



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 17, 2024

TO: Dr. Brian L. Maher
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Trudy K. Clark, Director of Statewide Assessment

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Adopt recommendations from Statewide Assessment Standard Setting Results

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

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Standard setting is the process by which achievement levels are established. Nebraska educators work with a qualified outside agency to set cut scores. The Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) supported the process as described by the agency at the February 21, 2024 TAC meeting.
- Standard setting establishes the cut scores that separate students into achievement levels (i.e., developing, proficient, advanced).
- Students and Nebraska educators are served by this process.
- After training, Nebraska educators worked together to establish cut scores. Using the Achievement Level Descriptors, educators identified the skills and knowledge of the student emerging from developing and becoming proficient. After taking the test, the educators identified how a barely proficient student, and then a barely advanced student performed on each item. Following two rounds of conversation among the educators to arrive at consensus regarding performance, the agency shared the impact these cut scores had on student scores. Representatives from each grade span met to review the findings during a vertical articulation exercise. Following this discussion, final determinations were shared with a policy review committee composed of members of the Assessment and Accountability Advisory Committee and Nebraska Association for Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. Chad Buckendahl, the Technical Advisory Committee chair, facilitated the policy review.
- Standard setting took place July 8-12 and 23-26. The cut scores will be presented to the board at the August 2 meeting for approval.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2, 2024

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS: N/A

- Indicate the Funding Source: (*--e.g., Federal, State*)
- New or Renewal:
- If renewal, date of first approval:

FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT: N/A

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

FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS: N/A

- Describe the grantee selection process:

**Updated 08.15.2023*