

TO: Roger Breed, Ed.D
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Donlynn Rice, Administrator – Curriculum, Instruction, and Innovation
Tricia Parker, Director of Reading/ Language Arts

SUBJECT: Progress Report on the Striving Readers Planning Grant

PROPOSED BOARD ACTION

Progress Report on the Striving Readers Planning Grant

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Nebraska State Literacy Team has met four times since being awarded a \$150,000 planning grant in November of 2010. The purpose of the grant was to develop a comprehensive literacy plan for students Pre-K-12. This progress report will share the outcome of the meetings and give a brief explanation of each the components identified in the planning grant. It will also provide information on a literacy survey being completed by Nebraska schools to help identify unmet needs in the literacy area.

The role of the Nebraska Literacy Team is to establish a set of criteria for improving student achievement in literacy for Nebraska. The group has spent time looking at Nebraska's demographics, current reading research and data on the present achievement levels. The achievement information has been obtained from Nebraska's newly launched state reading assessment, the Nebraska State Accountability in Reading (NeSA-R), the Nebraska State Accountability in Writing (NeSA-W), and other classroom-based academic measures and research. From these criteria, the Nebraska State Literacy Plan is being developed. This comprehensive plan will provide a resource for schools by identifying a set of specific strategies to help enhance and increase the rigor and effectiveness of literacy development and instruction.

Estimated Cost: \$ 150,000 – Federal Funds

Supporting Documentation Included: None

For additional information on this item: Call Donlynn Rice (402) 471-3240 or e-mail donlynn.rice@nebraska.gov