



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

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

SUBJECT: Contract with UNL for services to assist with the Implementation of the 2009-2013 Foreign Language Assistance Program Grant (FLAP)

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to continue to contract with the University of Nebraska to provide World Language professional development.

Background Information:

NDE is in the fourth year of implementation of the 2009-2013 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:

\$157,920 - Federal - Foreign Language Assistance Grant

Supporting Documentation Included:

None

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