December 2014

Highlights of the State Board of Education meeting

RULE 10: PROPOSED REVISIONS

The framework for the new state accountability system — A QuESTT — as well as the six A QuESTT tenets will be included in the state’s accreditation rule under proposed Rule 10 revisions. A date for the public hearing on Rule 10 changes will be set in the near future.

See: Rule 10 Rationale For Proposed Changes
Rule 10 Overview of Changes
Rule 10 Proposed Changes
Rule 10 Support Material Page Number Correction

ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER

Work has begun on the development of an ESEA Flexibility Waiver. The U.S. Department of Education will provide technical assistance as Nebraska moves forward with development of a draft waiver for the State Board to consider in February. Aprille Phillips, the state student achievement director, and Matt Heusman, a state research and data analyst, will oversee the writing of the draft waiver.

COMMISSIONER BLOMSTEDT’S EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT

The State Board of Education unanimously approved a three-year employment contract extension for Nebraska Education Commissioner Matt Blomstedt and raised his salary 5 percent. Board members commended Commissioner Blomstedt for his work on behalf of Nebraska students and for his leadership.
STATE BOARD MEMBER JOHN SIeler RECOGNIZED

John Sieler, who represents District 8 in the Omaha metro area, was recognized for his service on the Nebraska State Board of Education. Sieler did not seek re-election to the board. His term of office ends in early January. See Resolution

CERTIFICATE ENDORSEMENTS: PROPOSED RULE 24 CHANGES

Proposed Rule 24 changes related to certain endorsements and guidelines would be effective Aug. 1, 2015, if approved. A public hearing on the proposed changes will be scheduled in the near future. See Rule 24 Rationale for Proposed Changes

Rule 24 Summary of Changes

Rule 24 Proposed Changes

SCOW RETIRES, RECOGNIZED BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Vickie Scow, who has served as the state director of World Language Education since 1998, has announced that she will retire in late December. During her tenure, Nebraska developed the World Language Frameworks and the LinguaFolio – a student-led portfolio system. The frameworks and the portfolio system have been used widely across the nation. See Vickie Scow Retires

NUTURING HEALTHY BEHAVIORS

The State Board approved a grant to the Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to expand the Nurturing Healthy Behaviors program statewide. NCFF will work with regional and local entities to implement a model program. See Nurturing Healthy Behaviors

ESUCC GRANT FOR NEBRASKA CAREER CONNECTIONS

ESUCC operates the Nebraska Career Connections website that provides career information to Nebraska schools, colleges, the Department of Labor, VR and other statewide clients. See ESUCC Grant

NEXT STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING: JANUARY 8-9, 2015