April 2015

Highlights of the State Board of Education meeting

APPLICATION FOR ESEA FLEXIBILITY (WAIVER)

The Nebraska Department of Education submitted a waiver — a waiver that represents the state’s education plans and initiatives for Nebraska students — to the U.S. Department of Education on March 31. USDE officials have said the waiver request will be reviewed by the beginning of next school year.

See ESEA Flexibility Waiver Website

AQuESTT

A review of Nebraska’s accountability model — a component of the ESEA Flexibility (Waiver) request — was presented at the April State Board of Education meeting.

See AQuESTT: School Designation
See AQuESTT: Graphic

DRAFT MATHEMATICS STANDARDS

A draft of the revised Mathematics Standards was approved for public comment. Educators and the public will have several opportunities to comment on the revised standards, including an electronic survey that will be available April 13-May 29 at http://www.education.ne.gov/standardssurvey/

Comments also may be sent to Standards Input, Nebraska Department of Education, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, NE, 68509, or emailed to nde.standardsinput@nebraska.gov. In September, the State Board will consider the final draft of the math standards.

See Math Standards PowerPoint
See Draft Math Standards
DRAFT OF RULE 21: TEACHING CERTIFICATES, PERMITS

A draft of Rule 21 was approved and will be the focus of a public hearing in the near future. Rule 21 addresses the certification of individuals to teach, administer or provide special services in Nebraska school systems. See attachments for substantive proposed changes. See Rule 21 Rationale See Rule 21 Proposed Revisions See Rule 21 Hearing Draft

NATIONAL TEST RECOMMENDATIONS

An updated list of national tests that will be used for national comparisons was submitted to the State Board of Education. Districts may choose which national norm reference test they want to use. The results will be submitted to NDE for display on the State of the Schools Report. See National Test Recommendations

COORDINATED SCHOOL HEALTH

NDE staff provided an overview of the Nebraska Coordinated School Health program and policy that was adopted in March 2010. See CSH PowerPoint See CSH Policy See CSH Components

GROVE FOUNDATION GRANT, WISE

NDE staff and educators from three Nebraska school districts provided an overview of WISE and the Grove Foundation grants. Educators from three school districts that are voluntarily participating presented information about their programs. See Wise Method
ESUCC CONTRACT

A contract with the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) was approved to provide support for the implementation of the ADVISER dashboard and for single sign-on security efforts.
See ESUCC Rationale

RULE 92: PUPIL TRANSPORTATION VEHICLES

Rule 92 revisions were approved to allow Nebraska schools to use new Type A school buses that are more fuel efficient.
See Rule 92 Rationale
See Rule 92

Rule 14: APPROVAL OF NONPUBLIC SCHOOLS

Nonpublic schools on the attached list were approved to operate for the 2015-16 school year. NOTE: Nonpublic schools that are accredited will be considered for approval by the State Board in June.
See Rule 14 Rationale
See Rule 14 Nonpublic Schools
See Rule 14 PowerPoint

Rule 14: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL OF A NONPUBLIC SCHOOL

The Nelson Mandela Elementary School, a new nonpublic school initially offering kindergarten and 1st grade, was approved to operate in Omaha during 2015-16.
See Rule 14 Conditional Approval

NDE PERSONNEL RULES FOR 2015-17

Changes to the NDE 2015-17 personnel rules were approved.
See Personnel Rules Rationale
See Personnel Rules Summary
See Personnel Rules Major Changes
The State Board of Education will meet May 7-8, 2015.

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