



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

FROM: Donlynn Rice, Administrator, Curriculum, Instruction, and Innovation
Vickie Scow – World Language Director

SUBJECT: Contract with UNL for services to assist with the Implementation of the 2009-2012 Foreign Language Assistance Program Grant

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the Commissioner to continue to contract with the University of Nebraska to provide services for the Chinese Acquisition Program FLAP (Foreign Language Assistance Program) Grant.

Background Information:

NDE is in the third year of implementation of the 2009-2012 Foreign Language Assistance Program (FLAP) Grant to enhance the quality of foreign language learning in Nebraska. The goals of the grant are to:

- a) Expand the number of Chinese language programs to improve Chinese language teaching and learning in Nebraska.
- b) Provide meaningful and continuous professional development for Chinese language educators, that includes the UNL Summer Immersion Institute for Chinese teachers. The institute will enhance qualifications in language proficiency, pedagogy, research-based classroom strategies, assessment training (formative and summative), and project specific training.
- c) Enhance students' Chinese language knowledge, skills, and cultural understanding by providing access to real-life, interpersonal connections through digital technology to document and analyze the language learning progress.

As a partner in this grant, the University of Nebraska will provide on-line professional development, conduct qualitative and mixed methods research, facilitate the summer immersion institute for Chinese teachers, and complete a formative and summative grant evaluation. Additionally they will provide personnel to develop surveys, conduct interviews, and analyze data as a part of the formal evaluation of the project. They will also provide specific training for project schools, technology training, and classroom materials.

Estimated Cost:

Federal Grant Funds - \$157,920

Supporting Documentation Included:

None

For Additional Information on this item:

Donlynn Rice at donlynn.rice@nebraska.gov or Vickie Scow (402) 471-4331 or e-mail vickie.scow@nebraska.gov
09.08.11 State Board of Education