

Miles To Go and Promises To Keep

Preparing Students Who Are College And Career-Ready

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Commissioner of Education

Administrators Days – 2012
Kearney, Nebraska



Young Superintendents' Concern

	Promises to Keep	A G E N D A
	Where We Are	
	Where We are Going	
	Thanks for All You Do!	

Nebraska Department of Education

Promises to Keep



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Nebraska Mission The Promises We Need to Keep

- All Students High School Graduates – College and Career Ready
 - **CCR Standards (Reading, Math, Science, Writing)**
 - **High School Graduation (90%+ using 4-year cohort method)**
 - **Increased Equity**



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Nebraska Mission The Promises We Need to Keep

- PreK – 16 System
 - **Expansion of Early Education**
 - **Transition to Postsecondary**
 - **Dual Enrollment Opportunities**
- Broadened Community Approach
 - **Informed by Accountability System (NePAS)**
 - **Aligned Resources**
 - **Attention to Attendance, Health and Time**



Nebraska Mission
The Promises We Need to Keep

- Aligned Efforts Focused on Student Learning
 - **One in Five Every School Day**
 - **Our Students – Our Future**



Where We Are



Our Students

- Changed Demographics
- Growing Enrollment
- More Minority
- More FARL
- More ELL and Special Education



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Our Achievements

- High School Graduation Rate
- ACT
- College Going Rate



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Our Achievements

- New Standards (Reading, Math, Writing, Science)
- Revising Social Studies Standards
- NeSA
- Check 4 Learning
- NePAS
- Common Core State Standards



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NeSA Scores

NeSA – 2012			
Percent Proficient (Meets/Exceeds Combined)			
	2010	2011	2012
Reading	68.6%	71.8%	↑
Mathematics		62.8%	↑
Science			67%
Writing			73%
Graduation Rate		85.77%	

Our Teachers and Principals

- “Key” to Learning
- Quantity and Quality
- Teacher/Leader Performance Framework
- Teacher/Leader Evaluation Model (Pilot 2013-14)
- Preparation, Induction, Certification



Our Districts

- Fewer in number, geographic trends, enrollment trends
- Focused on student learning
- Committed to equity and excellence
- Committed to continuous improvement



Our Communities

- Expectations
- Attendance
- Time
- Alignment and provision of resources



Accounting & Technology in Education

Our Funding

- State Aid
- Per Pupil Costs
- Equalization
- Outlook?



Accounting & Technology in Education

Where We Are Going



Accounting & Technology in Education

African Proverb

“The journey is the reward.”



Success

Dealing with the Dirty “Ds”

- Distraction
- Distortion
- Disrespect
- Disadvantage



Success

NePAS - Accountability

- To inform policymakers (state and federal)
- To inform instruction
- To inform cost effectiveness
- Difficult (many options) and costly
- Politics and Competition for Resources



Success

Assessment vs. Accountability

- Process vs. Result
- Deals with learning vs. value judgment
- Province of educators vs. province of communities, legislators, governor – policymakers
- Educators use assessment data to improve instruction and student learning
- Policymakers use accountability data to inform resource decisions



NePAS – Accountability (LB 870)

- In effect this school year
- NeSA – 4 subjects (Reading, Math, Science, Writing)
- Graduation Rate
- Participation Rate
- Growth (same student year to year)
- Improvement (example: 4th grade this year to 4th grade last year)
- For Schools and Districts
- Usable/Understandable/Transparent



Key Dates

Date	Event
August 13	Embargoed NeSA Reports to School Districts
August 20	Individual Student Reports to Districts
August 21	NeSA Public Release (scale scores only)
November 1	State of Schools Report *Disaggregated Data - NePAS Displays - AYP Results

**SLDS
Statewide Longitudinal Data System**

- Inform policy, school districts, communities
- Grant for K-12 SLDS
- Accuracy and Deadlines



Student Attendance and NeSA Scale Scores Grade 4			
Grade 4 – NeSA	Reading		Math
	2009-10	2010-11	2010-11
Students absent less than 20 days	105	110	103
Students absent greater than 20 days	84	89	80
Students absent less than 10 days	106	111	105
Students absent greater than 10 days	95	101	93

Student Attendance and NeSA Scale Scores Grade 8			
Grade 8 – NeSA	Reading		Math
	2009-10	2010-11	2010-11
Students absent less than 20 days	104	108	100
Students absent greater than 20 days	83	82	68
Students absent less than 10 days	107	110	103
Students absent greater than 10 days	93	96	85

Student Attendance and NeSA Scale Scores Grade 11			
Grade 11 – NeSA	Reading		Math
	2009-10	2010-11	2010-11
Students absent less than 20 days	102	104	98
Students absent greater than 20 days	72	72	58
Students absent less than 10 days	107	107	103
Students absent greater than 10 days	90	87	75

**Support
State Board Goals**

1. Improve Achievement Outcomes for All Students
2. Improve and Support State and Local Accountability
3. Improve Communication and Collaboration with Policy Partners



Support

- Budgets and Funding
- NDE Rules 10, 15, 84
- Transportation
- Special Education
- Vocational Rehabilitation
- *Eyes on Nebraska Schools*



**Support
Virtual Education**

- A “new world”
- Access
- E-books
- Professional development



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NDE Update/Initiatives

- Assistance/Support/Data Reports
- *To lead and support the preparation of all Nebraskans for learning, earning and living*
- 40+ sessions
- Master Calendar
- NDE Website
- Just Call



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Continuous Improvement Planning

“The real path to greatness, it turns out, requires simplicity and diligence. It requires clarity, not instant illumination. It depends on each of us to focus on what’s vital—and to eliminate all of the extraneous distractions.”

Jim Collins
Good to Great






