



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

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

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Discuss the approval of awards for new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Funds for awarding new and expansion Early Childhood Education Program grants are available due to eligible districts' rollover to state aid and additional money appropriated for the grant program.

Commissioner the authority to approve early childhood program grants to twenty (20) public school districts and one (1) Educational Service Unit to provide collaborative early childhood programs to serve at-risk four-year-old children eligible to attend kindergarten in the following year.

The purpose of the Early Childhood Education Grant Program is to improve equity of access to early childhood education/prekindergarten programs. Children of diverse characteristics will be served in inclusive environments and will be better prepared to enter school and be successful. Early Childhood programs are required to operate in compliance with Rule 11 – Regulations for Early Childhood Education Programs.

Grants are recommended to be awarded to eight (8) districts in Congressional District #1 and thirteen (13) districts in Congressional District #3.

In communities with a population under 1,000, seven (7) districts are recommended to receive a grant. In communities with a population between 1,000 and 5,000, eight (8) districts are recommended to receive a grant. In communities with a population between 5,000 and 10,000, two (2) districts are recommended to receive a grant. In communities with a population between 10,000 and 25,000, three (3) districts are recommended to receive a grant. In communities with a population over 100,000, one (1) district is recommended to receive a grant.

Approximately 526 children are expected to be served as a result of this funding.

The following public school districts are recommended to receive an Early Childhood Education grant:

Bancroft-Rosalie Public Schools
Grant Award: \$145,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Beatrice Public Schools
Grant Award: \$290,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 40

Cambridge Public Schools
Grant Award: \$73,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Centennial Public Schools
Grant Award: \$94,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 30

Columbus Public Schools
Grant Award: \$136,824
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 30

Cozad Community Schools
Grant Award: \$145,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

District 145 – Waverly
Grant Award: \$75,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Educational Service Unit 9
Grant Award: \$120,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 15

Hartington-Newcastle Public Schools
Grant Award: \$75,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 18

Lewiston Consolidated Schools
Grant Award: \$145,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Lincoln Public Schools
Grant Award: \$225,000
Number of Classrooms: 4 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 72

Nebraska City Public Schools
Grant Award: \$125,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 40

Niobrara Public Schools
Grant Award: \$85,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

North Platte Public Schools
Grant Award: \$125,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 32

O'Neill Public Schools
Grant Award: \$85,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Shelton Public Schools
Grant Award: \$125,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 24

Stapleton Public Schools
Grant Award: \$145,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 13

Sutherland Public Schools
Grant Award: \$125,000
Number of Classrooms: 2 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 32

Wausa Public Schools
Grant Award: \$66,101
Number of Classrooms: 1 part-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Wayne Public Schools
Grant Award: \$145,000
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

Weeping Water Public Schools
Grant Award: \$42,550
Number of Classrooms: 1 full-day
Proposed Number of Children: 20

ESTIMATED COST: \$2,592,475

For additional information on this item please contact:

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