

TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Carol Fichter, Co-Administrator, Office of Early Childhood, Director, Early Childhood Training Center

SUBJECT: April 2011 agenda – McWilliam contract

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve the contract for Robin McWilliam to deliver consultation and training services regarding the early childhood routines-based model.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The consultation and training services of Dr. Robin McWilliam, of the Siskin Center for Child and Family Research, have been provided to the Nebraska Department of Education's Office of Early Childhood to enhance the delivery of services to young children with disabilities and their families in home, school, and community settings and to improve the likelihood of their success in those settings. Professional development activities offered as part of the consultation and training have included keynote addresses at Results Matter Institutes and work with teams of practitioners from local communities. Local teams have also participated in Siskin Center's national training institutes to prepare them for leadership in the implementation of this model.

This contract, as amended, will provide a summer 2011 opportunity for intensive skill-building and leadership development with Dr. McWilliam and Nebraska colleagues, including twenty local/regional practitioner teams, state agencies of Education and of Health and Human Services representatives, and coordinators of the Early Learning Connection, the state's early childhood professional development system. This work session will result in preparation of the implementation plan that includes capacity to respond to requests of training for additional programs throughout the state. Additionally, it is intended that the enhanced skills of leadership teams will more likely support effective implementation of evidence-based practices in both home-based and center-based delivery, and that results in more effective outcomes for young children.

Estimated Cost: \$19,000 to \$29,000

Supporting Documentation Included: None

For additional information on this item: Carol Fichter, Co-Administrator, Office of Early Childhood, Director, Early Childhood Training Center, (402) 557-6887 or carol.fichter@nebraska.gov