

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

**FROM:** Mary Ann Losh, Administrator  
Equity & Instructional Strategies

**SUBJECT:** Update on NDE Service Project: ELL Rule Development

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## **PROPOSED BOARD ACTION**

### **Progress Report on NDE Service Project for the Development of an ELL Rule**

#### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

At the February 2011 State Board of Education meeting the Commissioner reported to the State Board on NDE Projects for 2011. One of the Service Projects identified was to develop an ELL Rule. Nebraska has an increasing number of ELLs. From 2000 to 2010 the growth of ELLs in Nebraska has doubled. Services and expectations for these students vary across districts. This rule would improve the educational outcomes for ELL students through providing consistency of ELL services in the areas of:

- Identification
- services required/recommended,
- parameters of programs
- assessment/accommodation issues
- exit requirements.

This update will provide board members with a projected timeline and activities and progress to date. The projected timeline is attached.

#### **Estimated Cost**

The estimated cost is \$9,000

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**Supporting Documentation Included:** Projected timeline and activities

**For additional information on this item:** Call Mary Ann Losh, (402) 471-4357, e-mail [maryann.losh@nebraska.gov](mailto:maryann.losh@nebraska.gov)

Service Project: Develop Rule \_\_\_\_\_  
(Regulations for English Language Learners)

Purpose: Improve the educational outcomes for ELL students through standardization of ELL definition, programs and services.

Projected timeline:

January – February 2011

- Begin collection of other State policies
- Review other state policies to identify those most similar to Nebraska context.
- Meet with Dr. Breed and Dr. Swisher to identify expectations for Rule and Rule development process
- NDE Leadership Council sub-committee meets to provide input for rule
- External stakeholder input

March - April – May 2011

- Distribute draft rule concepts to key stakeholders for input including stakeholder meetings
- Continue revision process

June - July 2011

- Update State Board of Education at work-session
  - Continue revision process

August 2011

- Update on Rule development at Administrators Days
- Present to State Board of Education for approval of hearing draft

September 2011

- Conduct hearing
- Rule revisions

October - November 2011

- Present hearing results to State Board of Education and request approval of Rule

December 2011

- Rule ready for submission to Attorney General

January 2012

- Wait for Governor's signature and implement