

### Nebraska School Counselors Support P-16 Initiative

1. Nebraska School Counselors work with **all** students in grades K-12 in the areas of career, academic and personal/social development.
2. School Counselors are leaders in their buildings in the area of school improvement and use the Nebraska Model of School Counseling to support school goals.
3. School Counselors directly and significantly impact many of the P16 goals including:
  - a. Increasing graduation rates
  - b. Ensuring students successfully complete more core subjects that will soon be needed to graduate
  - c. Ensuring students are career ready
  - d. Increasing the percentage of students attending college
4. Recent state wide data from Nebraska shows that school counselors and school counseling programs contributed significantly to:
  - a. Lower Suspension Rates
  - b. Lower Discipline Rates
  - c. Higher Attendance Rates
  - d. Higher Math Proficiency Scores
  - e. Higher Reading Proficiency Scores
5. State wide data from Nebraska shows that improved counselor-to-student ratios have a positive impact on the following student outcomes:
  - a. Higher Graduation Rates
  - b. Higher Attendance Rates
6. The American School Counselor Association recommends a counselor to student ratio of 250:1 and Nebraska's ratio during the 2007-08 school year was 369:1

#### How We Can Work Together

School counselors and the Nebraska School Counselor Association are supportive of the goals of the P16 initiative. In order for school counselor to help ensure the P16 goals are met we need your support in ensuring that not only are school counselor jobs not lost during these challenging economic times but that the number of school counselors is increased to bring our counselor to student ratio down to the recommended 250:1.

#### QUESTIONS OR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Nebraska School Counselor Association

[www.neschoolcounselor.org](http://www.neschoolcounselor.org)

To view the full Nebraska School Counseling State Evaluation visit:

[www.education.ne.gov/CARED/research.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/CARED/research.html)