



# NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

AUGUST 2017

## State Board of Education

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## PROPOSED SCIENCE STANDARDS PRESENTED TO BOARD

Nebraska Department of Education staff presented the final draft of the revised science standards to the Board of Education. State law requires updates to standards every seven years. The revised standards, "Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science," create the framework for science education in Nebraska. Input from public online surveys was also used to craft the final draft. Dozens of people also provided feedback at the board meeting on Friday. The board is set to vote on the standards in September.

## PROPOSED SCIENCE STANDARDS

## BOARD AUTHORIZES CUT SCORES FOR NESA-ELA ASSESSMENTS

The State Board of Education authorized the Commissioner to set cut scores on the new English Language Arts assessment. The new scores were needed after the development of new assessments aligned to the Nebraska College & Career Ready English Language Arts standards. The board will look at score-setting for the ACT in September.

## reVISION GRANTS APPROVED

reVision Grants were awarded to Nebraska schools across the state to help develop Nebraska's talent pipelines for economic growth and workforce development and strengthen high school Career and Technical Education programs. Schools will receive either initial grants to complete a strategic planning process or action grants to help implement the goals set during the initial reVISION process.

## reVISION GRANT RECIPIENTS

## **DRUID HILL REMOVED FROM LIST OF PRIORITY SCHOOLS**

The Nebraska State Board of Education voted to approve moving Druid Hill Elementary in Omaha off of the list of the state's three priority schools. Druid Hill becomes the first school to successfully transition since the creation of the current performance rating system, developed in 2014. Druid Hill has made great strides with improvements in attendance, test scores, and the overall culture of the school. NDE will continue to support Druid Hill as they move forward with their sustainability plan.

### **DRUID HILL SUSTAINABILITY PLAN**

There has also been significant improvement at the remaining two priority schools, Santee Middle School in Niobrara and Loup County Elementary in Taylor. The schools will continue to get support from NDE by remaining on priority status for the 2017-2018 school year.

## **BOARD APPROVES ADDITIONAL SITES FOR EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES**

Expanded learning opportunities will soon be available at 10 more sites in Nebraska. Two-Year Expanded Learning Opportunity Grants funded by proceeds of the Nebraska Lottery were approved by the Nebraska State Board of Education. The State Board previously approved awards for programming at 33 sites in May. Because funding was still available, a supplementary competition was conducted and programming at 10 additional sites were approved.

### **EXPANDED LEARNING OPPORTUNITY GRANTS**

## **FUNDING APPROVED FOR FRESH FRUIT AND VEGETABLE PROGRAM**

More than two million dollars will be awarded to Nebraska schools to deliver healthy food to kids through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program. Out of 170 School Food Authorities that applied, 115 were funded.

### **FRESH FOOD AND VEGETABLE GRANT AWARDS**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, September 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building. A work session will be held on Thursday, September 7, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

For detailed information about the work session or business meeting, visit [www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html).



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