



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

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

FROM: Donlynn Rice

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Recognition of Retiring World Language Director, NDE employee

RATIONALE:

In February of 1998 the Nebraska Department of Education contracted with the Rising City Public Schools for the services of a Director of World Language Education. Vickie Scow already had the reputation of being a highly respected statewide leader in this area. Vickie was to be on-loan to NDE for a three year program. It wasn't long before NDE knew what a gem they had and worked to make the position full time. During her tenure Nebraska developed the World Language Frameworks and the LinguaFolio – a student led portfolio system both of which have been widely requested and used across the country.

Ms. Scow facilitated a Memoranda of Understanding for exchange programs between the Nebraska Department of Education and the Ministries of Education in Spain, Germany, France, Mexico, and China to increase opportunities for teachers and students. As a result, she initiated the visiting teachers program which supplies teachers for Nebraska Schools in much needed places on an annual basis. She developed a specialized orientation program that has been copied in several other states. Last year she was recognized by her peers across the nations and awarded the National Council of State Supervisors of Foreign Languages "Supervisor of the Year" award.

Vickie has always been a team player; she is willing to collaborate and provide service both internally and externally. She has served in numerous leadership roles in her professional organizations and maintains a strong positive relationship with the University of Nebraska to provide opportunities to both pre-service and veteran Nebraska educators.