



### **PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE**

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Sharon Katt, Administrator Adult Program Services

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Grant provisional approval to Bellevue University to implement their plan to phase in a teacher education program.

#### **RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

On January 13, 2016 Bellevue University (BU) submitted an application to become an approved Nebraska teacher preparation program. 92 NAC 20 Section 003 identifies the requirements for application and the approval process.

On March 8, 2016 a team of individuals representing the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education, including NDE staff, NSEA, Nebraska teacher preparation programs, and local district personnel, conducted an onsite visit to Bellevue University to validate information provided in the application and to gain additional information. Based on the team's findings, a recommendation was made to the Commissioner that Bellevue University's application be forwarded to the Board for provisional approval. Provisional approval allows Bellevue University to proceed with implementation of their plan to develop a teacher preparation program. Rule 20 provides for a development period of up to three years prior to temporary approval which will allow BU to place student teachers and recommend candidates for certification.

The following documents are provided as support materials. The application is available by contacting Sharon Katt.

92 NAC 20 Regulations for the Approval of Teacher Education Programs (selected text)  
Report of Findings  
Letter to Bellevue University regarding the Commissioner's recommendation  
Bellevue University response to Commissioner's recommendation

**ESTIMATED COST:** N/A