



NEBRASKA

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

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

FROM: Jan Handa, 21st CLC Coordinator
Diane Stuehmer, Director of School and Student Support and Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner authority to approve funding recommendations for the federally funded 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) Grant Program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The funding of the 21st CCLC grant projects will increase the number of programs that provide educational and developmental services during non-school hours or periods when school is not in session. The three goals of this grant program are to: 1) improve overall student success and learning performance in one or more academic areas through academic support and enrichment activities; 2) increase student social benefits and positive behavioral changes; and 3) increase active and meaningful family and community engagement in supporting students' education.

In the past fifteen years of administration of these federal funds, the Nebraska Department of Education has awarded grants in over 30 communities serving over 130 school building populations. In addition to the school building populations recommended to receive a First-Time grant, this competition includes recommendations to award Continuation grants to thirteen quality programs that have successfully implemented 21st CCLC programming in thirty-two sites. Continuation grants are calculated at a daily rate approximately 50% of the rate for First-Time grants.

ESTIMATED COST: These grants total \$1,346,648.00. All funding is contingent upon availability of federal funds.