Childhood requirements must pass the following units: Early Childhood Growth and Development, Roles and Responsibilities of Paraeducators, Effective Communication with Students, Teachers and Other Professionals, Ethical Issues for Paraeducators, Assisting with Content Areas and the assessments for Content Skills in Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: University of Nebraska-Lincoln \$ 70,436

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2018

State Board of Education Business Meeting

Thursday-Friday, September 2-3, 2021

Embassy Suites by Hilton Omaha – LaVista/Hotel & Conference Center, Windsor V,
12520 Westport Pkwy, LaVista, NE 68128

[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)

[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Thursday, September 2, 2021, 2:30 PM.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 2:39 p.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels
Patsy Koch Johns

Patti Gubbels
Lisa Fricke

Robin Stevens
Deborah Neary

Absent: Patricia Timm and Jacquelyn Morrison

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.2 President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4 COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt shared information on the COVID-19 Meeting Protocol.

2. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

2.1 Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

Commissioner Blomstedt shared that this is Scott Summers, NDE Representative, last Board Meeting.

2.1.A. No agenda items were requested for removal.

2.2 Report on Rules

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24 is with the Attorney General awaiting approval.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 1 and Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 2 are with the Governor awaiting approval.

2.3 Board Operations Information

Ryan Foor, NDE Representative, shared that Board Members will receive information for expense reimbursement training next week.

The October Board Meeting conflicts with the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) Virtual Meeting. A different schedule for Committee meetings will take place in October.

3. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

(NONE)

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Maureen Nickels noted that the NASBE Annual Conference conflicts with the October Board Meeting.

Dr. Rachel Wise, former NDE State Board Member, received the NASBE 2021 Distinguished Service Award. This is the highest honor for a State Board Member to receive.

Patti Gubbels, NDE State Board Member, was elected to be on the NASBE Board of Directors to represent new members.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1. **Policy Committee** – Patti Gubbels on behalf of Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee continues the conversation of the reorganization of the State Board Policy Reference Manual and believes that a full State Board discussion in a retreat setting would be best to gain input regarding the proposed reorganization.

Two General Board Position Statements S5, *Expanded Learning Opportunities* and S11, *Position Statement for Nebraska Digital Education* are set to expire 10/6/2021. The Committee agreed that these two statements are antiquated and suggest that these be allowed to sunset and new restructured statement(s) be written.

Discussion of Board Policies, P5, *Contracts, Grants and Purchases* and P11, *Data Access and Use* will be scheduled for the Committee's October meeting.

Also, next month the Committee will begin the scheduled four-year review of B20, *Board Membership in Associations* and P7, *Teaching Certificates*.

5.1.D. Discussion Item: Four-year review of State Board Internal Policy P5, *Grants and Purchases*

The Board discussed contract and grant amounts that require Board approval. Currently, the Commissioner can approve contracts up to \$50,000, but lists of all Department contracts are provided to the Board.

5.1.E. Discussion Item: Four-year review of State Board Internal Policy P11, *Date Access and Use*.

There was no further discussion on this item.

Legislative Committee – No report. The Committee did not meet this month.

Commissioner's Appraisal Committee – No report. The Committee did not meet this month.

5.2 **AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee** – Lisa Fricke, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee on Teaching, Learning and Serving reports on three action items. The Committee reports on three potential action items. The Committee recommends approval of the College and Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts. Additionally, the Committee recommends the Board suspend the process on the proposed Accountability, Accreditation, and Approval rules. Both items are on the agenda for proposed action today.

Regarding the Statement on Health Education Standards, the Committee has proposed a revised draft and plans to meet again at 5:00 p.m. today for further discussion. The Committee may propose additional drafts later this afternoon for the Board's consideration. The Committee recommends the Board adopt the Statement on Health Education Standards at the Friday Board meeting.

5.4.A. Approve the Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent

5.4.B. Suspend the process on the proposed Accountability, Accreditation and Approval rules passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patti Gubbels.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent

5.5 **AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee on AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain met on September 2, 2021, and had two action items to approve the renewal of the Rule 11 waiver request from ESU#3 and Santee Community Schools, the Committee recommended the approval of these items.

5.5.A. Approve the Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Educational Service Unit #3 passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Lisa Fricke.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea

Robin Stevens: Yea
Patricia Timm: Absent
Patti Gubbels: Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent

- 5.5.B. Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Santee Community Schools passed with a motion by Patsy Koch, second by Robin Stevens.

Lisa Fricke: Yea
Patsy Koch Johns: Yea
Deborah Neary: Yea
Maureen Nickels: Yea
Robin Stevens: Yea
Patricia Timm: Absent
Patti Gubbels: Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison: Absent

- 5.5.C. Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP)

There was no further discussion on this item.

- 5.6 **Budget and Finance Committee** – Patti Gubbels on behalf Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting. The Committee discussed in further detail and asked questions about each of the three consent agenda items with NDE staff answering the Committee’s questions by providing additional information. The Committee was in support of all three consent agenda items reviewed.

The Committee reviewed the Monthly Board travel expenses and had no concerns.

The Committee reviewed in-state travel authorization with no issues or concerns.

- 5.6.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item.

- 5.6.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

- 5.7 **Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee** – No report. The Committee did not meet this month.

6 ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

- 6.1 In accordance with Board Policy B9, potential action by the Board on public comment time limits for Friday, August 6, 2021

Pursuant to Board Policy B9, I move to limit public comment to a maximum of three (3) hours, where each person may address the Board for up to two (2) minutes, at the Friday, September 3, 2021, meeting. The Board may take a 45-minute lunch break during such time announced at a time prior to recessing, with this break not included in the three-hour time limit; motion made by Maureen Nickels, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Board Members discussed the main motion.

1. Motion to amend the main motion by striking “a maximum of three (3) hours and with this break not included in the three (3) hour time limit,” and insert the words “to end by 4:00 p.m.” in the place of the three (3) hour limit passed with a motion by Deborah Neary, second by Lisa Fricke.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent

2. The Board voted on the motion as amended:
Pursuant to Board Policy B9, I move to limit public comment to end by 4:00 p.m. where each person may address the Board for up to two minutes at the Friday, September 3, 2021, meeting. The Board may take a 45-minute lunch break announced at a time prior to recessing. Motion passed.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Absent

7 INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

- 7.1 President Nickels referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

8 GOOD OF THE ORDER

9 ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, September 3, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at Embassy Suites by Hilton Omaha – LaVista/Hotel & Conference Center, Windsor V, 12520 Westport Pkwy, LaVista, NE 68128.

STATE BOARD BUSINESS MEETING, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER – President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels	Patti Gubbels	Robin Stevens
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	Jacquelyn Morrison
Deborah Neary		

Absent: Patricia Timm

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.2 President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4 COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt shared information on the COVID-19 Meeting Protocol.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Robin Stevens, second by Lisa Fricke.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea

3. AQuESTT TEACHING, LEARNING AND SERVING DOMAIN COMMITTEE

3.1 Statement on Health Education Standards

I move the State Board of Education hereby postpones the development of Health Education Standards. The State Board of Education received substantial input on the draft Health Education Standards and recognizes that now is not the time to continue the process. Furthermore, the Covid-19 Pandemic has placed varied demands on school districts, parents and families and communities. The intent of the State Board of Education is to determine the most appropriate time to address Health Education Standards after taking into consideration the state of the pandemic; the needs of children, schools, and communities; and the readiness of local school stakeholders. The decision to continue the process of developing Health Education Standards must be supported by a majority vote of the State Board of Education. Motion made by Lisa Fricke, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Board Member discussion followed.

Jacquelyn Morrison left the meeting at 9:24 a.m. Morrison returned at 9:25 a.m.

1. Jacquelyn Morrison made a motion to refer the statement back to the Committee for further discussion, second by Deborah Neary.
2. Robin Stevens asked if it was appropriate to convene to executive session.

President Nickels reported that Legal Counsel advised against convening to executive session. Legal Counsel further advised against executive session.

3. Motion to take a five-minute recess passed with a motion by Robin Stevens, second by Jacquelyn Morrison.

Lisa Fricke:	Nay
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Nay
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea

The recess began at 9:41 a.m. The meeting resumed at 9:46 a.m.

Patti Gubbels returned at 9:47 a.m.

4. President Nickels called for further discussion on the motion to refer.

Board Member discussion continued for the motion to refer. The Board voted on the motion to refer

Lisa Fricke:	Nay
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Nay
Robin Stevens:	Nay
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Nay
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea

The Motion to refer failed.

5. President Nickels asked Lisa Fricke to restate the main motion. President Nickels asked for further discussion on the main motion.

Board Member discussion continued for the main motion.

6. Patti Gubbels asked questions on the process to call for vote.

Ryan Foor, NDE Representative, recommended the motion to use is move the previous question.

Patti Gubbels moved the previous question, second by Robin Stevens.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Nay
Deborah Neary:	Nay
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay

Motion required a 2/3 vote and failed.

7. Debate continued on the main motion.

President Nickels asked Commissioner Blomstedt to read the first line of State Board Bylaw B6, *Agendas/Meeting Materials for Regular Meetings* to clarify how Board Members can request agenda items.

8. Robin Stevens moved the previous question, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Nay
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	No

Debate ceased on the main motion.

President Nickels asked Lisa Fricke to reread the main motion (restated below):

I move the State Board of Education hereby postpones the development of Health Education Standards. The State Board of Education received substantial input on the draft Health Education Standards and recognizes that now is not the time to continue the process. Furthermore, the Covid-19 Pandemic has placed varied demands on school districts, parents and families and communities. The intent of the State Board of Education is to determine the most appropriate time to address Health Education Standards after taking into consideration the state of the pandemic; the needs of children, schools, and communities; and the readiness of local school stakeholders. The decision to continue the process of developing Health Education Standards must be supported by a majority vote of the State Board of Education.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Abstain
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay

The motion passed.

President Nickels called for a break at 10:19 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:31 a.m.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

The following individuals from the public spoke regarding Board Member Deborah Neary's emails recommending Lisa Schulze for the Health Standards writing team: Aliisa Criffield, Brooke Stuhr, Cindy Guthrie, Deb Savage, Kami Riley, Kathy Adams, Kelli Brady, Lori Woosley, Melissa McClanahan, Peg Fong, Tarra Maguire, Trish Legg

The following individuals from the public spoke against the Health Standards: Adam Gotschall, Alyssa Demoret, Amanda Ristine, Amber Brown, Amber Parker, Amy Williams, Amy Wilson, Angie Eberspacher, Barbara Gard, Ben Stangl, Beth Hiatt, Carol Watson, Caroline Epp, Catherine Brooks, Dawn Urman, Dee Elder, Diane Kinnan, Donna Kozak, Dorothy Renter, Elissa Martin, Greg Brown, Gwen Easter, Jenn Boswell, Jenna Derr, Jennifer Hicks spoke on behalf of Michael Connolly, Jim Palmensheim, John Lowe, Judy Derr, Julie Sheldon, Justin Riddle, Kelli Lepler, Kirby Wilson, Liz Davids, Marilyn Rickley, Mark Akinsher, Mark Bonkiewicz, Mark Lutchens, Marni Hodgen, Mary Harper, Matt Innis, Michaela Prigmore, Michelle Schiel, Mike Mener, Monti Starkey, Nicole Hutchings, Patrick Martin, Rob Clements, Robert Saab, Sam Schlegel, Sara Freeouf, Sara Hunter, Scott Guthrie, Scott McKeen, Shane Lewis, Sheena Kinnan, Sue Fikli, Teresa Carey, Tim Hall, Tina Doerr, Wayne Smith, William "Pat" Moore

The following individuals from the public spoke for the Health Standards: Amy Lacroix, Bria Gilmore, Chelsea Egenberger, Cindy Maxwell-Ostdiek, Dave Richardson, Debra McKnight, Eli Rigatvso, Ethan Hotchkiss, Fred Robertson, Jamie Gould, Jesse Barondeau, Jessi Hitchins, Jessica Vandercoy, Jill Higgen, Josie Hayko, Julie Lubisi, Kelly Dennings, Kenna Barnes, Kristen Dupree, Lauren Koop-Daughtrey, Lily Castellan, Melanie Coronado Anaya, Melissa Wurth, Michael Greene, Michelle DeVitt, Mikayla Atkins, Monica Meier, Morgan Ryan, Naomi Hattaway, Roberta Wilhelm, Stacie Bleicher, Teddy Blatlock, Tia Manning, Wendy Goldberg

Brenda Fournier spoke on an initiative to the Legislature to replace the State Board of Education and replace with a smaller Department of Education.

Jacquelyn Morrison left at 11:23 a.m. She returned at 11:33 a.m.

President Nickels called for a break at 12:18 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:10 p.m.

Patsy Koch Johns left at 3:22 p.m. She returned at 3:29 p.m.

4.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 4.2, documents SBOE Written Public Comment September 2021 – Google Forms.

5. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, October 8, 2021, at 9 a.m. at a location to be determined.



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 22, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Bryce Wilson, Administrator, Office of Financial & Administrative Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve school districts' requests for exclusions to the budget limitation in accordance with the provisions of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. Distance Education Courses

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for Distance Education Courses for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received from educational entities for providing distance education courses through the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council to such educational entities. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

2. Early Childhood Education Grants

Proposed Board Action: Approve the amount for the 2019/20 Early Childhood Education Grants Expenditure Exclusion for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(2)(c) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for the amount received by the district for 2021/22 Early Childhood Education Grants if 2021/22 is the first year early childhood membership is included in the district's formula students. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

3. Retirement Contribution Increase

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for a Retirement Contribution Increase for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for a retirement contribution increase. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

4. Special Supplementary Grant

Proposed Board Action: Approve the grant listed on the attachment as a Special Supplementary Grant.

Rationale/Background Information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received for Special Supplementary Grants from Corporations, Foundations, or Other Private Interests as special grant funds for budget limitations purposes. The individual grant listed on the attachment has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special supplementary grant per State Statute Section 79-1003(39). If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

5. Voluntary Termination Agreements

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for Voluntary Termination Agreements for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1) (g), (i), (j), (k), provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for expenditures for voluntary termination agreements. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: None.

**Requests Relative to the Budgeting Provisions
of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act
For the 2021/22 School Year
October 8, 2021**

Recommendation 1

Distance Education Courses [Section 79-1028.01(1)(d)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
61-0049	Palmer Public Schools	\$41,400

Recommendation 2

Early Childhood Education Grants [Section 79-1028.01(2)(c)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
10-0007	Kearney Public Schools	\$82,000
16-0006	Valentine Community Schools	\$102,231
55-0148	Malcolm Public Schools	\$133,250
93-0012	York Public Schools	\$133,250

Recommendation 3

Retirement Contribution Increase [Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
01-0123	Silver Lake Public Schools	\$88,550
13-0056	Conestoga Public Schools	\$132,979
24-0001	Lexington Public Schools	\$579,957
30-0054	Shickley Public Schools	\$52,120
33-0021	Cambridge Schools	\$85,919
42-0002	Alma Public Schools	\$88,794
43-0300	Tri County Public Schools	\$99,993
55-0148	Malcolm Public Schools	\$117,810
55-0161	Raymond Central Public Schools	\$139,217
61-0049	Palmer Public Schools	\$72,513
72-0075	High Plains Community Schools	\$6,685

Recommendation 4

Special Supplementary Grant [Section 79-1003(40)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved	Source
01-0018	Hastings Public Schools	\$200,000	Hastings Public School Foundation
13-0001	Plattsmouth Comm Schls	\$186,974	Jr. ROTC Program
28-0010	Elkhorn Public Schools	\$146,193	Elkhorn Public Schools Foundation
28-0017	Millard Public Schools	\$2,570,000	Millard Education Foundation Grants
		\$35,000	Hubbard Grant
		\$6,000	Nebraska ASD Network
		\$180,135	Distant Targeted Improvement Plan Support
28-0054	Ralston Public Schools	\$100,000	Ralston School Foundation
		\$20,000	Region 24 Interagency Planning
		\$85,000	Learning Community Elementary Center Programming Grant
		\$155,000	Buffet Early Childhood Fund
54-0583	Verdigre Public Schools	\$37,997	Verdigre Community Foundation
55-0001	Lincoln Public Schools	\$2,000,000	PTO/PTA
		\$3,000,000	Foundation for Lincoln Public Schls
		\$750,000	United Way
		\$50,000	Woods
		\$600,000	University of Nebraska
		\$350,000	TeamMates
80-0005	Milford Public Schools	\$250,000	Anonymous Donor

Recommendation 5

Voluntary Termination Agreements [Section 79-1028.01(1)(g), (i), (j), (k)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
13-0056	Conestoga Public Schools	\$10,463
33-0021	Cambridge Schools	\$45,000
55-0148	Malcolm Public Schools	\$8,750
92-0045	Wheeler Central Schools	\$34,000



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE October 8, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Jen Utemark, Office of Budget & Grants Management Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to submit the Department's mid-biennium budget adjustments for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 on behalf of the Nebraska State Board of Education.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Section 81-126 Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 2014, provides for the Governor to make recommendations to the Legislature as to the deficiency funding requirements of the various agencies, boards, and commissions of State government.

Section 81-126 further defines deficiency as “any increase or decrease in any fund source for any budget program for the biennium in progress.”

The Department’s biennial budget request for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 must be submitted to the State Budget Division for consideration by October 24, 2021.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

October 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

The Department is requesting adjustment to State General Fund, Cash Fund, Federal Funds, and PSL appropriations for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: N/A
- New or Renewal: N/A
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A



2022 MID-BIENNIUM BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

REQUEST TO ADJUST EXISTING APPROPRIATIONS TO ADDRESS A DEFICIENCY

2020-21 FISCAL FRAMEWORK

\$2,023,567,499

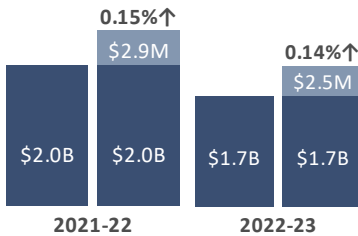
0.13% DEFICIT REQUEST
OPERATIONS

State General Fund
\$2,632,751

3% OPERATIONS

2.1% Federal Fund
\$48,693,937
0.8% State General Fund
\$15,702,872
0.1% Cash Fund
\$2,093,157

2022 INCREASED APPROPRIATION REQUEST



0.02% DEFICIT REQUEST
WORKFORCE

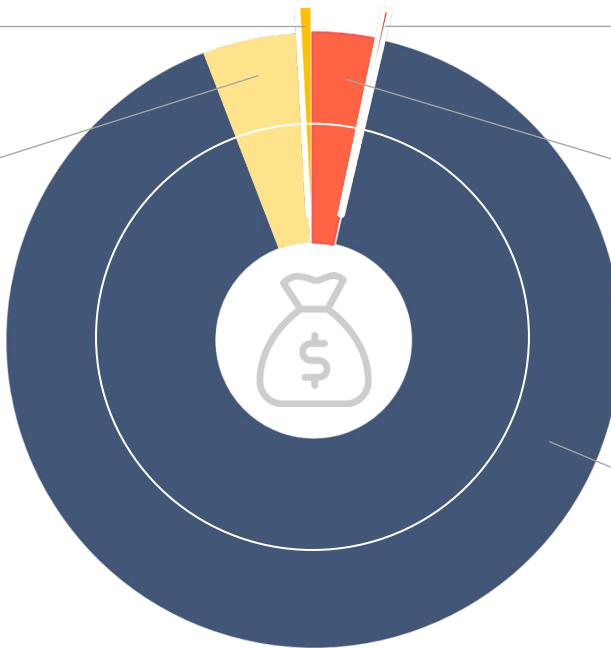
State General Fund
\$328,786

2% WORKFORCE

1.5% Federal Fund
\$29,853,488
0.6% State General Fund
\$12,895,209
0.03% Cash Fund
\$600,796

94.68% AID PASS-THROUGH

63% State General Fund
\$1,280,158,116
28% Federal Fund
\$569,928,791
3% Cash Fund
\$58,671,566



DEFICIT REQUEST SUMMARY

0.02%↑

WORKFORCE / \$328,786

- 54% Fiscal Controls & Transparency Support
- 38% Employee Vacation/Sick Leave Payout
- 8% Employee Reclassifications

0.13%↑

OPERATIONS / \$2,632,751

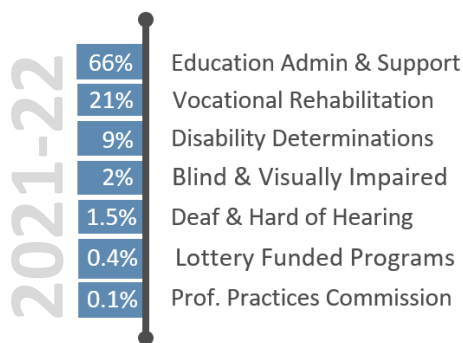
- 77% Relocation and Modernization Costs
- 17% Increased Rent/Improvement Costs
- 4% Facility Manager Support
- 2% Chief Information Office Rate Increase

0.0%↑

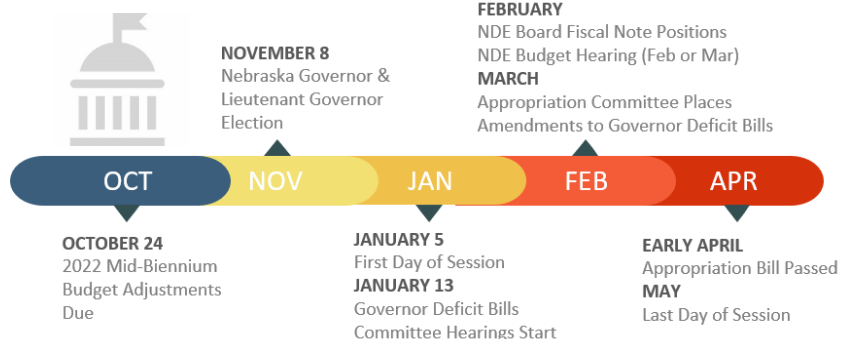
ADJUSTMENTS / \$0.00

- Move Relief Aid from Cash to Federal Fund
- Move Farm-to-School from Aid to Operations

APPROPRIATION BY PROGRAM



107th LEGISLATURE, 2ND SESSION





2022 MID-BIENNIUM BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS

REQUEST TO ADJUST EXISTING AAPPROPRIATIONS TO ADDRESS A DEFICIENCY

DEFICIT REQUEST LISTING

OPERATIONS		WORKFORCE		ADJUSTMENTS				
Issue Description				FY2021-22	FY2022-23			
1	Relocation & Modernization Costs	Prog 25	Oper	General	\$ 2,032,548	\$ 1,407,754		
2	Increased Rent & Tenant Improvement Costs	Prog 25	Oper	General	\$ 446,632	\$ 766,917		
3	Appropriation/PSL for Facilities Manager Support	Prog 25	Oper	General	\$ 96,571	\$ 109,454		
				PSL	\$ 47,250	\$ 64,418		
4	Increased OCIO* Technology Deployment Rates	Prog 351	Oper	General	\$ 57,000	\$ 67,000		
				General	\$ 2,632,751	\$ 2,351,125		
				PSL	\$ 47,250	\$ 64,418		
5	Increased Appropriation for Employee Reclassifications	Prog 25	Oper	General	27,124	0		
				PSL	27,124	0		
6	Employee Vacation/Sick Leave Payout Appropriation	Prog 25	Oper	General	126,090	0		
				PSL	126,090	0		
7	State Internal Controls & Transparency Support	Budget & GM	Oper	General	175,572	213,501		
				PSL	76,500	104,295		
8	Professional Practices Commission Staff Support PSL	Prog 614	Oper	PSL	1,135	0		
				General	\$ 328,786	\$ 213,501		
				PSL	\$ 230,849	\$ 104,295		
9	Move Relief Aid Appropriation from Cash to Federal Fund	Prog 158	Aid	Federal	46,971,361	46,971,361		
				Cash	-46,971,361	-46,971,361		
10	Move Farm-to-School Appropriation from Aid to Operations	Prog 25	Oper	Federal	155,787	155,787		
				Prog 158	Aid	Federal	-155,787	-155,787
* Office of the Chief Information Office				Adjustme	\$ -	\$ -		
				Total General	\$ 2,961,537	\$ 2,564,626		
				Total PSL	\$ 278,099	\$ 168,713		



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 30, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Ryan Foor, NDE staff

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to expend funds for the purpose of renovations at the NDE office space at 500 S. 84th Street, Lincoln.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Renovations are needed at the new NDE office site in order to create functional workspaces for NDE employees. The NDE has worked to use as much existing office furniture and fixtures as possible in order to minimize costs related to this project including securing furniture from other state agencies. NDE staff continue to work with and through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to secure approved contractors to conduct the work.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October/2021

ESTIMATED COST: Up to \$800,000.00

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: State funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:

September 10, 2021



Dr. Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner
Nebraska State Department of Education

Dear Commissioner,

Please accept this letter as my resignation from
the State Board of Education, due to personal
health reasons. *Thank you,*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patricia H. Timm".

Patricia H. Timm

September 10, 2021



Maureen Nickels, President
Nebraska State Board of Education

Dear Maureen,

Please accept this letter as my resignation from the State Board of Education, due to personal health reasons. *Thank you.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia H. Timm". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "P".

Patricia H. Timm



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: October 6, 2021

The committee on Teaching, Learning and Serving met to receive updates and information from NDE staff on two items. The first item was an update on the Math content area standards process. The process is in the beginning phases and the committee will be bringing discussion on this topic to the board at a future meeting. The second item was an update on the Praxis tests required for teacher certification. The committee reviewed the history of the use of the tests in Nebraska and recent efforts to change policies related to use of the tests. The committee briefly discussed other methods to determine basic skills competency for teachers and expects to bring discussion on the topic to the full board at a future meeting.

This concludes the Teaching, Learning and Serving committee report.

Lisa Fricke, Chair

*Submit a printed copy to the Committee Chair and email to the Recording Secretary.



STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
AQuESTT STUDENT SUCCESS, ACCESS AND SUPPORT COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: October 5, 2021

The Committee on AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support domain met on October 5, 2021, and had one action item to approve the renewal of the Rule 11 waiver request for Morrill Public schools, the committee recommended the approval of this item.

The Committee had one discussion item on Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP) State Policy Network. NSCTA conference this year provided a workshop on how to develop Diversity Equity and Inclusion Statements. A template/formula was shared at the conference to be utilized to create your own statement.

The Committee had two update items. 1) Melody Hobson provided a brief overview of the legal scope of the NDE and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services. 2) Zainab Rida provided a brief report on how NDE is addressing School Mental Health. A 3-day institutes were conducted on September 28th through September 30th. 14 ESUs and 5 LEAs attended and participated in these institutes. The goal of these institutes is to help each of the ESUs to become a trainer of the Comprehensive School-Based Mental Health Program modules, allowing them to host their own Institute with schools within their service area who wish to develop a Comprehensive School-Based Mental Health Program.

This concludes the AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support committee report.

Patsy Koch Johns, Chair

**Nebraska Department of Education,
Office of Early Childhood Education
Rule 11 Waiver Request – Internal Document Checklist**

School District/ESU: Morrill

Request Date: 8/25.2021

11.003.02 Approval Requirements. Prekindergarten programs established by school boards or educational service units will be approved by the Board pursuant to this chapter upon the recommendation of the Commissioner. Approval requires compliance with the requirements identified in this Chapter.

11.003.02 A school systems may submit a request for a waiver for subsections 004.07 and 005.05A of this Chapter listing each staff member that does not meet those requirements. To be eligible for a waiver the following minimum information is required and must be submitted within 30 days of the hire date of each staff.

		Notes
Number of positions requiring waiver	1	Morrill has 6 classrooms in the 2021-2022 school year. One individual has an AA degree and is actively working toward her endorsement.
003.02A1 Job posting/Salary	X	Sent to NDE
003.02A2 List of all other applicants for the position along with their resume and/or application	None	
003.02A3 Resume of person(s) hired,	X	Completed application sent to NDE
003.02A4 Copy of an approved course of study from a cooperating college or university showing the staff member will be able to achieve a teaching certification with an early childhood endorsement within four years. Such course of study should also include a copy of the Staff member's current Transcripts that shows qualifications	X	Current course of study sent to NDE along with transcript



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 20, 2021

TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve Rule 11 teacher waiver request for Morrill Public Schools.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Morrill Public Schools operates an early childhood education and care program with 6 classrooms. They have an infant classroom, a toddler classroom, and four preschool classrooms. Five of the early childhood classrooms are staffed with teachers holding current Nebraska teaching certificates. The 6th has an associate degree and is actively taking coursework to complete her degree and qualify for a teaching certificate.

The district is requesting a waiver for one teacher for the 2021-2022 school year. The district had enrollment greater than they could serve in three preschool classrooms so had to open a fourth classroom. Morrill has advertised for a certified teacher for this classroom but did not have any applicants.

The regulations regarding waivers for early childhood teachers as listed in the Nebraska Department of Education [Rule 11: Regulations for the Approval of Prekindergarten Programs established by School Boards or Educational Service Units and for the Issuance of Early Childhood Education Grants](#) are listed below.

003.02A4a Twelve graduate hours in early childhood education; or

003.02A4b Bachelor's degree or higher including 12 undergraduate hours in early childhood education, or

003:02A4c Associate Degree in early childhood education.

A checklist summary of the evidence of meeting the requirements is attached

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2021

ESTIMATED COST: N/A



Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov

301 Centennial Mall South

P.O. Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

TEL 402.471.2295

FAX 402.471.0117

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Date: October 6, 2021

“The Committee on Budget and Finance reports that...

Consent Agenda Item Discussion:

The Committee discussed the amount of funds in the consent agenda items and specifically the number of staff needed to administer the additional Federal funds flowing through NDE. NDE gave support for the additional staff needed to complete the work related to the ESSER funds including how we determined the number of staff and what costs were associated with those staff. The additional employees will be fixed term employees that will cover the three years of the ESSER grants. NDE compared outsourcing this work versus doing it internally and felt that outsourcing wasn't a viable option due to technology use that schools are familiar with and the need to closely monitor these funds to verify compliance with Federal requirements.

The Committee also requested an explanation for how the schools receiving project award grants get selected. NDE staff provided the following explanation: Superintendent's must first submit an application, then a needs assessment is used to determine which sites are a priority. All three schools receiving the project aware grants are TSI schools.

2.3.A Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

Speaker(s): Jen Utemark

Discussion:

No discussion

2.3.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

Discussion:

No discussion

2.4. Committee Update

Other items discussed as follows: The Commissioner briefed the Committee that the full board would be discussing the deficit budget request during Friday's meeting.

This concludes the Budget and Finance Committee report.”

Maureen Nickels, Chair

*Submit a printed copy to the Committee Chair and email to the Recording Secretary.

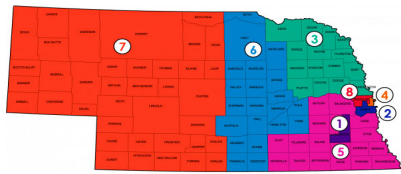


2021-2022 Board Travel

At-A-Glance

<p>Budgeted</p> <div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 20px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$60,000</div>	<p>Monthly Spending</p> <div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 20px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$1800</div> <p>Average</p>	<p>Annual Spending</p> <div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 20px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 24px; font-weight: bold;">\$21,500</div> <p>Projected</p>	<p>Expenditures</p> <div style="background-color: #1a3d4d; color: white; padding: 20px; border-radius: 10px; font-size: 18px; font-weight: bold;">Lodging Meals Mileage</div>
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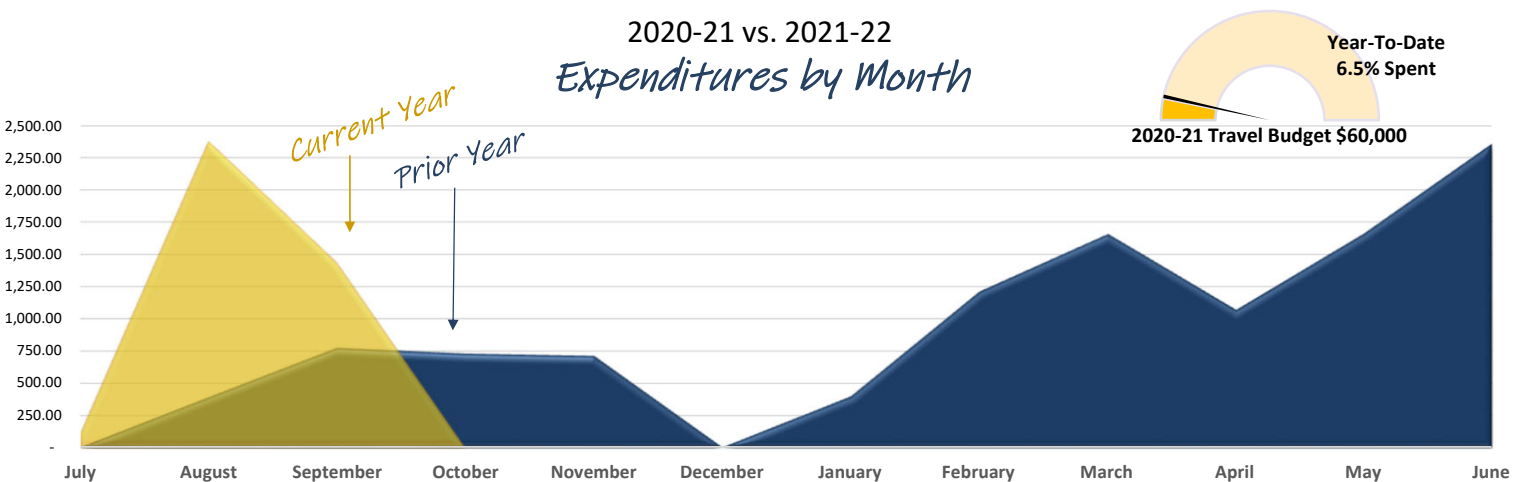
Even under pandemic conditions, the Nebraska Board of Education has retained the ability to attend meetings, conferences and conventions, sustain meaningful and dynamic work in addition to engaging in new opportunities provided through innovation and virtual technology during unexpected circumstances.



Board Member Activity

District	Board Member	Current Year July 2021-June 2022		Prior Year July 2020-June 2021		Variance	
		September	Year-To-Date	September	Year-To-Date	September	Year-To-Date
1	Patsy Koch Johns, Vice President	\$98	\$98	\$11	\$11	\$87	\$87
2	Lisa Fricke	\$99	\$802	\$118	\$172	-\$19	\$630
3	Patti Gubbels <i>New Jan. 2021</i>	\$98	\$447	\$0	\$0	\$98	\$447
3	Rachel Wise <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>	\$0	\$0	\$13	\$145	\$0	-\$145
4	Jacquelyn Morrison <i>New Jan. 2021</i>	\$99	\$448	\$0	\$0	\$99	\$448
4	John Witzel <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5	Patricia Timm	\$127	\$239	\$0	\$203	\$127	\$36
6	Maureen Nickels, President	\$261	\$665	\$367	\$478	-\$106	\$188
7	Robin Stevens	\$588	\$812	\$249	\$249	\$339	\$563
8	Deborah Neary	\$66	\$412	\$13	\$13	\$52	\$398
		\$1434	\$3,921 6.5%	\$771	\$1,270 2%	\$676	\$2,651
Annual Budget			\$60,000		\$60,000		
Over/(Under) Budget			(\$56,079) 93.5%		(\$58,730) 98%		

2020-21 vs. 2021-22
Expenditures by Month



Historical Annual Expenditures - FY2021 (\$11,000), FY2020(\$35,000), FY2019(\$48,500)

In-State Travel Authorization Reports - October

Name	Event Name	Date	Location	Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F
Lisa Fricke	Senators' Hearing on Diversity in the teacher workforce (asked to testify)	September 16, 2021	Lincoln, NE State Capitol Rm 1525	E
	Forum on Learning Committee	September 20, 2021	Virtual	E
	Dr. Logan Meeting - Diversity Programs/Teaching	September 29, 2021	Omaha, NE	F
	UNK Early Childhood Campus Pre-School	October 4, 2021	Kearney, NE	E
	NASB Area Meeting	October 5, 2021	La Vista, NE Embassy Suites	E
	NE Loves PS Forum	October 18, 2021	Virtual	E
	Change Maker Event	October 26, 2021	La Vista, NE Embassy Suites	E
	NASBE Annual Conference	October 6-8, 2021	Virtual	E
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)			
Deborah Neary	(NONE)			
Patricia Timm	(NONE)			

In-State Travel Authorization Reports - October

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F</u>
Patsy Koch Johns	NASBE Annual Conference	October 6-8, 2021	Virtual	E
	Nebraska Children	October 26, 2021	LaVista, NE	E
	Nebraska Teacher Shortage Summit	October 27, 2021	Kearney, NE	E
	Legislative Topics	October 29, 2021	Lincoln, NE	E
Patti Gubbels	NASBE Annual Conference	October 6-8, 2021	Virtual	E
	KBR Leadership Academy Education Sesion	October 20, 2021	Springview, NE	E
	Nebraska Teacher Shortage Summit	October 27, 2021	Kearney, NE	E
Maureen Nickels	Tour: UNK Plambeck Early Childhood	October 4, 2021	Kearney, NE	E
	NASBE Annual Conference	October 6-8, 2021	Virtual	E
Robin Stevens	None	None	None	None

TO: MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D.
FROM: BRYCE WILSON, DENISE THEGE
DATE: October 8, 2021
SUBJECT: MONTHLY LIST OF CONTRACTS \$10,000 TO \$50,000
RATIONALE: As stated in the Nebraska State Board of Education Policy Manual P5 the Commissioner shall provide the Board each month with a list of contracts between \$10,000 and \$50,000.

1. Contractor(s): Bartle & Geier Law Firm
Contract Amount: \$10,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Serve as hearing officer.
Date of Contract: 9/3/21-2/28/22
Contact Person: Krysti Michl
2. Contractor(s): ESU Coordinating Council
Contract Amount: \$34,560
Funding Source: General
Scope of Services: Coordinate all logistical details for various virtual NDE Safety training for Basic Threat Assessment.
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-9/30/22
Contact Person: Zainab Rida
3. Contractor(s): Rita Porter
Contract Amount: \$23,500
Funding Source: General
Scope of Services: Serve as 2021-22 Nebraska Microsoft IT Initiative Project Manager.
Date of Contract: 9/15/21-8/31/22
Contact Person: Katie Graham
4. Contractor(s): Mary Phillips
Contract Amount: \$13,850
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Facilitate Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council (ECICC).
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-9/30/22
Contact Person: Amy Rhone
5. Contractor(s): Jasmine Lionberger Gruhn
Contract Amount: \$16,020.08
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Assist with talent acquisition activities.
Date of Contract: 9/27/21-2/27/22
Contact Person: Joel Scherling

6. Contractor(s): Jennifer Burkey
Contract Amount: \$10,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Coaching/training svcs.
Date of Contract: 9/5/21-9/14/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
7. Contractor(s): Susan Jensen
Contract Amount: \$13,000
Funding Source: General
Scope of Services: Conduct rating reviews for Step Up to Quality.
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-9/30/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
8. Contractor(s): NROC Project
Contract Amount: \$24,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Service programs managed by ESU 13.
Date of Contract: 7/1/21-6/30/22
Contact Person: Ryan Foor
9. Contractor(s): Thinking Maps
Contract Amount: \$32,087.60
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Professional development.
Date of Contract: 10/8/21-10/7/22
Contact Person: Amy Rhone
10. Contractor(s): Environment Rating Scales Institute, Inc.
Contract Amount: \$48,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide training.
Date of Contract: 9/25/21-9/24/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
11. Contractor(s): Teachstone
Contract Amount: \$48,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide training.
Date of Contract: 9/25/21-9/14/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
12. Contractor(s): Amanda Mills
Contract Amount: \$36,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide training.
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-9/30/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
13. Contractor(s): Gee Whiz Education
Contract Amount: \$49,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide curriculum and training.
Date of Contract: 9/25/21-9/24/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson

14. Contractor(s): Renaissance Learning
Contract Amount: \$15,480
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide professional development.
Date of Contract: 10/8/21-10/7/24
Contact Person: Amy Rhone
15. Contractor(s): HHS
Contract Amount: \$49,999
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Support Youth Risk Behavior survey.
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-7/31/22
Contact Person: Zainab Rida
16. Contractor(s): Alyce LeBlanc
Contract Amount: \$24,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Provide training services.
Date of Contract: 10/1/21-9/30/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
17. Contractor(s): Four Monkeys Press
Contract Amount: \$42,000
Funding Source: Federal
Scope of Services: Observing, training and creation of podcasts for Step Up to Quality.
Date of Contract: 11/1/21-10/31/22
Contact Person: Melody Hobson

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

Individuals who submit written public comment for a given meeting should not plan to speak before the Board in live testimony at that month's meeting.

Individuals may submit only one written public comment entry per month. Multiple submissions will not be accepted.

Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kara

Last name *

Bachman

City *

Blair

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Members of the Board; my question is simple, why are people not being allowed public, verbal questions and comments at your meet this month? This stands in direct opposition of the statement that states that individuals will be granted opportunity to speak at these meetings, with 24-hour notice to the board.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kara

Last name *

Bachman

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cora

Last name *

Martin

City *

Broken Bow

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing in protest of the health sex standards being proposed as part of the public school curriculum. This information has no place in the public school system being taught to young children by virtual strangers. This information/education belongs in the home between the parents and their children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cora

Last name *

Martin

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Monica

Last name *

Henrickson

City *

Hershey

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The parents should be responsible for teaching their kids about sex and everything else that goes along with it. We should be responsible for teaching them about the so called different genders. In the real world, it's male and female. That's it. We use him, her, his, hers, she, he, girl, boy. Not whatever else they are called. The school is not responsible for raising our kids. They are responsible for teaching them academics. Math, reading, accurate history with nothing being taken out, science. The core subjects.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Monica

Last name *

Henrickson

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

alaina

Last name *

brouillette

City *

lincoln

State *

ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Quit trying to teach children about sex or anything to do with ANY sexuality of ANY kind. The only people who want to do this are pedophiles. It is sickening and wrong to teach this to children and also, it is NOT up to you to teach children this. YOU do NOT decide what age a child learns of their sexuality or anything to do with it. THEIR PARENTS are the ones to decide when their child is of an appropriate age to learn that topic. I do not know when the school board decided to TRY and take over a PARENTS responsibility, but it needs to END NOW. Stop this disgusting and immoral teaching, that you have no business doing.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

alaina

Last name *

brouillette

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cathy

Last name *

Frisch

City *

Newman Grove

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please remember that the school system was only meant to teach reading, writing and arithmetic. Though times have definitely changed, the school system needs to only teach those subjects that will enable a child to be productive. Please do not take on the responsibility and controversy of anything outside your basic system. There are counseling services within the school system to handle those children who are having trouble adjusting in life. There is no need to take on that responsibility in the classroom.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Cathy

Last name *

Frisch

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Nancy

Last name *

Bentley

City *

Gering

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraska Department of Education should Not adopt the proposed Health Standards. Comprehensive Sex Education is a big NO for the schools. Gender identity and see Education as proposed have no place in Nebraska schools. These topics are best discussed in the home with parents. Please do not Delay, but soundly say NO to these proposals. The future of our children, grandchildren and country are at stake. Please say NO so soundly that these proposals do not have an opportunity to resurface in the future!!! Thank you for your consideration, Nebraskans do not want our children educated with material we consider inappropriate at any age! Please do not allow any Health Standards that include pictographs, erotica, indecency or obscenity in our schools! 308-673-4375 if you have questions.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Nancy

Last name *

Bentley

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Miranda

Last name *

Rowe

City *

Gretna

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It is not the school's place to be teaching this content! Young children cannot even comprehend the complexity of this information. You are taking away the freedoms of the parents to introduce this content when they see fit.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Miranda

Last name *

Rowe

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Tracie

Last name *

Chochon

City *

Columbus

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I do not support the health standards proposed and then tabled by the Nebraska State School Board/Dept. of Education. I work as a school psychologist and licensed mental health practitioner. First of all, exposing children to sexual concepts that they are not developmentally prepared to grasp is dangerous in and of itself. Secondly, parents have shared their private heartbreak as they watch their healthy, stable child become depressed and confused.

The instability this "agenda" is causing in children and families has a devastating impact. For example, the ratio of gender dysphoric youth has skyrocketed from 1 in 10,000 to 1 in 50 according to the latest research. If the state is truly interested in the health of our children, perhaps they should consider the consequences of such a curriculum on the mental health of our youth.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Tracie

Last name *

Chochon

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Ryan

Last name *

Bruna

City *

Kearney

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Thank you for setting aside the new health standards. However, more needs to be done. We need a resolution stating that these controversial health standards regarding gender fluidity/identity need to be banned in the state of Nebraska. Thank you for listening to our voices

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Ryan

Last name *

Bruna

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Angela

Last name *

Werner

City *

Tilden

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am totally apposed to updating the sex education curriculum in our school system. I believe that it is the parents/caregivers responsibility and rights to teach our children about these sensitive topics with care and understanding that reflect our own family beliefs and morals.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Angela

Last name *

Werner

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kristi

Last name *

Jacobs

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have been closely following the NE Curriculum updates. I have opposed these changes from the beginning. After reading the timeline of Board Member Deborah Neary and her manipulation of getting Lisa Schulze involved in the NE Curriculum update I am even more steadfast in opposing any changes. The NDE board members were clearly manipulated by board member Neary and writing team member Schulze. This curriculum is not organic, it is a national push from a very small percentage of people from a very well funded and organized team. The public has spoken loudly in the State of Nebraska. We do not want this new sexual curriculum along with critical race theory taught in our schools. After seeing the push from Deborah Neary and her deceptive tactics to push these changes through, I no longer have confidence in her as a board member.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kristi

Last name *

Jacobs

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Michaela

Last name *

Judd

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The proposed curriculum is not acceptable nor has it been made clear or anything to the parents that have children this would effect. Parents should know more and be asked if this is truly what they want being taught to our children. It is unacceptable to try to push these changes through in the manner it has been and sneaky and fast. Plus it seems that it is mainly one member that has done everything to get this going NOT the majority let alone parents of kids in schools. This is such a disgrace and needs to be stopped!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Michaela

Last name *

Judd

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Carrie

Last name *

Magorian

City *

Arapahoe

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Initially I had very strong feelings against the Health Standards in Draft 1. I didn't think that my children should learn sex education at such a young age, not to mention the focus on gender identity and such. And I still think that much of our children's sex education should happen at home. I am teaching my children about abstinence, and waiting until marriage for sex. That is what our religion teaches. However, after my daughter's 10th birthday party where there were 5 little girls discussing LGBTQ+, and bullying the one girl that didn't agree, my eyes were opened. Our children are learning these things whether we want them to or not. When I expressed my opinion on the Protect Our Children page on Facebook my post was not approved. The comment stated that they already teach bullying prevention. When I asked my daughter about the situation later she agreed that they were bullying the one girl. Apparently whatever "bullying prevention" they are taught is not working. When I attempted to post that I was disappointed that it seems like there can only be one side, that post was declined as well.

I guess what I am trying to say is that there should be a middle ground. Look at the proposed standards with a group of parents, teachers, doctors, mental health experts and our school leadership. Find a group of standards that can be agreed upon, that teach our children in a way that respects ALL beliefs. Our children need to be taught that we are all humans regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or whatever else. We all should be teaching our children to respect others and to be tolerant of those that we think are different. There is too much hate in the world. We need to do better, we need to be better.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Carrie

Last name *

Magorian

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Sylvia

Last name *

Zeller

City *

Ravenna

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Scrap the health standards!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Sylvia

Last name *

Zeller

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Linda

Last name *

Robinson Rutz

City *

Walton

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing again to express my concerns about the overreach of the Nebraska state board of education writing standards for health education. These are not required by state statute. It is a clear demonstration of overreach of government into family lives. It is the responsibility of parents to provide education in this matter. If the curriculum and the standards were based on factual information about health that would be one thing. But clearly there is an agenda to communicate views on sexuality that may or may not be consistent with family values. Again, this is overreach by government into private lives. This is not the responsibility of the state. It is the responsibility of families. The State Board of Education should step back and look at this process and realize that they are ever going down the wrong path. Respectfully submitted,
Linda Robinson Rutz

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Linda

Last name *

Robinson Rutz

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Zeller

City *

Ravenna

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

scrap the health standards!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Zeller

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Melissa

Last name *

Woodard

City *

ROSELAND

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please refrain from teaching anything in our schools that does not involve History, Math, Art, etc., that was taught in our schools since the early 1800's, do not allow disgusting books in our libraries for young children to read, or discuss, in full and detail, do not tell our children not to tell their parents what is being taught, they are OUR children and GRANDCHILDREN not yours! WE the people, continue to PAY your salaries, with OUR tax dollars and WE do have the complete say so on what is allowed to be taught and reviewed in our schools! Hate, sex and discrimination is NOT among those things! We the people, will continue to monitor, stay in touch with and ride your elite BUTTOCKS if you continue down this dangerous and outrageous path of indoctrination of our innocent children. STOP and DESIST from this nonsense immediately, or we the people, will remove all of our said children from public schools and start our own educational institutions and DESIST from paying taxes to the immoral standards your are trying to set forth! PERIOD!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Melissa

Last name *

Woodard

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Erin

Last name *

Hansen

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Reading, Math, Science, Factual-history: these are all knowledge bases that students need to grow and expand their minds. What is being proposed to the school board is dangerous, leftist propoganda, that attempts to warp and brainwash the minds of our children. These matters that are being proposed are pure evil masked as education, in an attempt to push forward the agenda of a twisted, progressive MINORITY. Parents are who should be responsible for choosing the appropriate matters to be discussed with their children. Religion, sex, politics; these should NEVER be topics anywhere near a school setting, especially one of a public nature, where parents already get so little control over what their children are taught. Do not let a radicalized, politically driven, evil infiltrate the safety of our children's school in the form of progressive education. A school is for learning, not indoctrination. We can NOT let our children be turned into brainwashed, mindless, confused sheep. They deserve our protection from the evils of this world, not be fed to them in the name of some left-wing social justice atrocity

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Erin

Last name *

Hansen

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Joni

Last name *

Schwartz

City *

Norfolk

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am expressing my concern for the standards being promoted by the NE Board of Education. I strongly believe the standards being presented go to far in the information being presented to our children. All over this country parents are standing up in opposition. The Attorney General is now attempting to send the FBI out to squelch this uprising. Is this the America we want our children to inherit? If people are pushing back this vocally, don't you think we are wise enough to know something is wrong?!! Please listen to the people, not the government!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Joni

Last name *

Schwarting

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Pam

Last name *

Rowland

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I think the new curriculum including critical race theory and the health sex education is terribly wrong in our cities and state in Nebraska. I believe we need to get back to the basics in education. I believe this due to seeing the lower scores in our students education. But our district this has never happened and I believe this is a result of this new curriculum established and put in place in 2020. My deepest concern is this is morally and ethically wrong according to my religion. We need to get prayer back in schools. Lastly I think it is and thinkable and unconscionable what you are doing to the innocent children. I ask that you immediately cease the CRT and health SEX education curriculum now. I believe you are overstepping and overreaching into the parents and family education and responsibility, not yours. As Our currency states "in God we trust" not the school board.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Pam

Last name *

Rowland

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Deb

Last name *

Hall

City *

Arnold

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a grandparent of 8 children in NE, I strongly urge you to permanently remove the sex education proposals from your curriculum discussion. The school system does not need to be responsible for teaching children about gender or sex at a young age and ONLY at an appropriate older age by signed consent of the parent/guardian and ONLY in a specified class with parent/guardian invited to attend with their child... if at all. Young children are not ready to see explicit photos/diagrams and the school has no business confusing them with the belief that there are more than two genders. That should be left up to personal family beliefs and decision making. By introducing "sex" at a young age, you encourage them to look at each other differently. They'll notice differences plenty soon.

Thank you!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Deb

Last name *

Hall

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Nina

Last name *

Harms

City *

SUTHERLAND

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

There should not be this type of "education " in our schools! The majority of Nebraska's citizens are almost totally against this. I have three young grandchildren who would be affected by this type of education. The parents should be discussing with their own children if they want to.

Common sense tells you that young children should not be exposed to this type of information. Let them be children! Let them have fun and be learning core subjects. This is totally off the wall for them. Even as adults we see male and female until someone wants to share that information with us. Watch little children play and learn together, they truly don't see a difference in their school friends. I've seen where innocently put their arms side by side and one of them either respond with, your arm is lighter than mine or your arm is darker than mine.....they then run off to play. That's how it should be!

Children shouldn't be told they are different, it doesn't make a difference to them unless an " adult " points out to them that they are different. That's not in a good way!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Nina

Last name *

Harms

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Paul

Last name *

Fredricks

City *

Hastings

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We do not need ANY Health Standards put out by the State School Board. We have local School Boards that are much more reliable to carry out the wishes of the parents in the local School Districts. The Parents should have by far the biggest voice in how and what is taught in our schools and not the State School Board

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Paul

Last name *

Fredricks

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Wickard

City *

Mitchell

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am very, very concerned about the Health Education of our children and my grandchildren being done by the NE State Board of Education. The content that I have read was approved by "My" Board of Education - you are paid by me - and I do not agree with it. It is pornography at its core and is debauchery at the very least. I am requesting this to be absolutely absolved from the curriculum and NEVER EVER looked at again for approval. I will be monitoring voting records and the content that is approved going forward in our public schools. Let's keep our children safe NOT indoctrinated with filth.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Karen

Last name *

Wickard

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Debbie

Last name *

Sorensen

City *

Phillips

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

In Nebraska we value honesty, integrity, transparency, fairness, ethics and professionalism. Board member Deborah Neary, and the NDE's failure to protect the "process" of the health education standards has to be a serious concern for you as a board and for all citizens in NE. This board has been influenced by an evil effort to sway your opinion even before the first draft. Questions and comments by concerned parents and grandparents across the State month after month mean nothing to you. It has even been stated our decision should not be swayed by public comment. I guess in your eyes, we have lost our freedom already and you the board are the dictators and will conform our children to your ways. Thank goodness we still have a big thing called the constitution. Parents, grandparents, all concerned citizens protecting our children will not back down. There are dozens of seriously troubling emails that cause me and everyone in NE a breach of trust of the State Board of Education. The health education standards do not have a place in our Nebraska schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Debbie

Last name *

Sorensen

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Heather

Last name *

Reid

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I watched the last State Board meeting at LaVista and was amazed to learn that Deborah Neary contacted Ryan Foor and stated as follows: "I want to make sure that Lisa Schulze is selected to help write the NDE Health Standards... Please let me know what I need to do to make sure she is selected". And on October 23, 2019, the Equity Officer for the Department of Education, recommended Abbi Swatsworth, from OutNebraska, based solely on her LGBT advocacy. In that email exchange, Lacey Peters, the PE and Health Education Specialist for the Department of Education said it was not pertinent whether Ms. Swatsworth had any knowledge about Health and/or health education. Soon thereafter, the lists of writing team members and experts were revised to include the names of Lisa Schulze, Matt Avey, and Liam Heerten-Rodriguez, which were all selected by Board Member Neary. That certainly sheds light on why the Health standards were proposed and that there was an agenda to change Health standards to align with LGBT activism. I have seen no plan or information about how the State Board of Education will keep this type of activity from influencing their standards ongoingly. For this reason, I believe that the State Board should be investigated and need to have much more accountability. Right now I have no trust in this process or group as far as integrity and sticking to the purpose to educate, not indoctrinate, Nebraska's children who belong to their parents, not the state.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Heather

Last name *

Reid

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Wade

Last name *

Houchin

City *

LINCOLN

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Sex education standards and specifically the subsequent proposed standards by NDE are not appropriate within the context of public education these items are a matter of person I believe that should be taught and emphasized in the home. Basic biology is one thing, framing your agenda around this disgusting narrative is quite another. Stick to the core subjects, you're struggling bad enough to get that done already.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Wade

Last name *

Houchin

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Barry

Last name *

Denning

City *

Central City

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It has become evident to me through the revelation of public records request that the NDE Board has been manipulated, and there was a lack of transparency and honesty with other Board members. Please initiate and publish the findings of an independent investigation into these manners.

Please do NOT even consider adding LBGT and CSE and CRT into our students curriculum when we should be teaching factual American history and factual Science. America's education system is "third world" compared to other developed countries, and we must do better.

The majority of the parents and grandparents of Nebraska children WILL NOT accept these radical additions to our children's curriculum.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Barry

Last name *

Denning

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Lenay

Last name *

Palser

City *

Ravenna

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Thank you for your time. I have read through the standards and submitted my comments when the first draft was open to comments. I am very concerned. It is my job as a parent to teach my kids about their bodies, abstinence and sexuality. The old curriculum taught at 5th/6th grade has worked great. It's an informative teaching on what to expect when you'll be going through puberty. That's it, nothing more. I feel these standards are setting our kids up to be groomed by pedophiles. It makes me sick. We need to let our kids be kids. They all ready teach each other more than the parents want them to know. These things (sex standards) should be of no concern to the kids until they are adults. What is really disappointing and scary is the fact that no Christians/believers were asked to take part, nor is there any mention of abstinence or the nuclear family. I thought this was a country of inclusion. If you leave a certain group out, it makes it look like there's an agenda. How can you be trusted now? Please stop these standards and do not revisit them. It is your job to listen to the people and work with the people. It is not your job to push your agenda or to control people. Thanks again for reading this and for your time. I am praying for you and our world.

In God's Love,
Lenay Palser

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Lenay

Last name *

Palser

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cristi

Last name *

Starling

City *

OMAHA

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Based on the immaturity of their brains, children are not able to make life altering decisions. Science makes male and female in every single species. To encourage a child to explore being the opposite gender is borderline abusive. To encourage sexual activity in children is yet another degrading level of losing the moral standards our country was founded upon.

How is it that the majority is afraid of offending the minority? What justifies changing the moral compass to suit that minority?

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cristi

Last name *

Starling

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Eileen

Last name *

Semerad

City *

Howells

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I request that the process used to develop the recent drafts of health education standards for our schools be investigated. If it is found to have been influenced in an unauthorized and untrustworthy manner by any member or members of the Nebraska State Board of Education, I feel that the members involved should resign or be terminated.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Eileen

Last name *

Semerad

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Amanda

Last name *

Ristine

City *

GOTHENBURG

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I continue to be concerned with the Nebraska Health Standard Topic. I have been in attendance during the May, June, August, and September state board meetings. The health sex education standards process appears to have been manipulated from the very beginning. What actions/policies are being worked on to prevent this from happening again?

While Jacqueline Morrison and I probably disagree on some topics I feel like she's the ONLY board member since this process stated that has been transparent and HONEST about her thoughts and feelings on this process. You are NOT politicians; YOU are representing parents and children we deserve your transparency and honesty.

I also would like to address agenda item 5.3K Commissioner to contract with the Children's Hospital and Medical Center to oversee the development of a statewide messaging campaign on COVID-19 safety protocols targeting parents and students.

The COVID-19 vaccine and safety campaign will amplify the voice of trusted pediatricians and specialty physicians at Children's, local pediatric providers, and key influencers throughout the state.

For a parent that is trying to navigate what is true and what is being lead by politics terminology such as "campaign" and "key influencers" makes me feel like we are trying to persuade parents to think one way; instead of advocate for what we feel is best for our own children and families.

Not to mention it is going to cost \$500,000.

Thank you for your time,
Amanda J Ristine

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Amanda

Last name *

Ristine

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Pastor Ken

Last name *

Dalke

City *

Henderson

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Our founding fathers wrote the Constitution and Bill of Rights out of hearts and minds committed to Almighty God and the Bible and frequently referred to the Scriptures to formulate the treatises found in them. The history of America has been accurately documented and all people including teachers and students need to reread all of the above. The new ideas of cancel culture, erasure of history, CRT, divisive racism, and politically driven teaching is not in line with being American. Please correct the direction you are going to match this community and its ideals and beliefs and values.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Pastor Ken

Last name *

Dalke

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cynthia

Last name *

Hartman

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We have spoken loud and often. We the parents , grandparents , taxpayers, and voters has said numerous times.

NO to CRT

No to mask mandates

No to covid vaccines for our children.

Those whom do not listen to our voices are not acting in the best interests of our children. You are not there to " parent" our children. You must stop pushing your beliefs.

If you can't or won't please resign.

You are not there to indoctrinate but as a oversight board to insure our kids receive educational fundemantals

Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cynthia

Last name *

Hartman

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Stanley

Last name *

Blackmore

City *

Lexington

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I completely OPPOSE the NDE Health Standards. I do not think it's appropriate to have teachers teach your perverted idea of sex education in school. It is the parents job.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Stanley

Last name *

Blackmore

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Rachel

Last name *

Beasley

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear State Board of Education, I am writing again today to ask for an answers. The proposed state health standards have been shelved but nothing has been put into place to prevent something like this happening in the future. How can I trust the Nebraska Department of Education or the State Board Members? What are your plans moving forward to build back up the trust of your parents? I would appreciate if you would address this in your next meeting.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Rachel

Last name *

Beasley

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Gerri

Last name *

Nordell

City *

Valley

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

How sad that the lives of our wonderful children are put into the hands of people who are only seeking political gain for themselves. One person looking out for only his or her choices. Get back to letting qualified, caring teachers and understanding parents make choices for Nebraska children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Gerri

Last name *

Nordell

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kami

Last name *

Riley

City *

Norfolk

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

At the last SBOE meeting on Sept. 3rd it became clear to the public that there was a lack of transparency within the Board by at least one Board Member, concerning the selection process of the Health Standards writing team.

Through the FOIA emails, it is obvious that 1 member had an agenda to control the selection on the writing team and did not want that known by the other board members. This looks to be manipulation of the board & is unethical to say the least. It is not yet apparent if they're any other board members or NDE staff that were also aware of or assisting with the selection of a biased writing team. What does seem clear is that there are people in both the NDE & SBOE that worked to control the outcome of the Health Standards.

Because of the previous uncovered lies coming from within the NDE, concerning the knowledge of Critical Race Theory within the standards, it is time for this board & the Commissioner to resign or be terminated.

Nebraskan's have lost faith in the NDE. They have shown that they can't be trusted with the role of educating Nebraska's precious children. They have struck out in three big ways.

First, they are trying to put Health Standards in place, that are not in the best interest of Nebraska Children. There are facts that show the harm it brings to children, but instead, they choose to listen to untruths, being put out by the promoters of CRT & CSE.

Second, they have failed to listen to thousands of parents & stockholders that have asked them to "Scrap the Standards". Including Gov. Ricketts, many State Senators, & School Districts. They are ignoring the majority & acting in favor of a very select minority.

Third, people that hold the positions of NDE Commissioner & SBOE members, should be of the utmost integrity. They should lead by example, by being honest in how they conduct themselves in their job. Instead the NDE & SBOE is showing children that they should lie, cheat & manipulate, to get what they want.

These are not the decision makers we want for our children's education!

These are not the role models we want for our children!

Parents know what is best for their children. The NDE & SBOE does not!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kami

Last name *

Riley

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Valerie

Last name *

Karsjens

City *

Ogallala

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

You have completely destroyed any trust we have in the public school system by your deceit and total disregard for parents as the primary stakeholders in our children's education. We call for your immediate resignation and the termination of the position of commissioner. There is nothing you can say or do that will replace the trust that you have destroyed. We no longer feel that you care one bit about the emotional, psychological or physical health of our children. Your political agenda is far more important to you than the education of children and for that you must not retain any position of control or influence in the public school system. Your own denials of what is obvious, the early sexualization and teaching of racial hatred in your proposed health standards, condemns you further. We know that one way or another, by one terminology or another, you will continue to push your hate-filled, socialistic political agenda. You have no shame, you have no integrity.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Valerie

Last name *

Karsjens

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Orrin

Last name *

Schaeffer

City *

Thedford

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please do not ruin the education of our children by including radical ideologies. Nebraska parents do not want:

Critical Race Theory in our schools, except to teach how radical, irrational, unethical, and terrible it is.

We do not want any sex education changes made at this time, especially if the change includes further detailed teaching to younger ages. This is up to parents to decide when the time is right.

Simply stated there are ONLY 2 sex identities, that of a male or a female. This is biology and there are no other "identities" outside of that and schools should NOT teach otherwise.

Nebr Dept of Education should be more transparent with anything they plan to change so that parent's trust are not broken.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Orrin

Last name *

Schaeffer

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

M Lentz

City *

Ainsworth

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am strongly against the proposed Nebraska Health Standards and Critical Race Theory teaching. I raised 3 children and now watching my 6 grandchildren grow up in Nebraska & Iowa. I do not want these proposed curriculum included in public schools. Please listen to the concerned citizens of our state!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Colleen

Last name *

Lentz

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Monica

Last name *

Braun

City *

Seward

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I appreciate that the Nebraska State Board of Education has voted to indefinitely postpone the development of the health and sex education standards. It was evident to me from observing the public input that there was overwhelming opposition by many of us from all sectors (teachers, doctors, nurses, law enforcement, other professionals, parents, grandparents, aunts/uncles, etc.)

I am very concerned about the process that was used in developing the proposed standards. Due to revelations of the past several weeks, I believe that action is required to address the lack of transparency and evident manipulation by at least one Board Member.

An independent investigation is warranted. If not addressed, we can assume there is a betrayal of the public's trust.

Please do the right thing and use this as an opportunity to show accountability to Nebraskans that you represent.

Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Monica

Last name *

Braun

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Matthew

Last name *

Smith

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am in complete opposition of your new sexual education standards as well as critical race theory. As you well know, the majority of Nebraskans are opposed to these standards and I urge you to reverse course as these methods of teaching will cause irreversible harm to the children of Nebraska.

Thank you for your time and serious consideration.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Matthew

Last name *

Smith

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Ron

Last name *

Kwiatkowski

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The actions of board member Deborah Neary are appalling and should be grounds for her immediate dismissal. She unduly influenced the NDE Health Standards project by bringing in people (Lisa Schulze and others) to influence and direct the standards to something not representing the values of Nebraskans and also not representing the far majority of parents who have children in our Public Schools system. We pay for our Public schools through taxes and you as well as all others in the Public school systems serve at the request of we the people. Not following the wants and needs of the people but rather following her personal agenda (far left agenda that is not the will of the far majority of Nebraskans) is unbecoming of the seat. Health standards are not part of the education standards this board is supposed to oversee. Leave Sexual Health and political ideology indoctrination (CRT in any form that skews reality - which it all does) out of our public schools. Stick to actual Education standards and leave the rest to be determined by parents. This is the way it has been for a LONG time and it needs to remain this way.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Ronq

Last name *

Kwiatkowski

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Pamela

Last name *

Smith

City *

Arnold

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

There have been considerable objections presented to the State Board of Education by parents & concerned citizens to make it abundantly clear that these Health Standards do not meet the values held dear to people in this state. We strongly object to having our children subjected to what we consider inappropriate moral subject matter! We hope you will have the convictions to hold those accountable for trying to manipulate their personal ideology, and keep the process accountable to all the elected officials. Stay informed & respect your public's input!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Pamela

Last name *

Smith

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Brenda

Last name *

Anderson

City *

Wood River

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am disappointed that the proposed Health Standards were not scrapped. This indoctrination has NO PLACE in our Nebraska schools. This is content left best to parents and guardians to discuss with their children not some random person or member of a special interest group. There are other ways to address these topics individually without subjecting all children to the information/ideals. I cannot believe elected board members want to be part of grooming innocent children for pedophiles. Please scrap your health standards.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Brenda

Last name *

Anderson

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Gerald & Pamela

Last name *

Lammers

City *

Pleasanton

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are thankful the Nebraska State Board of Education has voted to indefinitely postpone the development of the health and sex education standards.

We, in agreement with the Protect Nebraska Children Coalition (PNCC) is now calling on the Nebraska State Board of Education to initiate an investigation into the process by which these proposed standards were developed and presented to the public. We believe the documents recently acquired by PNCC members through public record requests establish a clear pattern of manipulation throughout the development process of the standards. It certainly appears as though the process, which has frequently been criticized for its lack of transparency, was driven by the efforts of a single board member working with the Nebraska Department of Education staff and various activists behind the scenes.

An independent investigation should be completed to determine any who may have been complicit. Anything less than an investigation and significant changes in leadership will be seen as continuing to deepen the blatant disregard for and betrayal of the public's trust.

The spotlight has seldom shone so directly upon the Nebraska State Board of Education as it does right now. It is our sincerest hope the Nebraska State Board of Education will answer this call and take the opportunity to achieve true transparency and accountability to all Nebraska citizens

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Gerald & Pamela

Last name *

Lammers

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Pamela

Last name *

Frecks

City *

Cambridge

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am so pleased that you realized the best possible place for these health/sex standards is “under the table” for good. No good thing comes from trying to deceive parents/patrons with lies. You know these standards will not help but will continue the degradation process already in progress in the culture of America and particularly the state of Nebraska. Thank you for waking up to truth and reality.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Pamela

Last name *

Frecks

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kathy

Last name *

Sauser

City *

Neligh

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a concerned citizen, I hereby petition the State Board of Education that NO instruction or materials including highly controversial comprehensive sexuality education be given to children in our schools. I assert that our schools are not the appropriate place to push political or sexual agendas that advance divisive issues or controversial "sexual rights" at the expense of sexual health. Parents who wish to instruct their children on such issues can do so at home.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Kathy

Last name *

Sauser

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Angelina

Last name *

Krotz

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Keep the disgusting health sex education standards that are being proposed out of our schools, keep those disgusting books out of our schools, bring back GOD in our schools!!! This has gone too far and let me tell you if they continue to push this filth in our schools I will be removing mine from LPS and will petition to put my tax dollars toward a private school!!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Angelina

Last name *

Krotz

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

CHRIS

Last name *

BLAYLOCK

City *

OMAHA

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I do not support any changes to the current sex education policy. The purpose of a school is to teach reading, math and science. These are things that will help them be successful in life.

What's particularly concerning is Deb Neary's comment that "Education Standards are not supposed to be based on public input". Really? What else would they be based on? These Sex Education Standards were meant to be passed deliberately when no one was watching.

It's not the job of any school board to circumvent parents because you think you know better. I believe this is exactly what the Nebraska State Board of Education is trying to do.

Sometimes doing nothing is an option.

The board only sought out counsel from LGBTQ+ activists to write sex education standards? Really? If you suspected the public would not be supportive of something they had no part of determining, then you'd be correct. While the public does not have the right to exclude any one group, they do have the right to be part of crafting the standards along with other groups.

I heard several times at the last board meeting that these are only recommended standards and local school boards are not obligated to adopt them. I don't think you're being entirely honest. The minute you give your approval, it will be exactly what school boards across Nebraska will adopt.

It is clear to me that Deb Neary cannot be unbiased in determining Sex Education Standards for Nebraska Public Schools. It is my recommendation that she should either resign or be removed from the board immediately.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Chris

Last name *

Blaylock

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Joe & Julie

Last name *

Hofer

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It time to the State School Board Members to vote NO on The Health Sex Education standards otherwise know as Comprehensive Sex Education.

The State School Board Members have heard from Nebraskans and Nebraskans have said we do not want these standards. We do not want any form of them. If this board votes to give us any form of these very bad standard, then the board will do so over the will of the people and the board will not represent the will of the people.

I am respectfully asking the State School Board Members to vote no on The Health Sex Education standards

Joe Hofer

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Joe

Last name *

Hofer

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Identification

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First name *

Di

Last name *

Pfeiffer

City *

Wahoo

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to ask that you please stop considering any new health curriculum having to do with the new sex standards and also anything to do with CRT, Our children are having a tough enough time dealing with Covid19 and the new rules of masking, vaccines, etc. Let these poor kids have a normal childhood, This madness is adding division to our already divisive world and has no place in our public school system.

Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Di

Last name *

Pfeiffer

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Melissa

Last name *

Friedrich

City *

North Platte

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I want to start off by saying that I love ALL people!! I do find it very disturbing that you, as a board, feel that LGBTQ issues should be taught to Nebraska children in elementary school. It is nothing but confusing to these young minds to keep track of all the current labels for people. Trying to ram these issues into our children's health curriculum is nothing but political. It is a parents job to discuss these issues with their children not the schools. Thanks for your time.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Melissa

Last name *

Friedrich

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Charlene

Last name *

Leap

City *

Gothenburg

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a grandparent I am deeply concerned with the blatant sexual content that is being considered to be taught in our schools starting with Kindergarten. Sexual practices should never be taught to anyone much less our young trusting children. CRT (critical race theory) is itself racial. A persons value is on the content of their character not on the pigment of their skin. Gender identity is decide by GOD at time of conception, no one can change their gender. Stop this insanity.

I believe that I can safely say that you, on the Nebraska State Board of Education, are probably parents and Grandparents. Can you really say that you want your children to be indoctrinated in this curriculum bringing confusion and anxiety?

Thank you for using your good common sense and protecting our children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Charlene

Last name *

Leap

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Susan

Last name *

Hollman

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Comments of concerned parents and grandparents across the state of Nebraska must be heard.

No instruction or materials should be given to children in public schools that could condone sexual conduct between children of minor age. This includes graphic materials. No material should teach children how to consent to sexual acts. No materials should be available that suggest genders exist other than male or female.

Please make sure all existing sex education curricula is easily accessible to public review including all supplemental materials. Please note that our schools are not the place to push political or sexual agendas. Do not overstep areas that are for parents. Parents should be highly involved in setting the health standards and should be members of the team that write the Nebraska health standards. Anyone from LGBT does not represent the majority of Nebraskans and we do not want their moral standards to be imposed on our children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Susan

Last name *

Hollman

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kathleen

Last name *

Kauth

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It is appalling that this state board of education is resorting to "pausing" their votes on the CSE issue. It appears to be a blatant attempt to lull the public into a sense of success and complacency. When we appear to move on - I believe the board will sneak in a vote to push this sexualization of children agenda.

Your resistance to actually taking a vote when being monitored by an involved public is noted. Your desire to push a pedophile agenda is noted. And we, concerned parents and citizens, will be paying attention and will continue to stand against your desire to sexually groom generations of children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kathleen

Last name *

Kauth

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Lenore

Last name *

Deeths

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We need an investigation into how the proposed standards were developed and presented. It appears from the public records that the development process was manipulated behind the scenes by one of the board members. We need transparency now.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Lenore

Last name *

Deaths

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

Corey

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have heard a teacher shortage could happen in the near future and we have already lost many teachers and are having a hard time finding substitute teachers. I therefore beg you to keep teacher's jobs easier in only having to teach non controversial topics such as reading, writing, math and science. We cannot afford to lose any teachers who do not want to have to discuss sensitive topics that should be taught at home or have to teach information that is against their personal beliefs. I could go on forever but feel adding new progressive sexual standards will cause many issues for teachers and students, all who you should be protecting. A teacher's job is to educate children on academic topics and not to do the parents job and try to educate on standards that may not be in line with the parent's views. Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

Corey

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Charlotte

Last name *

Myers

City *

O'neill

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am still concerned about the proposed sex education for our schools. Please listen to us and reconsider using these standards in our schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Charlotte

Last name *

Myers

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Lynn

Last name *

Jaros

City *

Fremont

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I just want to say thank you for not moving forward with changes to educational health standards, which would have been detrimental to the mental health of our innocent children and grandchildren. In every instance anything to do with sex education should be left to the parents and grandparents and never ever to the educational system! Furthermore, it is my hope those found guilty of manipulating the decision of the board, should be fired immediately. They should never be involved in a child's health education ever again!

Thank you,
Lynn M Jaros

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Lynn

Last name *

Jaros

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Shannon

Last name *

Ginsburg

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Educators need to stick to the basics. These topics DO NOT belong in our schools, period. Stick to what is your business...math, English, biology, accurate accounts of history, etc. Keep your individual political views out of classrooms. I also suggest you start adding back to schools basic discipline and accountability. Kids need to fail at times to learn.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Shannon

Last name *

Ginsburg

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Morrison

City *

Blair

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I believe teachers should not be talking about matters of sexuality or gender identity in elementary school for any reason. If a child has a question or concern, they can ask a parent or trusted adult. It is a parent's right to protect their children's innocence.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Jennifer

Last name *

Morrison

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

sherrill

Last name *

Smith

City *

Nebraska City

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Topic dealing with sex should be talked about with a parent, guardian, religious leader, and or cultural group, not the public school system. Teachers don't have enough time to teach the traditional subjects as it is.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Sherrill

Last name *

Smith

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kate

Last name *

Schwede

City *

Wahoo

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It has come to my attention the Nebraska state board of education has had some questionable "negotiations" or rather manipulation of trying to get far left activists to influence the board and the standards, especially for the purposes of sex education in Nebraska. This kind of activity needs thorough investigation. At this point I have a definite lack of trust the far left sexual ideologies will not be reintroduced. They stop at nothing to indoctrinate the young.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Kate

Last name *

Schwede

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Amy

Last name *

Bishop

City *

Belgrade

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

What policy have you placed to ensure citizens of Nebraska who demanded you cease CRT plot will not happen again? I am requesting those on the board who pushed this demented, perverted teaching be removed from the board immediately.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Amy

Last name *

Bishop

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Ronna

Last name *

Hammer

City *

Blair

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As an educator, I refuse to teach the standards that are being proposed. There are things that should be taught in the home by parents. I do not feel it is the job of a teacher to teach such material. I would not want my son to learn this in school. Teachers continue to have more and more piled on our plates without anything being taken away. This curriculum is not our place to teach. It does not belong in the classroom!!!!!!!!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Ronna

Last name *

Hammer

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Teresa

Last name *

Cook

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I would like to ask you to completely drop all the proposed sex standards. After reading the first draft it was mortifying and to think that this could even be debated was beyond thinkable. Shame on you. The second draft is not acceptable either. Scrap the standards and remove all CRT teaching in the schools. Do the right thing for parents and children. Scrap the standards! This is what the majority of the parents are demanding.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Teresa

Last name *

Cook

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Thomas

Last name *

Regan

City *

Papillion

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

What is going on??? We are watching you will be held accountable.

""I want to make sure that Lisa Schulze is selected to help write the NDE Health Standards... Please let me know what I need to do to make sure she is selected". That is a direct quote from Board Member Neary's email to Ryan Foor.

You all have received a copy, so you can follow the timeline we are setting out for you. This timeline will show that Board Member Neary has worked behind the scenes in an effort to influence all of you to adopt standards which were initially written by teachers from across the state, but were then taken over and manipulated by activists working secretly with Board Member Neary. Most of this was kept from you, which is why there has been so much controversy and confusion with this entire process. Many of you on the board and in the NDE trusted the process without knowing that someone was manipulating the process. By the end of this meeting, you will see exactly how this unfolded without your knowledge.

On September 30, 2019, Board Member Deborah Neary contacted Ryan Foor and stated: "I will not involve myself in the selection process as we discussed. I want the process to happen organically as it should." It appears that between September 26th and September 30th of 2019, Mr. Foor spoke with Ms. Neary and recommended that she should not be advocating for certain people and that she should "trust the process". This timeline was developed by reviewing a large number of emails and text messages received through public records requests served on the Department of Education over the past six months.

On October 20, 2019, Neary emailed Ryan Foor and Matt Blomstedt, informing them:

"I am very disappointed that none of the folks that I recommend to participate in the Nebraska Health Education Standards Writing Team were selected... I now do not have anyone on the writing team that can keep me informed... I also want to know how I can make sure that Dr. Heerten-Rodriguez, Lisa Schulze, and others that I recommended can be included in the process somehow... Please let me know what the next steps are to include them now."

Apparently, Ms. Neary was no longer willing to remain uninvolved in the process and was unwilling to allow the Health Education Standards to be developed organically."

....<https://gq193.keap-link001.com/api/v1/click/5898940263563264/6597315238690816>

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Thomas

Last name *

Regan

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Rucilez

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Could you do the right thing and stop lining your pockets. Help make a better future & not push an agenda called crt and cse. Allow God to work through you and show you are decent people.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Sandra

Last name *

Rucilez

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

City *

Doniphan

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I voted for a representative that would protect the children and oversee education efforts for the betterment of the students. I have seen the OPS curriculum. The curriculum is not doing this in regards to CSE and CRT. It is appalling and falls short. These draft standards need to be tossed. The advisory committee needs to be scrapped.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Deborah

Last name *

Hallock

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to you to let you know that I am not in favor of the health sex education standards. I understand that you have a board member working behind the scenes in an effort to influence our process!!! I am not in favor of the "National Experts" and the under cover advocacy plan. You can do better for the state of NE !

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Deborah

Last name *

Hallock

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Susie

Last name *

Sochor

City *

Doniphan

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The State Health Sex Standards need to be scrapped. There is no way to revise these standards to make them acceptable. These standards are trying to sexualize our children and set them up for becoming victims of pedophiles and sex offenders. If you are sticking to the science you know the decision making portion of the brain does not fully develop until a person reaches their 20's. There is no way a child is able to make life altering decisions (some of which are irreversible) about their sexuality. It is the parent's responsibility, not the school system, to decide what information their children are mature enough to handle and how to present sexual education to their own child.

The overwhelming attendance at your State Board meetings and a huge majority of negative feedback should tell you the parents, grandparents, teachers, and patrons of this state are against these vile standards. Scrap them!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Susie

Last name *

Sochor

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Joshua

Last name *

Frasier

City *

Hastings

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Our students do not need to learn about the hundreds of genders. They do not need to learn about "equity." They do not need to learn ways to have sex and all the sex Ed information that is inappropriately shared with students that is absolutely TOO MUCH INFO! Why is this being shared in school? This is not the job of the school system. School is about learning basic *life skills*. Spelling. Reading. Math. History. Science. Stuff like gender/equity/sex do not belong in school.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Joshua

Last name *

Frasier

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jane

Last name *

Moore

City *

Nebraska City

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It is with grave concern that I have been following the development of a proposed set of sex ed guidelines, which totally redefines the facts of sexual identity. Those who propose these guidelines say that they are following the science. For time immortal now science has identified two genders - male and female. When was a new sex discovered by science? I understand that some struggle with many issues in life including their sexual identity and would hope that they would be able to find the support they need to deal with these questions. However, to present to our children in an educational setting that there are multiple sexual identities is wrong on every level.

It is also upsetting to me that lobbyists are writing these proposals instead of bonafide teachers and parents. This is just like Washington DC where deals are made in back rooms that affect us all. These deals are not made with the best interests of the American people in mind but rather they are the product of an agenda by special interest groups. It is disheartening to see this so clearly right here in our home state of Nebraska .. the Good Life!

Two things I want to communicate:

1. No sex ed guidelines should be put forward by the NDE as it is not required by law and is better left to individual communities and their school boards.
2. Those behind this agenda, Senator Neary of principal interest, should be chastised for their involvement in such a secretive and deceptive scheme against the citizens of our great state. Shame on them for trying to foist this on the most vulnerable among us .. our children.

Thank you for listening to my deep concerns. May true science and common sense prevail!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Jane

Last name *

Moore

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Ruth

Last name *

Beahm

City *

Minden

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am completely opposed to CRT & CSE being taught or even being considered to be offered in our public schools.

Lynette Beahm

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Lynette

Last name *

Beahm

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Lindsay

Last name *

Dolezal

City *

Blair

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have been attending the NDE meetings or watching them live, and tracking the revisions, etc. The whole process of the writing of these new standards has been deceptive and unbalanced. It grieves me to know our tax dollars and trust have been put in this group to do best by our kids. The revisions made were very minor and in some cases even more egregious as the grade standard was only changed to a standard for a lower grade (from 3rd grade to 2nd grade, for example) making them even less conservative. I am a parent and a tax payer and cannot stand by while these changes are proposed. They are not appropriate and even damaging to our children!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Lindsay

Last name *

Dolezal

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cynthia

Last name *

Farewell

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am still concerned about the comprehensive sex ed curriculum. Parents trust in the State school board and the public school system has been shattered. The establishment of moral and deeply held values is the purview of parents and religious institutions. It is not for government schools to dictate ideology contrary to family, religious, patriotic American belief.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Cynthia

Last name *

Farewell

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Judy

Last name *

Derr

City *

Amherst

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am very concerned about the broken trust with the Nebraska State School Board, especially since the release of the FOIA's. I, along with many other community members, am watching and hoping there is going to be some sort of accountability and consequences, moving forward. What has been done, especially since the last SBOE meeting???? Patrons, stakeholders are waiting!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Judy

Last name *

Derr

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Janet

Last name *

Johnson

City *

Papillion

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I would like to express my concerns that the previously proposed comprehensive sex education standards are still in limbo. As far as I can tell from the public record of the last meeting, that no official vote was taken to desist in moving forward with the standards. It just so happened that the board seemed to drop the subject for the time being. I would like to see a motion passed and voted upon which clearly states the board's intention to drop the idea completely. This is clearly an overreach of the NE state board of education, which board does not have any commission to create or impose such standards.

Thank you for hearing my concerns.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Janet

Last name *

Johnson

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Corinne

Last name *

Jarrett

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

My husband and I and extended family feel that CRT promotes discrimination instead of eliminating it. Common sense dictates this feeling. Also, Any form of sexual information belongs to the family not the school. I am a conservative and feel bullied by the democrats that are shoving this into our country's teaching system.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Corinne

Last name *

Jarrett

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Bob

Last name *

Derr

City *

Amherst

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to express my disappointment in the state board of education and the recent revelations of the FOIA's. My question, along with many, many others, is there going to be any consequences, such as a public discipline or censure, for the state board member who clearly violated the trust of the public and certainly placed the entire board in a very poor light?!?! I believe some action needs to be taken as soon as possible. Until this matter has some sort of closure, we are afraid the SBOE will not be able to be effective. Thank you for your consideration.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Bob

Last name *

Derr

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Autumn

Last name *

Bargstadt

City *

Norfolk

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am a parent of a child that attends NPS. She's 1 of 3 so not my first day.

I am appalled that CSE is even being considered at all today. I have a copy of the Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) materials which I plan to share with all parents I can so they are informed of this perverted education agenda. You are obligated to inform all parent's of this state the details of CSE and materials you plan to use if somehow this goes thru. CSE is being implemented at every public school from pre-12. The info I have was not easy to obtain and is disturbing. Each one of you need to explain why this is being pushed and manipulation used to trick us into implementing now. Evidence proves you want specific people on the board and will do what it takes to get them there. You have used suicide and sexuality as your cause from 2019-2020 which I doubt is accurate or documentation is available to back this up. CSE ="Grade K, L2 p.2 covers a person with 3 holes and sensitivity of the clitoris. Explain how that is going to decrease suicide in non-heterosexuals or if there is any material addressing your push for this. The people involved in public emails should be terminated and legal action taken. I would do additional background checks esp with regards to children involvement. Someone needs to stand up against this at the board meeting. Many will be watching!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Autumn

Last name *

Bargstadt

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Amanda

Last name *

Ripley

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I have been very disappointed with your dealings with the health standards. While I am thankful you have shelved the standards for now, your lack of transparency makes me doubt that we won't be seeing them again. I am not impressed that you are not allowing public spoken comments during the meeting in Oct 8th. Your dishonesty will continue to be exposed despite your unwillingness to allow time for spoken comments. I would ask you to make a stand and completely get rid of any talk of health standards. Talking to young children about sex has to be earned. You do not deserve an audience with the children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Amanda

Last name *

Ripley

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jackie

Last name *

Burklund

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Not appropriate for teachers to be informing kids. It's my job as a parent. End of story.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Jackie

Last name *

Burklund

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Tami

Last name *

Kaiser

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Qualifications: Bachelor's UNL dual major-Human Development & Elementary Education/Early Childhood endorsement. Master's UNL Special Education Behavior Disorders all spectrums.

Long-term sub- Regional Morton School-nine months, summer school-Lancaster County Youth Services-eight years with diverse groups of kids with a diverse variety of struggles, taught Red Cross sexual abuse classes for daycare workers, three years at Center on Children, Families & Law, where we dealt with state, national and international child & family issues, public school system for 23+ years, including elementary school & 19 years at Lincoln High, Lincoln, NE. My classes were with diverse populations. I was on the LHS multicultural team & district's multicultural team for several years.

Neary wants to hear from doctors, medical practitioners, health educators, counselors, therapists, early childhood experts & psychologists. This is who you've been hearing from when your opposition speaks. They are offering facts & accurate statistics. Your affiliates have offered social ideology/biased statistics - not real science. It's too bad that Neary & Peters were so single-minded in lining up writers for the HG&D standards. They missed many of the best experts in the state.

Nickels and Neary stated, "They are on the board of education to help ALL students." Their desired Draft 1 are not for ALL students. Nickels stated that 10% of students in every building are "different" - that is a false statement. The "different" - as she calls them, are a very, very small percentage of all students.

Members of the State Board of Education want to add gender issue ideology, masturbation, oral, anal sexual acts to the health standards. Why would kids need a teacher informing them how to masturbate & perform sex acts? Explain to me how this benefits any kid (even with gender issues). The prior health curriculum & biology classes taught reproduction without being pornographic. Heterosexual sex acts were not part of past curriculum. School counselors/nurses are available to students for gender ideology if there is a need. One-on-one help would be less stressful for the kids that might have a gender issue.

Kids knowing the names of body parts should be taught by parents. Schools can still teach children the safety of not letting someone touch their private areas. It can be taught the same as in the past without veering into sexualizing children.

Neary commented to the media, "She heard a tremendous amount of racism & threats to board members & State Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt." A few people have been zealous in their 2- minutes.

People are frustrated that the board isn't listening to opposition from parents and students. I heard no threats, racism, or name-calling come from them. There was falsehoods & name-calling from pro-supporters & Senator Hunt towards parents & religious groups. Neary had no comment against that. Be careful of libel & slander.

The media is publishing biased, prejudicial, and defaming info- it all comes from you. Your heartfelt comments to the "brave adults" bussed in by the Women's Fund, GLSN, PP, etc. are extremely partisan. You show total disregard for the children stating their reasons for not wanting these standards.

Neary, Nickles, Koch-Johns & Stephens come across as biased, bigoted, and prejudiced against the 95+% of Nebraska students. The intolerance portrayed by the members of the state board is unprofessional for anyone.

Fricke recommended the State Board adopt a statement to postpone the HG&D standards. The reasons given - "the pandemic & the timing are wrong," were excuses. You thought it could be slipped in like the Social Studies standards of Equity & racism and have no problem.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Tamara

Last name *

Kaiser

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kateryna

Last name *

Poberezhnik

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear board of education members, I am a parent who is deeply concerned with how the education board is treating the public. You are not being transparent and forward about the decisions that are being made in regards to our children. We should be partnering TOGETHER to provide the best learning environment for our children that doesn't push our values and beliefs to the side in the process. So far the board of education has been disregarding the parents as partners but treating us as an obstacle to get through to push a certain agenda. If you are not able to serve the people of our state above all else, then you need to resign. We, the people, deserve representatives who love our country and have a deep respect to our Constitution. I hope that you will initiate unity and freedom of choice over division and constraint.

Sincerely,

Kateryna Poberezhnik

1209 Shadow Moss Ln Lincoln NE 68521

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kateryna

Last name *

Poberezhnik

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Jenna

Last name *

Derr

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am sincerely concerned about the recent process regarding the attempted development of health sex education standards. After reading multiple emails from members of the state board of education and the Nebraska Department of Education, I am very concerned. The process appears to have been manipulated. We now know the public has been misled multiple times. Where is the accountability after this information has been uncovered and made public? Where are proposed changes, to be presented to the public, tax payers/constituents, that pledge to never allow such manipulation to occur again? The public has lost trust in the state school board members and in the NDE. How can we trust anything going forward, when such manipulation was known and allowed to occur, and subsequently, has not been addressed at all? Who holds the state school board members accountable if bylaws have been broken? The public is waiting for a response and a plan of action, so we can move forward. Thank you for your time.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Jenna

Last name *

Derr

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Yanna

Last name *

Ustimchuk

City *

Lincoln

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to you in regards to the mask mandate for kids at school. Most all of Nebraska doesn't have a mandate why are we still putting masks on our kids? I believe it is up to parents on whether we have our kids masked or not. Who ever wants to continue to mask they are free to but please give us our freedom back. My parents moved our family from the communist country of Ukraine, back then it was, almost 30 years ago for the freedom that America offers and you guys are ripping away that freedom peace by peace. I do not wish for my kids to live in a communist country which it is becoming, starting with masks then continuing on to the covid vaccine. I don't understand why "my body my choice" works for abortions but not for something like masking or vaccines. Please stop this child abuse and remove the masks from our children! I also have a concern with what kind of music is being allowed at school events. Last Saturday there was a color run at our school to which a dj was hired to and the music he was playing was disgusting, disturbing and not for children to be listening to. There was some rock/metal music and what really made my jaw drop was a song being played that said the word "pussy" almost every other word at the chorus. All kinds of people attended this event and some people might actually family and religious morals they teach their children. This is unacceptable and sexualizing kids at way to young of an age and it is DISGUSTING!!! I did email the principle in regards to this and she apologized and said that it won't happen again. Someone needs to be filtering the things teachers are allowed to say and talk about and the music they are playing. I also am not fond of the "black lives matter" signs hang up in schools. So far I saw 2 at my children's school, ALL lives matter and I don't want my kids being accustomed to the "Black lives matter" movement that is a disgrace to this country. ALL lives matter yesterday, today and tomorrow. There is no reason to be dividing our children they don't see color, they see a friend with feelings and emotions just like themselves. LGBTQ also, that agenda and banners do not belong in schools in no way shape or form. If parents want to teach their children about their life style they are welcome to at home just like I teach my children to love and trust the lord, and obey what the Bible says. Oh and I forgot to mention the CSE/equity that is secretly getting pushed also, I have no words for the garbage that the schools are trying to teach the children at such a young innocent age, definitely grooming and sexualizing the kids to normalize pedophilia yet again UNACCEPTABLE and CHILD ABUSE! showing and teaching them pornography is basically what its coming to!! If schools don't start listening to parents concerns we will start pulling our kids from your schools. Many people have already been doing alternative learning and the many of us that don't agree with the agendas being pushed in the schools will also start pulling our kids out soon. NO kids in school= no funding for public schools simple as that. Please do the right thing for our kids and the future of schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Yanna

Last name *

Ustimchuk

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Julie

Last name *

Murphy

City *

Grand Island

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a former school nurse, I have taught the current health curriculum. It is clear, concise and CORRECT. It does not delve beyond what should be further presented by parents. The proposed you are making are crossing a line and need to be stopped. Parents should be making the choices to discuss what you are wanting to include.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Julie

Last name *

Murphy

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Dan

Last name *

Kienow

City *

Winnetoon

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

NSB members,

I am asking that you please scrap once and for all the new health education standards. They are nothing more than a politically motivated socialist indoctrination of our youth. CRT divides the children into social and racial groups and pits them against each other, while the sex education aspects introduced our children to a perverted and Godless life style. If you believe that this new health standard is in any way beneficial to children you are lying to yourself and others or are completely naive. In either case you should not be on the state board of education because you do not have the best interests of our children in mind.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Dan

Last name *

Kienow

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Teresa

Last name *

Roeloffs

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear Nebraska Board of Education:

I urgently cry out to you to dig down deep in your heart of hearts to consider why you are on this board. To me you are on this board to best serve the children of Nebraska, the parents of Nebraska and the residents of Nebraska. I have attended the recent meetings and overall know that Nebraskans are crying out to you to make the best decisions regarding Comprehensive Sex Education and Critical Race Theory for our Nebraska children. We are crying out to you to please consider protecting the innocence of children and to make standards that will be the best for our Nebraska children and for the future of this state. So I implore you to scrap the CSE standards and to say NO to CRT! Please consider the massive impact your decisions have upon this state and please act accordingly! Thank you!

Sincerely,
Teresa Roeloffs

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Teresa

Last name *

Roeloffs

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Identification

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First name *

Teresa

Last name *

Carey

City *

Wilcox

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I, as a grandmother, tax payer and a concerned citizen that cares about the children in my community am vehemently opposed to the indoctrination of the ideology that is Critical Race Theory or "Equity" training and the perversion of Comprehensive Sexuality Education.

"Critical Race Theory replaces the founding principles of this country such as equality, excellence and equal protection under the law and replaces them with the COMMUNIST ideal of equity, that is, every American, no matter their ability, work ethic or moral fiber, should end up achieving the same result. Instead of every single one of us, no matter the color of our skin, no matter our ethnicity or our current lot in life, being guaranteed certain unalienable rights by our Creator, under CRT, we would be dictated to by the all-mighty government that no matter our individual merit, ability or talent, we will all end up in the same place, an equal place." NO to CRT! CRT is divisive, racist and demeaning to ones self image and judgmental of others. It has no place in our schools. The SEL curriculum should also be banned! Trying to sneak it in is deceitful and underhanded.

And the CSE has no business being in the classroom. It is one step toward grooming our children for pedophiles & pedophilia & sex trafficking with the perversion it teaches. A lot of people would have a hard time talking about this stuff let alone trying to teach it to minors! It is illegal! Pornography!

We would lose some good teachers that truly cared about teaching our children to grow up to be productive/contributing members of society.

Don't try to take over the job of the parent and confuse our children with alternative lifestyles!

Let the kids be kids! They shouldn't have to be burdened with these heavy issues.

Teach the children to think critically, to appreciate differences, to respect others and work hard for what they earn.

Teach them HISTORY AS IT HAPPENED so they can appreciate just how fortunate we are to be living in this time and in such a GREAT COUNTRY!

GOD BLESS THE USA!!!

CRT, SEL & CSE ARE NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR CHILDREN!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

TERESA

Last name *

CAREY

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Paige

Last name *

Schwartz

City *

Hastings

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To whom it may concern,

I believe it is safe to say it has been a rough year for educators and parents alike. I plead with you in your meeting to strive to bring peace to our children's environment. I am a parent of 3. My children are 9,5, and 1. My children are not bigots. They do not have the hate in their hearts most adults have. I think it is easy to forget children are not small adults, and should not be treated as such. Please use your best judgment to focus on writing, reading, math, and science. I ask this for my children and all the children of Nebraska. I know I have lost trust and confidence this year that the NBE has my children's best interest at heart. I hope you change my mind.

Paige Schwartz

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Paige

Last name *

Schwartz

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Identification

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First name *

Carol

Last name *

Watson

City *

Arnold

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraska State School Board Members,
Matthew Blomstedt, Commissioner:

I am bringing you greetings and instructions from West Central Nebraska.

Did you take an oath when you were seated on this Board? If you did, whom does it protect and serve?

If you, as a sworn officer of our U. S. Constitution, violates that oath what is to be done?

As a sworn officer of our Constitution, both the U.S. and the State of Nebraska, aren't you to uphold and defend it?

The curriculums, C R T and Sex Ed, that this Board has proposed and tabled for a time, are in direct violation of the Principles of morality and freedom of religion that are the rights of the people under the Constitution. You took an oath to uphold these rights. Your actions in promoting this kind of lude and degrading instruction are for what reason? Perhaps in a democracy, going along with this radical intrusive ideology would be appropriate, BUT in a Constitutional Republic, the rights of the individual are required to be protected. Principles of morality and freedom of religion cannot be restricted by the acts of tyranny by the State. The very people who have entrusted their most precious gifts given by God, to this education system, are NOT puppets of your misguided whims. In order to protect my grand children from this vile and unnecessary teachings, I have the fortitude and dedication to tell you that I will No longer tolerate your intervention, control, meddling, mandates, or criminal behavior. You have by- passed the Principles of freedom and equality in order to concentrate on your agenda from the radical idealogues of this era and have thumbed your noses at the will of the people who will see you replaced.

Sincerely,
Carol Watson

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Carol

Last name *

Watson

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Patricia

Last name *

Ruppert

City *

Kearney

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a State Board, the actions taken by this body are clearly of imposing agendas and ideologies to Nebraska children, instead of teaching what is important. Parents of all children (straight/gay/lesbian, etc...) are the only ones who have the right to teach when and how about sex education and about race. Not you. NBE need to give a clear, specific and definitive answer once and for all to Nebraskans that this agenda will never be imposed in any Nebraska school now or in the future. With this behavior NBE is playing politics and placating other groups to receive funds instead of doing the right thing. Education is not about money or politics.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Patricia

Last name *

Ruppert

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Identification

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First name *

Nataliya

Last name *

Gorelyy

City *

Det
.....

State *

Ne
.....

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

New Comprehensive Health Education is absolutely unacceptable. School should be about Math, English, chemistry, Biology and etc., but not about the standards that some people want to implement in our schools such as gender identity and things like that. If such changes will be accepted in schools of Nebraska many people will take their kids from public schools

.....

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Nataliya
.....

Last name *

Gorelyy

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Vladimir

Last name *

Gorelyy

City *

Denton

State *

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I'm against of the new comprehensive sexual education in schools of NE.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Vladimir

Last name *

Gorelyy

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Evlyn

Last name *

Cory

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The education department has really taken on a role that is not theirs in teaching our kids our sexuality and also in the way that is being proposed. As a former teacher, stop complicating things for parents and students. You have politicized this and we in the community no longer fully trust your process in making decisions for what teachers teach and what students learn. As a parent, I will teach my own children about sexuality and I don't want your influence anymore; you have lost a good sense of discernment with age appropriateness regarding this topic.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Evlyn

Last name *

Cory

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Pam

Last name *

Lutterman

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am a taxpayer, and concerned grandparent of children attending public schools in Omaha. I extremely disagree and disapprove of the backdoor and blatant efforts to teach sexuality to students that most agree are harmful to students especially the elementary-middle school age. I oppose your efforts to push this sex ed curriculum in a dishonest, non-transparent and biased manner.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,**First name ***

Pam

Last name *

Lutterman

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Rebekah

Last name *

Heather

City *

Union

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

A significant breach of trust, transparency, and accountability occurred during the development of these standards. Until the credibility of the state board of education and the NDE is restored, and those implicated are held accountable, Nebraska stakeholders will not accept any future consideration for the development of health education standards. It is the job of a parent to teach their child and watch over their safety in regards to education! You have usurped the parental authority and have caused a huge problem in society!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Rebekah

Last name *

Heather

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kent

Last name *

Lorens

City *

Stratton

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Comprehensive sex education is not a matter that any public teaching institution should have as a agenda. The fact that there is only two sexes male and female that exist and complement one another which is the science as well seems to be of question. Natural law overshadows any other theory that exists. The parents still have the responsibility to teach there kids how sexuality is perceived in human behavior. As it is you not trying to teach but indoctrinate children. Social engineering is not you job.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kent

Last name *

Lorens

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Beata

Last name *

Rudloff

City *

Norfolk

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Thank you to the Nebraska State Board of Education for voting to indefinitely postpone the development of the health and sex education standards.

At this time, I am asking the Nebraska Board of Education to initiate an investigation into the process by which these proposed standards were developed and presented to the public. Documents recently acquired by several members of Protect Nebraska Children Coalition suggest there may have been manipulation throughout the development process of the standards and a lack of transparency driven by the efforts of a single board member working with various activists behind the scenes. This raises significant concerns for me and many other Nebraska educators, parents, and citizens. If this truly did happen, immediate resignations or terminations are in order. Please conduct independent investigations to determine any others who may have been involved and clean house as appropriate. As a lifetime educator, this really hurts. Trying to push a specific agenda and showing disregard for public opinion has shaken my trust in our Nebraska Board of Education. It is my deepest hope that the Nebraska Board of Ed will step up to the plate, make changes in leadership, be truly transparent and accountable, listen to the people throughout our great state, and do what is truly right for our children and our citizens.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Beata

Last name *

Rudloff

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Liz

Last name *

Davids

City *

LINCOLN

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The state board of education has lost the trust of the Nebraskans you are supposed to represent in the way that you assembled a completely biased and one-sided committee to develop egregious "health" standards that are unscientific, unacademic, and more controversial than the national SIECUS standards suggest. You need to listen to the thousands of parents who have written and spoken and demanded that you protect our children from big business' and special interest groups' predatory grooming. Shelving these "health" standards isn't enough. They need to be entirely rewritten according to actual medical information or scrapped entirely. Your positions on the Board depend on it.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Davids

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Shawna

Last name *

Weaver

City *

Funk

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are still concerned about the sex health education standards and do not feel that they are still what they need to be. It still appears that they are teaching our children things that should be taught at home and not through the school system. The sex health education standards still need to be gone over. There's too much that is not basic science related and things that should not be learned in school. I understand teaching safe sex When the children are over 16 years old, but for young children this is not education, it is perversion. And sex is something that the schools should not be teaching, the parents should, because it has nothing to do with the academics. This perversion in our schools is a planned Parenthood dream, to get more young people having abortions by more young people having sex.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Shawna

Last name *

Weaver

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kelli

Last name *

Brady

City *

BELLEVUE

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To the Board of Education,

I would normally say with all due respect, however, I have lost ALL respect for this board.

As a parent and grandparent I will not be silenced. Since you will not allow us to voice our opinion at this meeting, this is why I write.

I feel, as many do, your job is to help partake in our education of our children. Not to take it over or do it for us for us. You are to assist the parents with teaching education. NEVER TO DECIDE FOR US.

When this board decided to TAKE OVER our duties as parents. You broke our trust.

The board can no longer be trusted. If when a board, decides that they are the only ones, that can decide the educational, moral and society norms for other peoples children, this is where we have a problem. This is NOT YOUR PLACE.

WHEN Ms. Neary took it upon herself with the help of others, and decided to take things into her own hands and decide what was BEST for all of our children. She did this with no parental permission by us.

If, the whole board knew what Ms. NEARY was doing, then you are complicit. I

If you are not complicit, this just proves you were incompetent at doing your job.

When this CORRUPTION was found, you should have stood up and have stopped it. You should be demanding an investigation and hold the people responsible for the damage. You SHOULD NOT BE COVERING IT UP AND DOING NOTHING.

As we all now know, NO ONE did anything to STOP this wrong, disgusting and disgraceful action. When the parents figured it all out, then you tabled the standards that were written with BIAS & AGENDA DRIVE MOTIVATED Group and Person. ONLY WHEN YOU WETE CAUGHT.

How dare you do this to ANY CHILD! You were in place to help children. What you did was try to disguise the disgusting and unproven concepts, THAT ONLY THE BOARD decided was to be taught.

The board will never be trusted again. The only thing good that came out of this? Parents worked together, and we will stand together, and we will fight for our children.

As in history, there comes a time and place for action. Now, it is your actions we are watching constantly. We will not give up as long as this board is a threat to our children. WE THE PARENTS are strong and motivated. YOU WILL NOT WORK WITHOUT US. YOU WILL NOT DECIDE FOR US.

Our tax dollars were used for this disgusting OVERREACH. This board wasted time and our money! If this was the business world, you would all be FIRED for doing IRREPARABLE HARM or doing something NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMPANY (NEBRASKA FAMILIES). You would be held accountable for stealing money for the projects not agreed upon.

WE THE PARENTS ..

YOUR BOSS, IS NOW COLLECTING!

You should be all ashamed and RESIGN. Anything less, is proof none of you care about what Nebraskans want or deserve for their children.

WE THE PARENTS, will not be silenced, we will not go away, we will hold you accountable! We NEVER let this happen again.. This will NEVER be forgotten. You all have BETRAYED NEBRASKANS TRUST.

Sincerely,

Kelli Brady

1301 Bryan Ave

Bellevue, Nebraska 68005

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kelli

Last name *

Brady

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Elissa

Last name *

Martin

City *

Lexington

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

First of all, I would like to thank you for tabling the proposed health education standards. However, I am in no way convinced that you intend to be done with these standards. Since you played the covid-19 card in tabling them, I think it could also be used as a justification for completely getting rid of them or at least for a complete rewrite. Students are struggling in the basic core academic subjects, especially reading and math, due to the impacts of the pandemic on education. Mental health is also a huge issue. I would be in support of standards addressing mental and emotional health, but I don't believe that gender and sexual orientation needs to be a specific part of that conversation. Would it come up in the classroom? Yes. When I taught in the public school, we had many conversations about these topics, but they were STUDENT LED not teacher driven. Having a person in authority pushing these ideologies on kids is indoctrination, not education. Thus, we do not want these flawed standards.

Also, I am deeply disappointed in the information exposed by the FOIA emails from Deborah Neary. I am shocked that the board has not publicly addressed this travesty, and I do not believe that Ms. Neary has acted in good faith. I would like to see her resignation.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Elissa

Last name *

Martin

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Patrick

Last name *

Martin

City *

Lexington

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

You need to let parents be in charge of their children's education, especially in matters of sexual orientation and practice. The standards may have been tabled, but they need to be thrown out completely. I'm getting really tired of having to parent my kids with the government. We might have been unaware for awhile, but we are watching now and we aren't going to back down because we are protecting our kids from leftist indoctrination. Kids need taught reading, math, and our constitution. It wouldn't hurt for everyone to reread it.

Board Member Neary has clearly acted in inappropriate ways, as evidenced by the emails from the FOIA. She needs to resign.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Patrick

Last name *

Martin

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Brent

Last name *

Bockerman

City *

Omaha

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The following are my views as a taxpayer and registered voter residing in the state of Nebraska.

CSE oversteps the bounds of what should be taught and directed for youth education solely by parents in terms of values and beliefs, and not by educational materials masking a radical agenda to expose our school-age children to concepts very often directly in conflict with traditional, Judeo/Christian values previously long-respected by public education as responsibilities left to parents in the home for moral education and guidance for their own children in these areas. Educators and materials addressing these areas are inappropriate exposure to younger children. And, even in high school, the single, completely safe educational area on the topic is abstinence prior to marriage. Other topics and direction on human reproductive science had long been out-of-bounds and are best to continue in that fashion.

CRT either directly or indirectly espouses reverse discrimination against the Caucasian race. It is completely improper to label a child born to two white parents, neither of which is a minority heritage, as an inherently racist individual they should feel guilty about in themselves as something that child cannot even directly control. In addition, the teaching of American history only from the Civil War and forward has been another implicit, indirect inclusion of CRT, and it dishonors the significant contributions of minorities in our nation prior to the Reconstruction era of the U.S.

Thank you for receiving and considering my firmly-held views and beliefs in the role of public education to academically prepare our children with the skills needed in a competitive, free nation (reading, writing, mathematics, "full and truthful history" and factually true science) and eliminating the improper and unwanted social engineering of our children' minds in Nebraska public schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Brent

Last name *

Bockerman

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Shayla

Last name *

Stutzman

City *

Dorchester

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear Nebraska School Board Members,

I am asking you to PLEASE not adopt the NE Health Sex Education Standards. These standards are a direct violation as to what the majority of NE parents, grandparents and citizens stand for. We are opposed to implementing these standards in NE schools!

You are all elected officials who are supposed to be representing the majority of Nebraska citizens! Thank you!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Shayla

Last name *

Stutzman

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Dallas

Last name *

Asher

City *

Omaha

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

October 7, 2021

Dear Nebraska State Board of Education,

My name is Dallas Asher. I testified before you on August 6, 2021, and as a result, my testimony appeared, in edited form, in a newscast by Channel 3 (Omaha) news on August 21, 2021. By the way, I never saw a Channel 3 news camera at the SBOE meeting on August 6 so it appears that Channel 3 broadcast a clipping that the SBOE created.

In the broadcast, I was labeled as a white extremist because I talked about my experience as a Marine in Viet Nam and recounted the actions of the Viet Cong. I compared the SBOE to the Viet Cong because the ideology of Marxism and Communism is a common denominator to both groups.

I want you to know that I am not the only veteran who has done that. Retired State Senator, Richard Hayden Black (Virginia) was quoted in an article in the Epoch Times newspaper by Maureen Newman in the September 22-28, 2021 edition. I quote:

"After 16 years in the Virginia House of Delegates and the Virginia Senate, Sen. Richard Hayden Black withdrew from the office in 2020, but not the community. On June 22, he spoke at a school board meeting in his county of residence, Loudoun County...The county is west of Washington, D.C. ... It has become ground zero for the fight against critical race theory (CRT), a variation of Marxism that interprets society through the lens of racial class struggle and see inherent racism in the foundations of Western societies."

"Black's self-introduction caused a stir in the crowd...He moved on to condemn the proposed transgender policies, which allow boys who self-identify as girls to use girls' bathrooms and locker rooms."

"The last time he was face-to-face with communism was in Vietnam...In 1966, on a flight to bring in supplies to a South Vietnamese encampment, Black flew over a village. All of the people in the village had been beheaded. 'The mother, the fathers, everybody, their heads were on poles. There was just enormous brutality and cruelty. It's not that the United States didn't make mistakes in Vietnam, but anyone who thought that we were on the wrong side does not understand the evil of the people who took over there."

"We are in a situation today where the communists back when I was in college realized that the fissure in American society was a racial one. And they've worked very hard to exploit that. And at the same time, they recognize that to collapse society and bring about communist revolution, they have to also take out all the moral underpinnings of society. And this is what is being done."

Members of the Nebraska State Board of Education: Heed these words. Neither Sen. Black nor I are radical extremists. We have seen with our own eyes and heard with our own ears what communism did to Viet Nam. We do not want it to be repeated here! Eliminate the CSE and CRT standards that you are proposing! You have said that the Health Standards are tabled for a while. I demand that you scrap them and pay attention to the voices of the parents and grandparents of Nebraska who want to preserve freedom of speech, thought and action that our Constitution gives us!

Sincerely, Dallas E. Asher

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Dallas

Last name *

Asher

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kendra

Last name *

Gauksson

City *

Lincoln

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It is your job to listen to ALL your constituents. Not just the ones that lobby for your interests and agenda. People voted you in to over look and enforce school subjects.... not sex ed, gender studies, race. That means you focus on the children of Nebraska are graduating and with knowledge of reading, writing, math, social studies, history and science. If you don't shift your focus, you will be in your way out the door.

Nebraskans are fed up and won't put up with your antics any longer.

The best part is with you tabling the sex ed crap, you've now pissed off both sides. That's a rough spot to be in! I'd start making some changes if I were you!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kendra

Last name *

Gauksson

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Cheryl

Last name *

Perkins

City *

Seward

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I want the board to know that I am against any and all of the sex education standards before the board at this time. They are to help groom our children for sex trafficking and pedophilia. It is a parents job to teach sexual education to their children not the public school.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Cheryl

Last name *

Perkins

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

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Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kristen

Last name *

Fowler

City *

Lincoln

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am strongly concerned about the topics being taught and/or displayed in our schools. I have seen pictures of BLM flags being hung over doors and stickers on whiteboards in LPS classrooms ranging from elementary to high school. If you have payed attention to the people behind those groups, you can clearly see that they are not actually promoting the success of minorities, but instead are using minorities to promote an agenda working to segregate our society again.

Also, I have not been able to locate the updated proposed health standards, but if they are anything close to the previous, the sexual exploitation of our children is disgusting and borderline child abuse. It is the responsibility of the parents to help our children through these times. I realize that there will be discrepancies in what each child is taught, but so are there discrepancies on how each child is raised. I would suggest having the health topics available for parents to read/use so that if there is a need, it is available, if parents agree with what is available. After all, we are the ones responsible for the well being of our children.

Lastly, masking our children is disgusting. There have not been relevant studies done to prove that masks are helping, along with the studies that are missing showing the long term affects masking will have on our children. TAKE THE MASKING REQUIREMENTS OUT OF OUR SCHOOLS.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kristen

Last name *

Fowler

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Melinda

Last name *

Kraus

City *

MULLEN

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To Whom it may concern,

Just as The Protect Nebraska Children Coalition (PNCC) is thankful for the Nebraska State Board of Education voting to indefinitely postpone the development of the health and sex education standards, so am I and I'm certain others are as well. I count this as a battle won, but the real victory will occur when our Nebraska State Board of Education achieves true transparency and accountability to all of us Nebraska citizens. With our children's well being as our number one priority, it is up to us as responsible adults to ensure that what is being taught in the classrooms will be of only a benefit to them as they move toward being responsible adults who are able to contribute to society in a positive fashion.

On the path to the real victory for our children, there should be an independent investigation to flush out individuals who were participating in a process that they had no business being a part of. There should be terminations and resignations based on the evidence that has already surfaced.

On a final note, Let me remind you that as the heart of this great country, we Nebraskans have the privilege of setting a precedence for the states around us as to how our country's children should be educated and cared for. Let's set the bar high by making the leadership changes that are necessary based on those leader's misconduct. When it comes to our children's education, and our children are our future, let there be zero room for self-seeking, ulterior motives.

Thank you for your time and may God direct your decisions,

Melinda Kraus

Mullen, NE 69152

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Melinda

Last name *

Kraus

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment October 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Kathy

Last name *

Hartman

City *

Phillips

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

All, this board has made a mockery of the democratic process by excluding the the thoughts and ideas and opinions that do not align w/ this boards. All Nebraskans should be allowed to speak at this meeting.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Kathy

Last name *

Hartman

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Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name *

Catherine

Last name *

Badura

City *

PAPILLION

State *

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The CSE/CRT standards should absolutely be scrapped and never proposed in Nebraska again by anyone. There is no good in the proposed standards and only harm to our children and families.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name *

Catherine

Last name *

Badura

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