



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

FROM: Gary M. Sherman/Teresa Coonts, Office of Special Education

SUBJECT: Continue Contracting for Assistance with Implementation of the Nebraska State Plan for Education of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

Proposed Board Action:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to continue contracting for assistance with implementation of the Nebraska State Plan for Education of Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing.

Background Information:

Contractor will again provide the services of staff member Rhonda Fleischer for an estimated 1462 hours to assist NDE with carrying out the state role specified in the State Plan: "Guiding Principles for All Programs Serving Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing." Contract originally became necessary due to sudden and unexpected resignation of NDE staff member a few years ago. Services to be provided by the Contractor will continue to include but not be limited to representing NDE as the liaison to the Deaf/Hard of Hearing Regional Network (four regional programs), Iowa School for the Deaf, and training programs for educational sign language interpreters. Additionally, Contractor will serve as a resource for parents and programs providing services to children/youth who are deaf or hard of hearing in Nebraska and will continue to represent NDE at state, regional, and national deaf/hard of hearing meetings. Contractor has successfully carried out similar duties on previous contracts. Increased hours (50) will allow for additional tasks and contract amount remains the same as for current contract including costs (\$72,218) for some activities (interpreter training/mentoring/See II Workshop, etc.) previously provided by other entities. Funding is from the earmarked State General Fund appropriation specific to serving deaf or hard of hearing students. ESU #9 has requested early approval to assist with planning for the next school year.

Estimated Cost:

Contractor: ESU #9 (Hastings)
Contract Dates: 9/1/13 to 8/31/14
Contract Amount: \$200,500
Funding Source: State General Funds (Program 401)

Supporting Documentation Included:

None

For Additional Information on this item:

Call Gary Sherman (402) 471-2471 or e-mail gary.sherman@nebraska.gov
06.07.13 State Board of Education 8.6.8-1