



TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117



P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



education.ne.gov



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: March 22, 2023

TO: Deborah A. Frison, Ed.D.
Deputy Commissioner of Education

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract renewal with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) to support a cohort of the NAESP Early Childhood Preschool to Grade Three Leadership Academy.

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Contract Renewal

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Purpose: This is a contract with the National Association of Elementary School Principals (NAESP) for facilitation of their Pre-K through grade 3 Leadership Academy. The NAESP Pre-K -Grade 3 Leadership Academy is for Principals and other administrators of school districts, directors of Head Start programs and owners/directors of community child care programs to increase their knowledge and abilities to lead programs for young children.
- Description: Curriculum is based on 6 competencies and a Capstone project:
 - Competency 1 -Understanding child development and its implications for high-quality instruction and interactions, PreK-3rd grade
 - Competency 2 – Developing and fostering partnerships with families and communities,
 - Competency 3 – Embracing and enacting a PreK-3rd grade vision
 - Competency 4 – Ensuring equitable opportunities
 - Competency 5 – Sharing leadership and building professional capacity
 - Competency 6 – Promoting a culture of continuous improvement
 - Capstone project – Designed by the participant to demonstrate learning in a project to benefit their school’s PreK-3rd grade work.
- History: This is the 4th cohort provided to administrators across Nebraska. The first three cohorts were funded through Preschool Development Grant funds. ESSER funds have been committed for this cohort and the next cohort.
- Need: This grant is needed because most elementary school principals do not have an early childhood education background. Effective curricula, teaching methods, and assessment are different for young children than for those in middle childhood or adolescence.
- Administration of Contract: Staff from the NDE meet with NAESP to plan for the year, including monthly check-ins to support the Nebraska participants and to infuse Nebraska specific information/resources to coincide with the NAESP curriculum.



TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117



P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987



education.ne.gov



- Timeline: Cohort 4 of the NAESP PreK-3 Leadership Academy will run from May 1, 2023-April 30, 2024, to include 3 in-person meetings in May 2023, September 2023 and April 2024.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): April 2023

ESTIMATED COST: Up to \$170,000

This will include a one-time payment of \$165,000 for initiating and conducting a yearlong professional learning program and support services for a cohort of elementary principals, Head start and child care directors in a mixed learning environment with mentors and technical support. Up to \$5,000 is also budgeted for reimbursement for NAESP staff travel.

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- This is funded through ESSERS funds
- Renewal: As indicated above, contracts to NAESP were initially funded through Preschool Development Grant funds that came to the NDE.
- If renewal, date of first approval: March 2019

FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT:

- Indicate the method of procurement: Sole Source
- Rationale for method of procurement: The curriculum is proprietary, it has been created by NAESP with the input of NAESP members, and the curriculum for the Nebraska Cohorts have been and continually are being revised to include Nebraska materials. Cohort 4 will have elements of the Nebraska Teacher Principal Performance Standards.
- Rationale for contractor selection: See above

FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS:

- Describe the grantee selection process:

**Updated 02.07.2023*