Greetings All,

On June 1, 2023, the Nebraska Legislation appropriated 10 million dollars towards a competitive grant program to provide funding to school districts (LEA's) and to educational service units, acting on behalf of approved or accredited nonpublic schools, for security-related infrastructure projects.

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is pleased to announce the release of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the competitive School Safety and Security-Related Infrastructure Grant. This grant program is designed to bolster safety and security measures in school districts in Nebraska.

The focus of the grant is to enhance physical security infrastructure and associated technology, as well as to provide essential safety equipment such as bleeding control kits, door locking systems, visitor management systems, ground lighting, notification systems, screening devices, and other physical security equipment or security-related technology. This initiative aims to create safer learning environments for our students.

Today, **February 14th, 2024**, the application window officially opens for both LEAs and Educational Service Units (ESUs), acting on behalf of approved or accredited nonpublic schools, to compete for these competitive grant funds. Completed applications must be submitted by **March 14th, 2024**. Award notifications are anticipated to be sent by **April 3, 2024**. For detailed information regarding the purpose of the grant program, qualifications, allowable uses of funds, proposal requirement, grant timeline, and post-award requirements, please refer to the attached document.

Watch this quick 5 minute infrastructure grant tutorial video here: <u>Safety & Security-Related</u> Infrastructure Grant.

To facilitate inquiries regarding this grant, the School Safety Team has established this dedicated Link for you to submit all your questions. This centralized platform will capture your queries and compile them into a comprehensive Q&A document to be shared with all schools. Moreover, this system ensures prompt responses to your questions, providing immediate assistance when needed. However, if there is a question about a project qualifying as an allowable use, this can only be determined by the evaluation committee. Therefore, please submit the project in your application so the committee can make the determination.

We encourage all eligible entities to take advantage of this opportunity to further enhance safety measures within their educational institutions. Together, we can continue to prioritize the well-being and security of our students and staff. When you are ready to fill out the RFP application go to this Grant Management System (GMS) link: <u>GMS</u>.

Thank you for your interest and participation in this critical initiative.

Best Regards,