



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 21, 2022

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

FROM: Lane Carr
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

Dr. Katie Graham
Administrator, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to increase the approved Educator Shortage Grant for ESU 6 & ESU 9 to include the development of a regionally focused education and training program of study and expansion of EdRising.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In August, the State Board Approved the Educator Shortage Grant recipients, including a \$100,000 grant from ESU 6 & ESU 9 titled “Grow Your Own: Addressing Educator Pipeline Shortage in Rural Southeast & South Central NE.” Simultaneously, the NDE begin seeking information and ideas on the creation of a regional approach to expanding the education and training program of study and development of new EdRising chapters.

This approval seeks to combine the two scopes of work into one coherent project, melding the original educator shortage grant application and supplementing with additional ESSER funds to expand the scope of work.

The program will create a two-year cadre of 20 teachers from ESUs 6 & 9 to provide support and guidance for the implementation of the Ed and Training program of study and EdRising CTSO. The Ed and Training program includes summer and school year in-service. Funds will also allow for cadre members to earn and add a work-based learning endorsement to their teaching certificate.

A targeted focus will be placed on regional delivery of the Ed and Training Program of Study through a partnership between ESUs 6 & 9 and local post-secondary partners. ESU professional learning specialists will create course content and deliver 3 courses (Teaching as a Profession, Best Practices In Education and Training via WBL and Education & Training Practicum with WBL) via a hybrid model while mentoring local teachers through the process so they are equipped to teach the courses independently for sustainability after the project concludes.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2022

ESTIMATED COST: \$340,000 (\$100,000 already approved from Educator Shortage Grants; \$240,000 in additional contracting authority requested).

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: