



D R A F T

# AQUESTT

for Nebraska



## Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow

- Since 1953, the State Board of Education has been the policy-making, planning, and evaluative body for Nebraska public schools.
- The State Board of Education believes that the opportunity to integrate the vision of the Legislature's Education Committee and components of accountability, assessment, accreditation, career education, and data into a system of school improvement and support is imperative for the good of Nebraska students and critical for Nebraska to build a vibrant and economically successful future.
- Nebraska State Board Policy G19, Standards, Assessment, and Accountability (SAA) Belief Statements and LB 438, The Quality Education and Accountability Act, lay the foundation for the *Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow: A QuESTT for Nebraska!*
- A *QuESTT* aligns some regulatory requirements under the umbrella of quality, accountability, and school improvement.
- A *QuESTT* is the framework used to annually classify schools into one of four performance areas: Excellent, Great, Good, Needs Improvement/Priority.
- The three schools most in need of assistance to improve will be designated Priority Schools and subsequently work with a Nebraska Department of Education team to create an intervention plan submitted and approved by the State Board of Education.
- Best practices in schools of excellence will be highlighted and shared among schools, as will effective intervention strategies and plans.
- The A *QuESTT* framework is designed around six tenets: College and Career Ready, Assessment, Positive Partnerships, Relationships & Student Success, Educator Effectiveness, Transitions, and Educational Opportunities & Access.



# The Six Tenets of A QuESTT



## Tenet #1 College & Career Ready

The State Board of Education believes that every student upon completion of secondary education shall be prepared for postsecondary educational opportunities and to pursue their career goals.

### Areas of Focus

- Rigorous College & Career Ready Standards for All Content Areas
- Technological & Digital Readiness
- Support for Career Awareness and Career/College Goals



## Tenet #2 Assessment

The State Board believes the results of multiple assessment sources (national, state, and classroom-based) should be used to measure student achievement of college and career ready standards, and be used as an integral part of the instructional process.

### Areas of Focus

- Individualized/Adaptive Assessments
- Classroom Based Assessments
- State Assessments
- National/International Assessments



## Tenet #3 Positive Partnerships, Relationships & Student Success

The State Board believes that student engagement through positive partnerships and relationships is fundamental to successful schools and districts. The State Board seeks to support schools and districts to implement best practices in student, parent/guardian and community engagement to enhance educational experiences and opportunities.

### Areas of Focus

- Individualized or Personalized Learning Plans
- Attendance and Participation
- Parent/Guardian Involvement
- Community and support services



## Tenet #4 Educator Effectiveness

The State Board believes that students should be surrounded by effective educators throughout their learning experiences such that schools and districts develop effective teachers and leaders who establish a culture of success.

### Areas of Focus

- Nebraska Teacher & Principal Performance Framework
- Professional Development
- Building Leadership Supports
- Effective Local Policy Makers & Superintendents



## Tenet #5 Transitions

The State Board believes that quality educational opportunities focus on supports for students transitioning between grade levels, programs, schools, districts and ultimately college and careers.

### Areas of Focus

- Early Childhood-Elementary
- Elementary-Middle School
- Middle School-High School
- High School-Post High School



## Tenet #6 Educational Opportunities and Access

The State Board believes that all students should have access to comprehensive instructional opportunities to be prepared for postsecondary education and career goals.

### Areas of Focus

- Early Childhood Education
- Comprehensive Learning Opportunities
- Expanded Learning Opportunities
- Blended Learning Opportunities