

**NDE Bulletin**  
**November 1, 2012**

**SAVE THE DATE – 2013 State Data Conference**

April 29-30, 2013 – Kearney Nebraska

**Due Dates are Due Dates**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

**This is a follow-up reminder from the email from Dr. Roger Breed that was sent to all Superintendents on Friday, October 19, 2012.**

In the past, data submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education has been made available to districts for multiple opportunities to correct and update, usually without ramifications. However, NDE has changed its policy in the past year such that, effective with all data submitted for the 2012-2013 school year, no corrections will be accepted past the data's due date.

The importance of quality data cannot be overstated inasmuch as it affects district state aid and program funding among other things. Inaccurate data can also have serious consequences in terms of community relationships, e.g. PLAS and SOSR reporting.

NDE recommends all district administrators immediately contact his or her data steward to ensure processes are in place to validate and verify submitted data so that the district is not harmed by a lack of data, incorrect data, or inadequate review processes. This may require that the district administrators assist the data steward in the verification process as it simply is too much to ask one person to catch all inaccuracies that may exist in the data.

2011-2012 Data: A second collection window opened October 25 and is due no later than November 15: Submission for Student Grades accomplishments completed over the summer, and Title I services provided over the summer.

Due November 30 (2012-2013 Year End Collection window) will be Student, School Enrollment, and Year-end Sped Snapshot updates so that ELDA and NeSA-W testing labels can be prepared for district use.

Please be aware that updates can and should be submitted regularly throughout the school year for Student, School Enrollment, Staff, and SPED data. Not only does this keep Nutrition Services (FRAM) and Medicaid (MIPS-SPED) information current, but it assists the data steward in maintaining data quality. Data Quality is interdependent, i.e. data is cross-checked between current templates, e.g. Student and School Enrollment, and data is threaded and cross-checked between years, e.g. LEP Status.



**Additional NSSRS Collection Window for 2012 Summer Student Grades records**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

An additional NSSRS collection window has been added to for collection of Student Grades records from the summer of 2012 that are to be applied to the 2012-2013 school year. The following windows will accept Student Grades records from the summer of 2012:

**2011-2012 Follow-up #2** will be open from October 25<sup>th</sup> – November 15<sup>th</sup>. Student Grades records from the summer of 2012 that are to be applied to the **2011-2012** school year can be submitted during this window.

**Summer 2012 – 2012-2013 Collection** will be open from November 1 – November 15<sup>th</sup>. Student Grades records from the summer of 2012 that are to be applied to the **2012-2013** school year can be submitted during this window.

An updated NSSRS Calendar will be available soon on our web site at <http://www.education.ne.gov/nssrs/Resources.html#Calendar>



### **Nebraska Performance Accountability System [NePAS]**

Contact: Valorie Foy (402-471-2495 or [valorie.foy@nebraska.gov](mailto:valorie.foy@nebraska.gov))

Nebraska Performance Accountability System [NePAS] has been closed on the State of the Schools Reports due to the discovery of a calculation error. We hope to have it reopened later today, but the adjustment may take longer. When it reopens, districts can expect some ranking changes on the District 6-8 Grade-Level Configuration chart, but it does not appear that the changes in rankings will be significant. We apologize for the inconvenience.

### **Audit AYP Data – Updated Information**

Contact: Diane Stuehmer (402-471-1740 or [diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov](mailto:diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov))

**Please review school and district AYP information for accuracy. AYP Calculations have been re-run and will be uploaded to the SOSR Preview Site on Friday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. It was discovered that some special education students were not being excluded from AYP calculations based on their exit dates. Along with reviewing the subject level AYP data, districts are reminded to review the 2011 cohort graduation data as that is the information used for calculating 2011-12 AYP.**

The 2011-12 State of the Schools Report Preview Site includes AYP data. Districts may audit their AYP data by selecting the “Preview Window,” and then selecting “Audit AYP Data.” It is crucial that districts take a look at their AYP data between now and **November 8, 2012**. This is the time to check for data accuracy. If the data is incorrect, please work with the NDE Assessment Office.

To appeal an AYP decision:

- Print the screen that contains the inaccurate or incomplete information
- Make the corrections on the printed copy. Include an explanation for the proposed changes.
- Sign and date the printed copy with the proposed changes.

-Mail or fax to

Nebraska Dept. of Education  
Federal Programs Office  
Attention: Diane Stuehmer  
Box 94987

Lincoln, NE 68509

-Phone: 402-471-1740

-FAX: 402-471-0117

**All appeals must be received by November 8, 2012.**

**State of the Schools Report – Timeline**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

<b>State of the Schools Report Timeline</b>	
October 9	Preliminary release of the State of the Schools report for 2011-12 SY to districts. AYP decisions posted on the SOSR Review 2012 Districts have 30 days to submit appeals of AYP decisions
October 23	Superintendents have access to Nebraska Performance Accountability System (NePAS), and rankings – however rankings are subject to change through November 9.
November 13	Superintendents will have early access to all embargoed statewide data.
November 15	News media agreeing to the embargo will have early access to data
<b>November 20</b>	<b>Public Release of the State of the Schools Report for the 2011-12 SY</b>

**Request for Proposal – RFP – State Student Assessment System**

The Nebraska Department of Education issued a Request for Proposal, RFP NDE # 12-449-01 for the purpose of selecting a contractor to provide a computerized information system to support the state student assessment system for the next 5-year period..

The RFP is available for viewing at this site: <http://das.nebraska.gov/materiel/purchasing/NDE-12-449-01.htm>

**U.S. Department of Education: Civil Right Data Collection (CRDC)**

If you have any questions about SY 2011-12 CRDC, please contact the Partner Support Center:

Click the link for the: [Contact Support Form](#)

Telephone: 1-855-320-6459

Fax: 888-329-3336 (888-FAX-EDEN)

TTY/TDD: 888-403-3336

The CRDC is now open for district submissions and will close **December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. Your district’s participation in CRDC is very important. Every school district and all of the nation’s public schools are participating in the 2011-12 CRDC. This includes all state-operated schools and educational programs at juvenile justice facilities. The U.S. Department of Education has been sending CRDC communications to your districts to contacts you designated this spring. As of October 15, only 84 out of 274 Nebraska districts had started. Of the 84 that had started, 13 of the districts have certified (Thank You!).

The CRDC is conducted by the Office for Civil Rights of the Department of Education. The CRDC collects data on key education and civil rights issues in our nation's public schools, including student enrollment and educational programs and services, disaggregated by race/ethnicity, sex, limited English proficiency and disability. First collected in 1968, it is a valuable source of information about access to educational opportunities in public schools that is used by OCR and federal educational offices, as well as parents,

policymakers, researchers and many others in the education community. Providing information to the CRDC is mandatory under federal law.

### **GMS Final Reimbursement Requests**

Contact: Shane Rhian (402-471-4313 or [shane.rhian@nebraska.gov](mailto:shane.rhian@nebraska.gov))

Final reimbursement requests for federally funded grants paid through GMS are due to NDE Financial Services, in approvable format, by November 15, 2012.

Applicable grants include:

- McKinney Homeless Grant
- No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
  - Title IA
  - Title ID
  - Title IIA
  - Title IID
  - Title III-IE
  - Title III-LEP
- SPED IDEA Collaborative Grant
- SPED IDEA Early Development Network Grant
- SPED IDEA Sec Transition Grant
- SPED IDEA Consolidated Grant
  - Base
  - Preschool
  - Enrollment - Poverty
  - CEIS
  - NonPublic
- Title I Accountability Funds
- Title IC – Migrant

When submitting reimbursement requests, keep the following in mind:

- Supporting documentation needs to be supplied for journal entries and credit card procurement charges
- When making payments to individuals, be specific as to what the payment is for
- For parent activities, be specific as to what was purchased and who participated in the activity
- Whenever computers are purchased with Title I Funds, they must be listed on the consolidated application on the Capital Outlay/Equipment – Operational Equipment page. Computer purchases cannot be approved if they are not listed. This includes electronic items such as ipads, ipods, Kindles, or anything considered small and attractive.
- Service Provider tab must be completed for all non-school district service providers for IDEA grants.

### **2012-2013 Teacher Vacancy Survey (CDC collection) - Open October 15**

Contact: Karen Buller (402-471-2444 or [karen.buller@nebraska.gov](mailto:karen.buller@nebraska.gov))

*Public districts only*

The Teacher Vacancy Survey is an annual collection from all Nebraska public school districts for the purpose of gathering data relating to teacher supply. The information collected from survey responses is essential in determining official teacher shortage areas for the state. Teachers employed to teach in a content area that has been designated as an official teacher shortage area may be eligible for a number of state and federal teacher loan forgiveness opportunities. The Teacher Vacancy Survey opens October 15 and is due November 15. The survey can be found in the Portal under the Consolidated Data Collection.

### **NDE Bulletin now available in RSS Feed**

Contact: NDE Helpdesk (888-285-0556 or [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov))

We have added an RSS feed that users can subscribe to. Don't forget that the current and past NDE Bulletins can always be found at <http://www.education.ne.gov/ndebulletins/index.html>. The RSS feature can be found at the above webpage in the upper right hand corner (orange icon). RSS feeds can be used with Outlook and a number of web-based feed readers. At this time we will also continue to send the bulletin out via e-mail.

### **How to contact the NDE Helpdesk**

There are three ways to contact the NDE Helpdesk with questions. All three ways get to the same place, so please only use one of these options.

1. Submit a "Helpdesk Request" from your portal account. After logging into the NDE Portal, it is available in the upper right corner of the Collection Announcement page. This will be the fastest way to get your request to the NDE Helpdesk.
2. Email: [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)
3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556 Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.

*Ginny Carter, NDE Helpdesk*

*Nebraska Department of Education - Data, Research, Evaluation and IT*

*301 Centennial Mall South - Lincoln, NE 68509*

*Phone: Toll Free 888-285-0556*

*Email: [nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.helpdesk@nebraska.gov)*