

Draft of Revised Mathematics Standards -- Ready for Comment

A draft of the revised Mathematics Standards is available for review and input March 23 – April 3. Over the past several months, 100+ educators from across Nebraska have been working on a draft of revised Mathematics standards for grades K,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8, and High School. We invite you to review and comment. Please go to the following website

<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/math/documents/StandardsSurveyHomepage.html>

There are several helpful components on this web site:

- An introduction video detailing the organization of the standards document and corresponding rationale
- A PowerPoint accompanying the video including several key questions for survey participants to answer as they review the document
- The K-12 draft standards document
- The link to the electronic survey to provide input

All schools are encouraged to participate. Participants are able to comment as an individual or as a group. Please remember this survey is to provide input on the content of the standards themselves - not on the statewide assessment. Those pieces will come later.

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Telecast

The regularly scheduled NCLB telecast is being replaced with a session providing the latest information on the ARRA (a.k.a. Stimulus Package) grants for districts. The telecast will provide timelines and information on the ARRA funds flowing through the Department including IDEA, Title I, Part A, Title II, Part D, McKinney-Vento Homeless Education and School Lunch Equipment Assistance grants.

The telecast will be on Tuesday, April 7, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. (Central Time) on Net*SAT 105 (State Channel 04). 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 April 3rd on the NDE homepage under ARRA and on the "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 from either of the above locations. A DVD will be sent to all ESUs by the following week.

ARRA and Title I, Part A and Title II, Part D

We are planning to use an application for the formula grants in ARRA (Title I, Part A and Title II, Part D) that is very much like the current NCLB Consolidated Application in the grants management system. We need to know if the consortia membership for the ARRA funds will be the same as the membership information submitted for NCLB for 2009-10 school year. A memo was emailed to all districts today. Please contact Diane Stuehmer (diane.stuehmer@nebraska.gov) if you have questions.

NSSRS

Year-end collections are just around the corner. Many ESU's have already scheduled their NDE Data Submission Workdays. Public, nonpublic, Rule 18 Interim-program Schools, and State Operated Systems (Special Purpose Schools) are all welcome to attend. The purpose of a workday is to give staff a place to go where there are no distractions and NDE staff are available to provide assistance. If you are interested in attending a workday please contact your ESU for dates times and registration information.

New "Career Education - Post School Survey" NSSRS Verification Reports

Three new "Career Education - Post School Survey Reports" NSSRS Verification reports are now available on the NSSRS Validation website. Please note that you must "Change Years" to 2007-2008.

- The "Completers with Diploma" report will list all 12th grade Career Education Concentrators that completed with a diploma in 2007-2008.
- The "Post Graduate Activity" report will list all 12th grade Career Education Concentrators that completed with a diploma in 2007-2008 for whom post graduate activity data has been submitted via the Post School Survey template.

- “Students Missing Post Graduate Activity” report will list all 12th grade Career Education Concentrators that completed with a diploma in 2007-2008 for whom post graduate activity data is expected but has not yet been submitted via the Post School Survey template.

NOTE: In order to reduce confusion, all three reports will display for 2007-2008 but only the “Completers with Diploma” report is available for the current school year (2008-2009).

New NSSRS Validation Report

A new NSSRS Validation report dealing with the School Enrollment template is now available to assist districts in identifying errors that can adversely affect graduation and dropout information – particularly in future years when “cohort” information is used for graduation rates. NSSRS Validation error #300 identifies students who have more than one Enrollment Code indicating withdrawal (200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, or 206) at the same school and on the same day. The solution would be to determine which School Enrollment record(s) must be deleted and notify the NDE Helpdesk. Additional School Enrollment records may be required if the School Number and/or Enrollment Date values reported are incorrect.

Nebraska Education Directory

The printable version of the 2008-2009 Nebraska Education Directory is now available on our website. The “Search the Directory” feature includes “Quick Lists” of most requested data files. The “Custom Search” feature allows you to customize your search further. You can view or download all or just part of the Directory at the following link:

<http://ess.nde.state.ne.us/DataCenter/EducationDirectory/20082009/0809EducDir.htm>

REAP – Small Rural Achievement Program (SRSA)

The 2009-10 REAP SRSA eligibility spreadsheet should be posted to the USDE homepage by mid-April. Watch future NDE Bulletins for exact dates. Districts that have not yet spent the REAP funds from July 2006 are being contacted by the USDE and will need to reapply in order to receive any further REAP SRSA grants.

REMINDERS

Data Conference

You can register on-line now for the Data Partnership Conference (<http://www.nde.state.ne.us/>) to be held in Kearney on April 30 – May 1, 2009. This link also provides a list of all breakout sessions under the “Schedule of Events”.

NeSA-Reading Test Administration Workshops:

March 23 - 8:30-11:30
Cornhusker Marriott, Lincoln

March 24 - 8:30 - 11:30
Holiday Inn, Kearney

March 25 - 8:30 - 11:30
Scottsbluff, ESU 13 **(MT)**

Registration: <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/assessment/index.html>