



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

**FROM:** Donlynn Rice, Administrator Curriculum Instruction and Innovation  
Debbie DeFrain, Director Visual and Performing Arts

**SUBJECT:** Visual and Performing Arts Update

**Proposed Board Action:**

None

**Background Information:**

For the first time in 10 years the Nebraska Department of Education has named a full time Director of Visual and Performing Arts Education. This update will give the Board a chance to meet the new director, Debra DeFrain, and hear about her experience and expertise. It will also highlight the progress on the development of a new set of standards made possible, in part, by a grant from the Nebraska Arts Council. NDE is the lead on the project and is following the same process that has been used to develop the academic content standards in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies. This update will present an overview of the process and the progress to date to ensure that the standards that are developed are reflective of Visual and Performing Arts Education in the 21st century.

**Estimated Cost:**

No Cost

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

None

**For Additional Information on this item:**

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