

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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RESOLUTION TO COMMEND NEBRASKA SCHOOLS ON THEIR RESPONSE TO THE HISTORICALLY CATASTROPHIC WEATHER EVENTS OF MARCH 2019

WHEREAS, the State of Nebraska experienced historically catastrophic weather events, including flooding and a blizzard, in March 2019;

WHEREAS, the historically catastrophic weather events resulted in 99 city emergency declarations, 81 county emergency declarations, 5 tribal area emergency declarations, and 13 other government emergency declarations;

WHEREAS, over 90 public school districts and 14 nonpublic schools reported to the Nebraska Department of Education some level of impact to their schools as a result of the flooding, and nearly 200 school buildings were closed, impacting over 34,000 students statewide;

WHEREAS, there are many instances where schools have and are serving as critical response partners during the relief and recovery efforts; and

WHEREAS, Nebraska schools provide a safe and stable environment for students, are staffed by adults who care about the wellbeing of their students and the community, and serve as a critical hub within Nebraska communities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education commends Nebraska schools for the tenacity, resilience, and stability provided in the aftermath of the historically catastrophic weather events that occurred in the State of Nebraska during the month of March 2019; and

RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education, within its regulatory authority, commits to working with schools to overcome educational challenges presented by the historically catastrophic weather events of March 2019.

Signed on behalf of the Nebraska State Board of Education, this 5th day of April 2019.

John Witzel, President

Maureen Nickels, Vice President