February 2015

Highlights of the State Board of Education meeting

INFLUENCES ON ASSESSMENT IN NEBRASKA

The State Board believes the results of multiple assessment sources — national, state, and classroom-based — should be used to measure student achievement of college and career ready standards, and be used as an integral part of the instructional process. Areas of Focus • Individualized/Adaptive Assessments • Classroom-Based Assessments • State Assessments • National/International Assessments

See: Assessment Influences and Vision

ESEA POSITION STATEMENT

The State Board of Education approved a draft position statement on the reauthorization of ESEA. Nebraska education policy partners, who were involved in the initial development of the draft, will now consider signing onto the position statement to inform the state’s Congressional delegates as federal officials plan to consider the reauthorization of ESEA.

See: Draft Nebraska Position Statement

DRAFT ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER

A draft of Nebraska’s ESEA flexibility waiver was presented to the State Board for public input and discussion. Staff reported that the deadline to submit the waiver is March 31.

See: Draft ESEA Flexibility Waiver PowerPoint

DATA RECOGNITION CORPORATION:

2014-2015 CONTRACT

The State Board voted to amend DRC’s contract to provide for the development of transitional tests. The NeSA-Reading tests must now be transitioned to meet
the content and rigor of the newly revised English Language Arts standards that are college and career ready.
See: Transition Plan
See: Budget Comparison

STATE BOARD ADOPTS RULE 10 REVISIONS
Provisions related to AQuESTT, the new state accountability system, have been included in Rule 10, Nebraska’s school accreditation rule.
See: Rule 10 Draft
See: Non-substantive Rule 10 Changes

REPORT ON THE EDUCATION OF CHILDREN WHO ARE DEAF OR HARD OF HEARING
A report called for keeping educational interpreter qualifications in Rule 51, under the direction of NDE, and to consider raising the minimum score to qualify as an educational interpreter in Nebraska from 3.5 to 4.0.
See: Educational Interpreter PowerPoint
See: Rule 51-Interpreters

RULE 11 DRAFT: REGULATIONS FOR THE APPROVAL OF PREKINDERGARTEN PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY ESUs AS WELL AS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANTS
The State Board voted to approve a hearing draft of Rule 11. The revisions clarify provisions of early childhood education and Care program for children from birth to kindergarten entrance age in center-based and for home-based programs.
See: Rule 11 Rationale
See: Guide to proposed Rule 11 changes
See: Draft of Rule 11
See: PowerPoint

RULE 92 DRAFT: MINIMUM EQUIPMENT STANDARDS, SAFETY INSPECTION CRITERIA FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION
A public hearing will be held on proposed Rule 92 revisions to allow school districts to purchase school buses with smaller fuel tanks that have improved fuel efficiency, fuel tanks that are now in Type A school buses.
See: Rule 92 Rationale
See: Draft of Rule 92
STATE BOARD ADOPTS RULE 24 REVISIONS: CERTIFICATE ENDORSEMENTS, RECOMMENDED GUIDELINES

Revisions to certain endorsements would be effective Aug. 1, 2015, as well as the associated guidelines, under the changes.
See: Rule 24 Rationale
See: Summary of Rule 24 Changes
See: Hearing Officer Summary of Rule 24
See: Rule 24 Guidelines Redlined Changes
See: Rule 24 Hearing Draft Redlined

The State Board of Education will meet March 5-6, 2015.

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