



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: November 8, 2023

TO: Dr. Brian L. Maher
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Equity Officer and Administrator for the Office of Coordinated Students Support Services

Jay Martin, Director of School Safety & Security, Nebraska Department of Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner the authority to approve a continuation grant to the Board of Regents of the University of Nebraska to assist the School Safety and Security Program to build the capacity of Nebraska schools in the area of emergency management, violence prevention education and threat assessment.

AGENDA ITEM TYPE (contract/grant/rule/program/other): contract

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The School Safety and Security Program plans to expand the capacity of Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) to provide training and technical assistance to local educational agencies so they may produce and maintain high-quality Emergency Operations Plans (EOPs), violence prevention education, and threat assessment processes.

Once NDE's capacity is improved, the two areas of local capacity we wish to impact: 1) increase the number of high quality EOPs in LEA, and 2) increase the capacity for schools to participate in collaborative planning with community partners.

The University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (UNL PPC) is the best source for staff to help carry forth the vision for school safety in Nebraska. They have been partners in visioning and writing both the School Emergency Management and the Nebraska STOP Violence grants, have assisted in Threat Assessment training, and are experts in collecting and analyzing data.

The UNL PPC will be writing and creating videos regarding principles of emergency operations plans to add to the website, conducting table-top exercises with schools so they can test their emergency operations plans, providing assistance in the analyzation of schools' emergency operations plans, and assisting with evaluation components for the emergency operations plans' trainings, table-top exercises and the program mid- and final

reports. This grant from the US Department of Education will help us close the gap we have with emergency operations plan in Nebraska schools.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): December 2023

ESTIMATED COST: \$ 100,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: The funding source is a US Department of Education grant.
- New or Renewal: Renewal of a five-year grant with the US Department of Education
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 2018

FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT:

- Indicate the method of procurement:
- Rationale for method of procurement:
- Rationale for contractor selection:

FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS:

- Describe the grantee selection process:

**Updated 08.15.2023*