January 15 2009

NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) - Reminder
A one hour telecast on the plan for piloting the new state Reading test will be broadcast on Friday, February 27, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) on NEBSAT 105 and State Channel 04.

NCLB 2009-10 Consolidated Application
It is time to begin preparing the 2009-10 NCLB Consolidated Application. Although there are no definite or preliminary grant amounts available now, the current continuing resolution provides level funding. This means that, unless Congress passes and the new president signs a new budget, eligible districts will receive an allocation similar to the 2008-09 allocation for all formula funded programs. We are again trying to move the opening date of this application to sometime in mid-May. In order to do that, we need to start now to collect membership in consortia data. All ESUs will be receiving the information and files to complete for consortia membership.

NCLB 2008-09 Consolidated Application
Districts/ESUs with funds remaining at closeout of the 2007-08 projects are reminded that all carryover funds must be amended into the current year (2008-09) application. With the new Page-lock feature in the grants management system, carryover funds do not appear on the Allocations Page until you create an amendment.

Title V - Innovative Programs
Although Title V was not funded for the 2008-09 school year, applicants were able to (a) budget any carryover Title V funds, (b) transfer funds into Title V from other programs through REAP-FLEX or (c) a combination of these two options. All Title V carryover funds must be spent by the end of September 2009. This does not apply to funds from other programs that were moved into Title V through REAP-FLEX. This is because REAP-FLEX is really an option to use the funds from one program for the purposes of another program. No district was allowed to use Section 6123 to transfer funds into Title V. Unless Congress changes something for the 2009-10 school year, we are anticipating that districts will be able to continue to use REAP-FLEX to use the funds from other programs (Title II, part A, Title II, Part D and Title IV) for the purposes of Title V.

NCLB – 2007-08 Title I Accountability Grants
For districts with Title I schools identified to be in school improvement in the 2007-08 school year that received Title I Accountability grants, the finals financial reports are due by Monday, March 16, 2009. The ability to spend funds from these grants ends on January 31, 2009.

State of the Schools Report
Data on the State of the Schools Report was updated today based on recent changes in data requested by districts.