

**In Memory**  
**Rachael LaBounty**



It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Rachael LaBounty. Rachael passed away Thursday, February 5, 2015 after an extended illness. Rachael was a valued member of the Nebraska Department of Education since February 1, 2008, and she will be greatly missed.

She provided Help Desk support and training on data for schools in western Nebraska for the Data, Research and Evaluation team. A funeral service was held at 10 am on Tuesday, February 10, at Mitchell Berean Church in Mitchell, Nebraska.



**[Register Now](#)**

**[AQuESTT for Nebraska ... emPOWERED by Data](#)**

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

The first ever ***AQuESTT for Nebraska... emPOWERED by Data*** conference will be held April 27 - 28, 2015 at the Younes Conference Center in Kearney, Nebraska.

The new system for Nebraska is developing and the Accountability for a Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT) process provides the framework for Nebraska Education.

The conference purpose is to provide district and Educational Service Unit (ESU) teams with an understanding of the emerging accountability system—AQuESTT, including the six tenets and related areas of focus along with the systems of support for Nebraska schools. In addition, information about the AQuESTT performance classification of public schools and districts and the designation of priority schools related to LB 438 will be provided along with a number of sessions that include the latest efforts in data use, tools, and training around the systems of support for Nebraska education.

Several pre-conference sessions will target specific audiences. A sampling includes a data collection NSSRS/CDC “boot camp,” Learning Forward professional learning, Career Education, and others.

Registration is now open. More details about the conference will be provided as they become available at <http://ndeconference.education.ne.gov>

**Who should attend?**

School districts and ESUs are encouraged to send teams to the conference to learn about key features of AQuESTT and about critical systems of support. Suggestions for team members include administrators, curriculum directors, special education directors, assessment coordinators, data stewards, school improvement team members, teacher leaders, and others involved in supporting the systems of education for every student, every day.



### **New NSSRS Validation Errors for Staff beginning February 20**

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

#### **Error 224:**

Title: Staff Program Code Should Only Be a 2 In A Title I Targeted School (Staff Assignment)

Description: Staff Program Code should only be a 2 (Title I Targeted Assistance) in a Title I, Targeted School. The location below is not a Title I Targeted School) and

#### **Error 454:**

Title: Staff Who Has Contract With The District, Missing Salary Information (Staff Demographics)

Description: If the staff member's contract is reported as "yes", Basic Salary and Benefits should be reported. To fix, make sure Basic Salary and Benefit amounts have been completed or report the staff member's contract as "no".

These errors can be resolved through the **Staff Reporting 2014-2015** application in the NDE Portal.



### **Intent to Participate In Carl D. Perkins Activities FY2015-2016 - Date Due: March 20**

Contact Teri Sloup (402-471-4809, or [teri.sloup@nebraska.gov](mailto:teri.sloup@nebraska.gov))

The purpose of this notification is to request action to complete the intent to participate process for Perkins funding during the 2015-2016 program year.

All public school districts, even if participating in a consortium, career academy, *or choosing not to participate*, must complete the data collection.

This action is accomplished through the official submission of the intent and eligibility to participate in Perkins through the NDE Portal under the "Data Collections" tab.

This specific data collection is entitled "Perkins IV Career and Technical Education."

**OFFICIAL Submission can only be done by the District Administrator.**

The online system asks district officials to:

- 1) Determine Intent to Participate in Perkins with consortium identification if applicable;
- 2) Validate the existence of all Essential Career Education Components within the School District; and
- 3) Identify the Career Student Organizations offered within the School District

The deadline for completing the online submission is March 20, 2015.



### **NonPublic Curriculum Report – Due Date: February 28**

**Audit Window Close Date: March 13**

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

*This is required for NonPublic Systems only.*

The NonPublic Curriculum Reporting System will collect data on courses teachers teach for use in determining compliance with Rule 10 and Rule 14. The NonPublic Curriculum Report is located under the "Data Collections" tab in the Portal. Due Date: February 28. **Audit Window close date: March 13.**

## **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 the following options.**

**If you send more than one request this may delay our response as we coordinate all requests.**

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.

**OR**

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

**OR**

3. Call Toll Free: 888-285-0556

**Please leave your full name, organization, call back number and a brief description of your question.**

ALSO: If you have contacted your area's NDE Trainer or Program Staff person, please do not also contact the Helpdesk. Multiple contacts will delay the response.

**THANK YOU!**

### **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.

*Ginny Carter, Helpdesk Manager*

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