

These NDE Bulletins on NSSRS/STARS/NCLB will include information on any or all of these areas and will be used to provide updated information or clarifications. We are sending the NDE Bulletins to as many people as possible to ensure the information gets to the appropriate people. Please share this with the appropriate people or delete if the information does not affect you. All previous NDE Bulletins are now posted on the NDE homepage for easy reference. Thank you.

State of the Schools Report

The 2007-08 graduation data has been added to the State of the Schools Report. It can be found under the **Schools** link on menu. The 2007-08 graduation data does not impact the AYP decisions since AYP used the prior year (2006-07) rates. Other data changes that have been submitted are now included.

Upcoming Changes and Activities

Attached to the end of this message is a list of changes or new activities that will occur in the coming months or begin in the 2009-10 school year. The list was created to help NDE and districts plan, coordinate and allocate resources to meet these new activities. An overview will be provided in the NCLB Update telecast for February 2009 (see below).

Reminders:

NCLB Update and Data Collections Update

The regularly scheduled NCLB Update will be telecast on Tuesday, February 10, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) on Net*SAT 105 (State Channel 04). The agenda will include information and proposed timelines for the 2009-10 NCLB Consolidated Application, the latest available information on allocations for the coming year, REAP, Upcoming Changes (above) and whatever information we have on the economic stimulus proposals that include Title I.

The telecast will be no more than one hour. For technical assistance contact the NET Help Desk at 800-698-3426. The powerpoint presentation used in the telecast will be posted by February 6th on "Federal Programs - NCLB" on the NDE homepage under NCLB Updates at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/federalprograms/nclbupdates/index.htm> A video of the telecast can be downloaded at: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/federalprograms/nclbupdates/video.htm>

At 11:00 a.m. on February 10, 2009 (same channels), there will be a **Data Collections Update**. The agenda will include information on the new national test (standardized tests) reporting at the student level, upcoming changes to race/ethnicity, new reporting requirements for nonpublic schools and the Data Conference. This telecast will last no more than one hour. The powerpoint presentations and video will be posted on the NCLB homepage above and on the Nebraska Student and Staff Record System (NSSRS) homepage.

A DVD containing both telecasts will be sent to all ESUs by the following week.

NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) Telecast

The NeSA (Nebraska State Accountability) telecast will be on February 27, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) on Net*SAT 105 and State Channel 04. This telecast will include information on the field testing of Reading tests to be conducted April 13 – May 1 and the latest information on the development and implementation of NeSA.

Other Reminders:

Nonpublic School Systems

On February 5, 2009 NDE will be offering two 1 hour conference calls for Non Public Systems to call in and ask questions and address any concerns or issues regarding the recent changes in data submission. These will be identical conference calls so you don't need to call in for both. The first conference calls will take place at 10:00 a.m. CST and the second will be at 2:00 p.m. CST.

Call in number: 866.599.9176

Conference code: 402.471.4740

Data Quality Training

Data Quality Tactical Workshop: This two day workshop is intended to educate and train data stewards and their teams. There will be eight workshops across the state this Spring. The registration for these workshops will be handled through the ESUs; invitations will be coming soon.

Holdrege	March 3 - 4
Fremont	April 7- 8
North Platte	March 24 - 25
Scottsbluff	April 2 - 3
Kearney	April 14-15
Hastings	TBA
Neligh	TBA
Milford	March 12 - 13

Upcoming Changes and New Activities

In late December, a group of NDE staff met to identify new activities or changes in existing activities that will occur yet this year and in 2009-2010. This list is a work in progress and subject to changes.

Assessments

NeSA – Nebraska State Accountability

- Field testing in Reading this Spring (April 13 – may 1, 2009)
 - School Capacity Calculator - assessment of all districts for online assessment – Spring 2009
- Implementation of Reading test – Spring 2010
- Field testing of Mathematics – Spring 2010

Statewide Writing test (grades 4, 8, and 11)

- Alignment of writing assessment to new Reading Standards – May 2009

Extended Assessment (Alternate Assessment for Special Education)

- Field testing in Reading – Spring 2009
- Implementation of Reading – Spring 2010
- Field testing Math – Spring 2010

Standardized Test Results (National Assessments Instruments) from LB 1157

- New reporting requirement for districts to submit standardized test results for each student by score and subscore – 2009-2010

Early Childhood and Special Education

- Required progress assessments (Results Matter) for all children birth to age five in districts receiving Early Childhood grant funds and/or eligible for TEEOSA (state aid), and for all children birth to age five verified for special education

Technology Literacy

- New reporting requirement for districts: determine and submit data on number of eighth graders who are technology literate (2009-10)

Accreditation – Rule 10

New Reading Standards added – Spring 2009

Curriculum

New Standards

Districts will need to align curriculum to the new Reading Standards (2008-09)
Districts will need to align curriculum to the new Math Standards (2009-10)

IDEA – Individuals with Disabilities Education Act

- Part C (Birth to 3) new regulations
- Final Financial Reporting change – need FTE for students in Special Education (2008-09)

NCLB – No Child Left Behind

- AYP revisions – Summer 2009
 - Set goals for graduation rates and improvement
 - Justify (possible change) minimum group size and use of confidence intervals
 - Begin developing transition AYP as NeSA is implemented
- Title III – new interpretations on supplement, not supplant means districts may not be able to use their Title III funds to pay ELL teachers (2009-10)

New Graduation Rate Requirements

NEW Adjusted Cohort Graduation Rate required by NCLB

- Used for AYP in 2011-12 with 2007-08 data in NSSRS as baseline
- Uniform graduation rate used nationwide

Data Collections – NSSRS and CDC

Post School Survey – Career Ed

- Districts report on all Career Education Concentrators who graduated in 2007-08 - Spring 2009

Early Childhood

- One time collection of Early Childhood data for years prior to NSSRS – Spring 2009

Nonpublic schools begin reporting staff in Fall 2009 in NSSRS

- Training and guidance – totally new for nonpublic schools

Nonpublic schools begin reporting student data in Fall of 2010

- Training and assistance in 2009-10

Race/Ethnicity Reporting Requirements for Staff and Students

- New requirement to separate race from ethnicity
- All students' and staff race/ethnicity should (not required) be recertified during the 2009-10 school year
- Implementation required in 2010-2011

New data elements in NSSRS

- Identification of recently arrived in United States for LEP students (2009-10)
- National tests data (noted under assessments)

Suspensions/Expulsions

- Data to be collected in the Consolidated Data Collection (CDC) – Spring 2009

Nutrition Data

HHS allows direct certification of eligibility for free and reduced lunch programs – lunch program student data needs to be connected and use NSSRS data.