



TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

SUBJECT: Approval of Early Childhood Education Program Grants

**Proposed Board Action:**

Authorize Commissioner to approve awards of grants to selected school districts for the Nebraska Early Childhood Education Grant Program for Children ages 3 to 5.

**Background Information:**

Funds for awarding new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants are available due to eligible districts rollover to state aid and additional money appropriated for the grant program. Contingent upon the availability of state funds on July 1, grants will be provided to nineteen (19) public school districts to provide collaborative early childhood programs to serve at-risk four-year-old children eligible to attend kindergarten in the following year. The purpose of the Early Childhood Education Grant Program is to improve equity of access to early childhood education/prekindergarten programs. Children of diverse characteristics will be served in inclusive environments and will be better prepared to enter school and be successful. Early Childhood programs are required to operate in compliance with Rule 11 – Regulations for Early Childhood Education Programs. Grants are awarded to six (6) districts in Congressional District #1, two (2) districts in Congressional District #2 and eleven (11) districts in Congressional District #3. In communities with a population under 1,000, eight (8) districts are awarded a grant. In communities with a population between 1,000 and 5,000, four (4) districts are awarded a grant. In communities with a population between 5,000 and 10,000, two (2) districts are awarded a grant. In communities with a population between 10,000 and 25,000, two (2) districts are awarded a grant. In communities with a population between 25,000 and 50,000, two (2) districts are awarded a grant and in communities with a population over 100,000, one (1) district is awarded a grant. Approximately 611 children are expected to be served as a result of this funding.

**Estimated Cost:**

The total funded amount is \$2,268,067.

**Supporting Documentation Included:**

The following public school districts are recommended to receive an Early Childhood Education grant:

Auburn Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$125,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 13

Banner County Schools  
Grant Award: \$125,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 15

Bayard Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$125,000  
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 40

Bertrand Community Schools  
Grant Award: \$71,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Blair Community Schools  
Grant Award: \$145,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Clarkson Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$50,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 15

Fremont Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$296,674  
Number of Classrooms: 6 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 108

Lincoln Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$425,000  
Number of Classrooms: 8 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 144

Madison Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$90,176  
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 34

Millard Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$109,192  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 16

North Platte Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$125,000  
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 32

Ord Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$75,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Osceola Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$75,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 18

Overton Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$96,820  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Ralston Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$143,775  
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day & 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 54

Randolph Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$65,370  
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 12

Scottsbluff Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$125,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Sterling Public Schools  
Grant Award: \$60,000  
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day  
Proposed Number of Children: 10

**For Additional Information on this item:**

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