



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: September 23, 2024

TO: Dr. Brian L. Maher
Commissioner of Education

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Equity Officer and Administrator
Office of Coordinated Student Support Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Accept Improving Adolescent Health and Well-Being Through School-Based Surveillance Grant and Authorize the Commissioner to Enter into Contracts and Subawards to Carry out Grant Activities.

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

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Office of Coordinated Student Support Services has been awarded a five-year grant to implement the Improving Adolescent Health and Well-Being Through School-Based Surveillance program. This funding will be instrumental in assessing the well-being needs of Nebraska's youth through the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBS) and School Health Profiles (SHP). The goal is to identify and enhance programs and resources that schools can utilize to mitigate common risk factors.

The initiative will focus on monitoring and addressing health-related behaviors that contribute to the leading risk behaviors, creating higher death and disability among youth and adults. Key areas of focus include behaviors that contribute to unintentional injuries and violence, alcohol and drug use, tobacco use, unhealthy dietary behaviors, and inadequate physical activity, and mental health status. Additionally, the survey will measure the prevalence of obesity and asthma among Nebraska's youth. Nebraska has addressed concerns from schools by removing specific questions that previously caused unease. The data collected will guide the prioritization of programming and secure fundings to aid in the identification of new or existing resources that can directly address the needs identified through this survey.

The Office of Coordinated Student Support Services will lead this initiative, working closely with schools across Nebraska. The program will involve collaboration with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and other public health entities to ensure that the data collected is utilized effectively to benefit Nebraska's youth.

The survey implementation will begin during the 2025-2026 school year, with YRBS data collection occurring during the odd falls (2025 and 2027) and SHP survey collected in the even springs (2026 and 2028). The results will be analyzed and shared with relevant stakeholders to inform ongoing and future efforts targeted at improving attendance, academic success, and adolescent health and well-being across the state.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): October 2024

ESTIMATED FUNDING: \$562,375.00 over a five-year period (\$112,475/year).

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: CDC- Federal Grant
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: NA

FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT:

- Indicate the method of procurement: NA
- Rationale for method of procurement: NA
- Rationale for contractor selection: Single Source with unique knowledge of the data collection system

FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS:

- Describe the grantee selection process: NA

**Updated 08.15.2023*