

## NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA

- Meeting Date:** Friday, March 4, 2022 9:00 AM
- Meeting Title:** State Board of Education Meeting Notification and Agenda
- Location:** The Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker Hotel  
Lancaster I, II, III  
333 South 13th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68508
- Web Streaming:** Live web streaming will be available through the State Board of Education website: [www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/](http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/)
- Agenda:** Except for emergency items added at the time of the meeting, the agenda will not be changed less than 24 hours prior to the start of the meeting and any changes will be immediately posted on the website. The Board will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order of items if necessary and may elect to take action on any of the items listed.
- Interpreter:** If you need interpreter services or other reasonable accommodations, please contact the Nebraska Department of Education at (402) 471-5059 five (5) days prior to the meeting to coordinate arrangements.
- Website:** An electronic version of the agenda and support materials are available on the State Board of Education's Agenda page: [www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html)
- Lunch:** On Friday, March 4, 2022, if necessary, the State Board of Education may break for lunch at 12:30 p.m. The Board may resume work on the agenda at approximately 1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER (The Board will take a 45 minute recess at or after 12:00 p.m.)  
President Koch Johns
  - 1.1. Roll Call  
President Koch Johns
  - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance  
President Koch Johns
  - 1.3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information  
President Koch Johns
  - 1.4. Meeting Protocol  
Commissioner Blomstedt
2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS  
President Koch Johns

- 2.1. Provide an update and share a story of the impact of ESSER fund investments  
Nebraska Children and Families Foundation
3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT  
Commissioner Blomstedt
  - 3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process  
Commissioner Blomstedt
    - 3.1.A. Commissioner's recommendations and items to be removed from consent  
agenda  
Commissioner Blomstedt
  - 3.2. Board Operations Information  
Ryan Foor
4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
President Koch Johns
5. CONSENT AGENDA  
President Koch Johns
  - 5.1. Board Member Out-of-State Travel Approval
  - 5.2. Committee Appointments
  - 5.3. Contract Approvals
    - 5.3.A. Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet  
Education  
Cory Epler
  - 5.4. Grant Approvals
    - 5.4.A. Authorize the Commissioner to approve the use of up to \$1,560,000 to fund  
grants to selected educational service units for preschool through grade two  
support  
Melody Hobson
    - 5.4.B. Authorize the Commissioner to accept the grant and enter into the  
agreement with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to expand the Nebraska  
Harvest of the Month program for use in early childcare settings  
Zainab Rida and Sarah Smith
  - 5.5. Lease Approvals
  - 5.6. Minutes of the Previous State Board of Education Meeting

5.7. Miscellaneous Approvals

6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

President Koch Johns

6.1. Executive Committee

President Koch Johns

6.1.A. Review 2022 Proposed State Legislation and Take Action on Board Positions  
Deputy Commissioner Halstead

6.1.B. Presentation on Proposed Board Policy Structure Revisions  
Patti Gubbels

6.2. Budget and Finance Committee

Maureen Nickels

6.2.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

6.2.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

6.3. Planning and Evaluation Committee

Patti Gubbels

6.3.A. Discussion Item: Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for  
Mathematics  
Cory Epler, Marissa Payzant, and Deb Romanek

6.4. Rules and Regulations Committee

Jacquelyn Morrison

6.4.A. Report On Rules  
Commissioner Blomstedt

7. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

President Koch Johns

7.1. Adopt the Recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee on Content-area Standards  
Jacquelyn Morrison

7.2. Consider Hearing Officer's Proposed Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and  
Recommended Decision in NDE Case No. 22-03, *Ritter v. Northwest Public Schools*  
Juan Roman

7.2.A. Executive Session  
President Koch Johns

8. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

President Koch Johns

8.1. Public Comment

8.2. Written Public Comment

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

President Koch Johns

9.1. Contracts Approved by Commissioner

9.2. Grants Approved by Commissioner

9.3. Contested Case Update

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

This section of the agenda is intended for Board members to offer informal observations of the work of the State Board. Board members may make brief announcements about attendance at future events for the purpose of informing other Board members. No business or motions, or suggested actions of the Board may be offered at this point in the agenda; nor should Board members engage in substantive discussion about other agenda items or introduce new agenda items.

President Koch Johns

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Koch Johns

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, April 8, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined. As needed, a work session will be held on Thursday, April 7, 2022 at a time to be determined.

The agenda contains a list of subjects known at the time of its distribution on February 24, 2022. A copy of the agenda reflecting any changes will be available for public inspection during the normal business hours in the Office of the Commissioner of Education and on the State Board of Education's Agenda

page: [www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html). *Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda will not be changed later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting.*



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** February 17, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Lane Carr  
Administrator, Office of Policy and Strategic Initiatives

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Provide an update and share a story of the impact of ESSER fund investments.

### **RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Over the past two years, the state of Nebraska has received nearly \$854 million in federal funding to prepare for, prevent, and respond to the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in schools. The majority of the funding, 90 percent, flowed through directly to districts through a formula-based method. The remaining 10 percent was set aside by the NDE for administration and statewide activities.

In July 2021, the Commissioner shared the vision for using this Opportunity of a Lifetime to invest in transformative practices, interventions, and programs that close achievement gaps, addresses whole child needs, and modernizes systems. The purpose of this update is to share the impact of these ESSER investments in schools.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):** March 2022

**ESTIMATED COST:** n/a

### **FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:**

- Indicate the Funding Source: n/a
- New or Renewal: n/a
- If renewal, date of first approval: n/a



# Early Learning - Math and Literacy

In response to the COVID pandemic, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), in partnership with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFF), formed the *Together, Better Initiative*, which is a series of strategic investments in authentic, evidence-based and reimagined learning supports and family and community engagement. NDE and NCFF are collaborating to address these critical needs for students, families, and communities with five strategies, and this report provides an update on one of them: a deepening partnership to support early learning, particularly in early literacy.

For nearly ten years, the Sixpence Early Learning Fund has shifted the odds of lifelong success in favor of a growing number of Nebraska's infants and toddlers at risk. An innovative collaboration between our state's public and private sectors, Sixpence provides funding and enhances the quality and

efficiency of early learning and development services offered in communities throughout Nebraska. Sixpence demonstrates how targeted investments in the school-readiness of our youngest, most vulnerable children are also investments that strengthen our families, communities and state.

From the new American Rescue Plan, substantial new funding is now available to many local communities extending over at least a 36-month period. These funds are provided through provisions in the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III) portion of the Act. Using these funds, NDE and NCFF have strengthened their partnership and have hired an Early Literacy Education Specialist to continue supporting Nebraska's youngest children.

## Highlights:

- Provided technical support to Educational Service Units and public school districts throughout the state related to the development and implementation of Nebraska's strategies to advance early literacy practices and the exploration of the Revised English Language Arts State Standards.
- Developed and delivered synchronous and asynchronous professional learning experiences related to the Science of Reading, K-2 evidence-based structured literacy practices, and acceleration of student learning.
- Continuous collaboration across multiple Nebraska Department of Education offices, including Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Family Engagement, and NeMTSS.

## Ongoing work/Next steps:

- Continue with the support of Nebraska schools and educational entities in planning for learning acceleration in the areas of early and family literacy, including supporting students with disabilities and Multi-Lingual learners.
- In accordance with the Nebraska Standards Implementation framework, transition support to the implementation phase of the Revised English Language Arts State Standards through the guidance and recommendations on the selection and implementation of high-quality instructional materials and assessments for early literacy and family literacy.
- Begin work, in collaboration with Nebraska Department of Early Childhood Education and Sixpence Early Learning, to promote equitable access to inclusive programs and services in Early Literacy and provide professional development, technical assistance, and resources for personnel in early childhood care and education settings.
- Conduct a landscape analysis related to early mathematics education and develop recommendations for a statewide strategy and resources to support early childhood mathematics.





## Expanded Learning Opportunities (ELO) /Afterschool Programming

Well-designed and well-delivered summer enrichment and comprehensive afterschool programming can address “learning loss,” accelerate learning, and expand opportunities for student success. From the American Rescue Plan, substantial new funding is now available to targeted communities for the next three years. These funds are provided through provisions in the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III) portion of the Act and can be used to expand and improve existing summer and afterschool programs and partnerships to start new programs that are aligned with the principles identified in the Nebraska State Board of Education Quality Framework (October 2017).

The goal of this three-year, approximately \$15,000,000 collaboration between the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and Beyond School Bells (BSB) - a program of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCF), and other partners is to provide Nebraska youth negatively affected by COVID-19 and

historically underserved communities access to high-quality, school-based and community powered afterschool and summer programs, what we refer to as ELO programs. NDE is contributing all of its \$11,000,000 allocation of federal ESSER III COVID-19 relief funding, plus \$800,000 in staffing and evaluation costs, to this ambitious project. Nebraska Children is committed to secure a minimum of \$3,000,000 in additional funding to leverage this one-time commitment of federal funds.

Through this unprecedented collaboration, NDE and BSB hope to encourage other organizations to partner with us to take full advantage of this one-time federal investment to establish new and enhance existing afterschool and summer programs that can provide all Nebraska youth with multiple, high-quality out-of-school time opportunities that will excite, engage, and inspire the next generation of Nebraska’s leaders.

### Highlights:

- Worked with the Department of Health and Human Services to help facilitate the use of \$4.5 million in CARES Act funding to support the hard-hit school-aged care and learning sector during the pandemic
- Designed, built, and delivered a growing fleet of Think Make Create (TMC) Labs, a mobile STEAM learning and tinkering platform, across Nebraska (42 and counting) and via licensing arrangements with four other states and internationally, with our first contract to build a TMC Lab in Taiwan in 2022.
- Partnered with communities across the state to support quality programming and sustainability of existing afterschool and summer programs funded by NDE’s 21st Century Community Learning Center initiative.

### Ongoing work/Next steps:

**Accelerator Grants to expand existing ELO programs.** Three-year funding, starting with summer programming in 2022 and extending through Summer 2024 and year-long afterschool programming grants for both the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school years. This element builds on existing NDE 21st CCLC infrastructure to quickly scale up high-quality programs.

**Incubator Grants to expand into new communities.** Multi-year grants starting with planning grants in Spring 2022, leading to three summer program years and two full years of programming, culminating at the end of the Summer 2024. As a starting point, we are looking at investment of \$62,500 average for annual school-year afterschool programs and \$35,000 for the summer programming strand.

### Nebraska’s ELO Innovation Network - Coordination / Innovation / Excellence

Nebraska Children’s efforts for this unique public-private partnership will be administered within BSB’s ELO Innovation Network, part of a series of networks NDE is supporting to enhance Nebraska’s education system. Over the next three years, through December 2024, the ELO Innovation Network will recruit community organizations and school districts to identify, develop, test, and distribute best practices that will enhance high-quality, locally sustainable ELO programs across Nebraska. Activities will include designing, piloting, and scaling up new youth programming, parent engagement activities, youth empowerment, staffing, and partnership innovations. This work will be rigorously evaluated by Nebraska Children working in partnership with the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute and lessons learned will enhance future ELO programs.





# Family Engagement

The National Center for Families Learning (NCFL) leads the Statewide Family Engagement Center (SFEC) grant in Nebraska. In collaboration with local school districts, NCFL is implementing its two generation, four-component model of family literacy across the state of Nebraska as it helps to build a family engagement ecosystem with exemplar sites that spans the State.

Family Literacy model demonstration sites were added in years 1, 2, 3, and 4 of the grant, with 3 schools having come on board every year and receiving 3 years of funding to operate family literacy sites. Regarding selection of sites, there is a special focus on school districts with higher rates of English Language Learners (ELL) and higher rates of free/reduced lunch students across rural, urban, and suburban districts.

Another focus of the grant is NCFL's professional development and training workshops that broaden the reach of the SFEC work, impacting families across the entire state as well as the language and literacy curriculum and pedagogy within school districts. Through a collaborative effort by NCFL and local partners, educators are connecting to online and in-person professional development opportunities. This networked approach extends access to training for educators, supporting their work to provide optimal learning environments that engage and support families across Nebraska communities.

## Highlights:

- NCFL implemented family literacy sites in twelve (12) school districts in Nebraska during the first four (4) years of the grant. For a list of sites, visit: <http://www.nebraskasfec.com/our-sites.html>
- NCFL has provided in-person and virtually workshops for parents, teachers, and educational stakeholders for multiple years since the commencement of the SFEC grant. For view many of these past training sessions, visit: <http://www.nebraskasfec.com/webinars.html>
- NCFL has implemented a resource center online for both parents and educators with webinars, toolkits, research, and free digital books at [www.nebraskasfec.com](http://www.nebraskasfec.com).

## Next steps:

The NCFL is currently pursuing a 5-year renewal for the SFEC grant in Nebraska. The initial 5-year span is October 2018 to September 2023, so the second 5-year grant would span October 2023 to September 2028. NCFL continues to work closely with the Nebraska Department of Education and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to both successfully complete the initial 5-year grant and also to design and apply for the second 5-year grant that NCFL is hoping to obtain from the U.S. Department of Education.





# Together, Better Initiative

## A Full-Service Community Schools pilot

In response to the pandemic and the influx of funds to support schools, children, and families, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), in partnership with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFF), formed the **Together, Better Initiative**, which is a series of strategic investments in authentic, evidence-based and reimagined learning supports and family and community engagement. NDE and NCFF are collaborating to address these critical needs for students, families, and communities with five strategies, and this report provides an update on one of them: the Full-Service Community Schools (FSCS) Pilot Project. This effort was launched in fall 2021 in four communities: Fremont, Grand Island, Schuyler, and South Sioux City.

All four Full-Service Community School (FSCS) sites began the implementation of their work in September 2021. NDE and NCFF provided strategic support to build a learning cohort across the four locations, define a shared understanding of Community Schools, specifically identify the measurable results they'll be working toward, understand the current conditions for each of the sites/communities, and develop key strategies to accelerate the work. Each of the four sites has created plans and started the implementation of strategies that will accelerate:

- Student Learning and Development
- Family and Community Engagement
- Partnership Development

## Highlights from FSCS sites

### Fremont

#### Fremont Middle School

One of the key issues recognized by this site team is related to the barrier of reliable transportation so families can be connected to the school, so this site will be working to address transportation issues for family and community engagement events to ensure all families can attend.

### South Sioux City

#### Dakota Elementary School

This site has continued development of cross sector site team to address the needs that were identified by families. Similar to the needs identified at the site in Schuyler, one need that was shared by families related to family literacy supports. The Site Coordinator is also cultivating a partnership with the Family Literacy Program to provide programming for families.

### Grand Island

#### O'Connor Learning Center

One of the key components of this site's work was to address the need for childcare for early learning students when they were not in the program. As a result, this site established a partnership with local YWCA to provide childcare on site for time youth are not in school. Additionally, this collaboration team is exploring the idea of "success planning" for each early learner to ensure each student has a team of adults to make sure needs are being met, and provide for a successful transition to elementary school.

### Schuyler

#### Schuyler Elementary School

This site has been engaged in ongoing development of cross sector site team to address the needs that were identified by families. One of those needs related to adult and family literacy, and as such the Site Coordinator is developing partnership with the Family Literacy Program to provide programming.

## Ongoing work/ Next steps

The initial success parameters for each of the sites are being reinforced through the **Together, Better Initiative** partnership between NDE and NCFF. The collective team members meet regularly for planning and update sessions, and with each of the sites to provide implementation support. This team will continue to work with the sites to design and implement the formal evaluation, and to help sites quickly adapt to emerging needs in their communities and the continually changing situations occurring as the pandemic persists.



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# Together, Better

A partnership of Nebraska Department of Education and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

## Shared Priorities, Goals, and Guiding Principles:

- Nebraska Will Have the Most Robust Community Well-Being Model in the US
- Connected Systems of Supports for Children and Families
- Children and Families Can Thrive with Support
- Intentional Family Engagement Promotes Sustainability
- Robust Community Well Being Will Impact Economic Growth
- Partnership Will Yield Greater Impact and Extend the Reach of Services
- Success and Well-Being for Children, Families, and Community

### In order to...

- Address learning and opportunity disparities
- Deepen investments in primary prevention
- Enhance efficiency for basic needs supports
- Ensure all can live "The Good Life"
- Rebuild connectedness and trust in institutions
- Reduce impact of poverty on life outcomes for youth
- Support pandemic recovery

### Key Strategies:

- Afterschool and Summer School
- Community Schools
- Early Learning
- Family Engagement
- Provide High-Quality Learning
- Rural Community Focus
- Whole Child Approach

### Existing WorkStreams to Leverage and Expand:

- Beyond School Bells
- 21st Century Learning Centers
- Communities 4 Kids
- Community Response
- Connected Youth Initiative
- Rooted in Relationships
- Postsecondary Readiness
- Sixpence
- Statewide Family Engagement Center

### Desired Results:

#### For Our Youth

- Academic Growth and Learning
- Connected to Advocates & Navigators
- Developed 21st Century Skills
- Enhanced Equitable Access to Needed Services
- Expanded Opportunities and Experiences
- Post-secondary Readiness
- Successful School Transitions

#### For Our State

- Inspire Future Partnerships with State Agencies
- Integrated Resources to Further Reach
- Maximized Services Without Duplication
- Productive School - Community Partnerships
- Robust Learning and Continuous Improvement
- Rural Vitality and Sustainability
- Supported Schools
- Thriving Families and Communities





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Through this unprecedented collaboration, NDE and BSB hope to encourage other organizations to partner with us to take full advantage of this one-time federal investment to establish new and enhance existing afterschool and summer programs that can provide all Nebraska youth with multiple, high-quality out-of-school time opportunities that will excite, engage, and inspire the next generation of Nebraska’s leaders.

## Highlights:

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Nebraska Children’s efforts for this unique public-private partnership will be administered within BSB’s ELO Innovation Network, part of a series of networks NDE is supporting to enhance Nebraska’s education system. Over the next three years, through December 2024, the ELO Innovation Network will recruit community organizations and school districts to identify, develop, test, and distribute best practices that will enhance high-quality, locally sustainable ELO programs across Nebraska. Activities will include designing, piloting, and scaling up new youth programming, parent engagement activities, youth empowerment, staffing, and partnership innovations. This work will be rigorously evaluated by Nebraska Children working in partnership with the UNMC Munroe-Meyer Institute and lessons learned will enhance future ELO programs.





## Early Learning - Math and Literacy

In response to the COVID pandemic, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), in partnership with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCF), formed the *Together, Better Initiative*, which is a series of strategic investments in authentic, evidence-based and reimagined learning supports and family and community engagement. NDE and NCF are collaborating to address these critical needs for students, families, and communities with five strategies, and this report provides an update on one of them: a deepening partnership to support early learning, particularly in early literacy.

For nearly ten years, the Sixpence Early Learning Fund has shifted the odds of lifelong success in favor of a growing number of Nebraska's infants and toddlers at risk. An innovative collaboration between our state's public and private sectors, Sixpence provides funding and enhances the quality and

efficiency of early learning and development services offered in communities throughout Nebraska. Sixpence demonstrates how targeted investments in the school-readiness of our youngest, most vulnerable children are also investments that strengthen our families, communities and state.

From the new American Rescue Plan, substantial new funding is now available to many local communities extending over at least a 36-month period. These funds are provided through provisions in the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III) portion of the Act. Using these funds, NDE and NCF have strengthened their partnership and have hired an Early Literacy Education Specialist to continue supporting Nebraska's youngest children.

### Highlights:

- Provided technical support to Educational Service Units and public school districts throughout the state related to the development and implementation of Nebraska's strategies to advance early literacy practices and the exploration of the Revised English Language Arts State Standards.
- Developed and delivered synchronous and asynchronous professional learning experiences related to the Science of Reading, K-2 evidence-based structured literacy practices, and acceleration of student learning.
- Continuous collaboration across multiple Nebraska Department of Education offices, including Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, Early Childhood Education, Special Education, Family Engagement, and NeMTSS.

### Ongoing work/Next steps:

- Continue with the support of Nebraska schools and educational entities in planning for learning acceleration in the areas of early and family literacy, including supporting students with disabilities and Multi-Lingual learners.
- In accordance with the Nebraska Standards Implementation framework, transition support to the implementation phase of the Revised English Language Arts State Standards through the guidance and recommendations on the selection and implementation of high-quality instructional materials and assessments for early literacy and family literacy.
- Begin work, in collaboration with Nebraska Department of Early Childhood Education and Sixpence Early Learning, to promote equitable access to inclusive programs and services in Early Literacy and provide professional development, technical assistance, and resources for personnel in early childhood care and education settings.
- Conduct a landscape analysis related to early mathematics education and develop recommendations for a statewide strategy and resources to support early childhood mathematics.



**Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - March**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Trip Request</u> <u>(i.e. 1st, 2nd,</u> <u>Other)</u>
Lisa Fricke	(NONE)			
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)			
Deborah Neary	(NONE)			
Kirk Penner	(NONE)			

**Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - March**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event Name</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
Patsy Koch Johns	(NONE)		
Patti Gubbels	(NONE)		
Maureen Nickels	NASBE Legislative Conference	March 27 - 29	Washington, DC
Robin Stevens	(NONE)		



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** February 18, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Cory Epler, Ph.D.  
Academic Officer

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with Rivet Education.

**RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In their current contract, Rivet Education is developing an overarching strategy for teachers and school leaders, including a professional learning scope and sequence, that supports the exploration of Nebraska's revised standards for English Language Arts (ELA). Additionally, Rivet Education is building out the educator-facing trainings based on the scope and sequence developed. This includes the materials for four, turn-key sessions that support exploration of the revised ELA standards. With this amendment, Rivet Education will follow a similar process to build out professional learning resources to support exploration of Nebraska's revised standards for mathematics.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):** March 2022

**ESTIMATED COST:** Contract is amended not to exceed \$140,000 (from current contract amount of \$94,000)

**FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:**

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Funds (Title IIA)
- New or Renewal: Contract Amendment
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 2021



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** February 23, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Melody Hobson

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Approve the use of up to \$1,560,000 to fund grants to selected educational service units for preschool through grade two support.

**RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In 2021, a workgroup consisting of staff from the NDE and ESUs worked together to create an early childhood needs assessment survey. The survey was disseminated statewide to school districts and ESUs and was designed to determine what needs teachers of preschoolers and primary grades need. Results of the survey indicated teacher support is needed in using research informed practices including teaching and assessment strategies appropriate for the age and development of the student.

This agenda item is to authorize the NDE use up to \$1,560,000 (\$780,000 per year for two years) to award up to six grants to ESUs, or consortia of ESUs. These grants will fund early childhood professional development specialists who will work directly with early childhood staff (teaching in preschool through second grade) to improve early childhood growth and learning, transition practices, and/or to implement appropriate whole child assessment.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING:** March 2022

**ESTIMATED COST:** \$1,560,000

**FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:**

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal ESSERS III
- New or Renewal: New



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** February 11, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Zainab Rida, Ph.D.  
Sarah Smith

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Grant the Commissioner authority to accept the grant and enter into the agreement with the Nebraska Department of Agriculture to expand the Nebraska Harvest of the Month program for use in early childcare settings.

**RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** This project will increase consumption of specialty crop products through: (1) adapting the existing Harvest of the Month repertoire—resources for K-12 schools to promote, educate on, and offer taste tests of 13 Nebraska specialty crop items—to target a pre-k/early education audience; and (2) running a promotional campaign in the Nebraska Thursdays program that engages new and existing participants in serving a Nebraska-sourced school meal on the first Thursday of each month, through a focus on use of plant-based proteins. At least 25 pre-k/early education sites will pilot Harvest of the Month, receiving toolkits, training, and technical assistance. Project components will be evaluated, with an assessment of knowledge gained about eating specialty crops by children at the pilot pre-k/early education sites; and data will be collected to measure the effectiveness of the Nebraska Thursdays promotional campaign, tracking change in program participation rates and usage of the Nebraska Thursdays web portal. The grant will also fund creation of a promotional campaign for Nebraska Thursdays, a program that assists schools in use of local foods.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):** March 2022

**ESTIMATED COST:** \$57,411 grant award

### FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: 2021 Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, H.R. 133 Stimulus Funding CFDA 10.170
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: Not applicable

**State Board of Education Annual Orientation and Business Meeting;**  
Thursday-Friday February 3-4, 2022  
Embassy Suites by Hilton Lincoln, Regents Ballroom A, 1040 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508  
[Link to Agenda and Attachments](#)  
[Link to Video of Meeting](#)

Publicized notice of the business meeting was given by posting notice on the Department's website and emailed to news media requesting notification, which gave the date, time, and location of the meeting.

**STATE BOARD WORK SESSION, Thursday, February 3, 2022, 8:30 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

President Nickels called the meeting to order at 8:52 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels  
Patsy Koch Johns  
Jacquelyn Morrison

Patti Gubbels  
Lisa Fricke

Robin Stevens  
Deborah Neary

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

Kirk Penner arrived at 8:58 a.m.

1.2. President Koch Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Koch Johns announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt shared information on the COVID-19 Meeting Protocol.

**2. BOARD TRAINING**

The State Board engaged in a work session with Linda Richards, Blane McCann and Jason Richards from PRISM Advisors to discuss State Board of Education governance.

**3. ADJOURNMENT**

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 12:50 p.m.

The State Board of Education will reconvene Friday, February 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at Embassy Suites by Hilton Lincoln, Regents Ballroom A, 1040 P Street, Lincoln, NE 68508.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, February 4, 2022, 9:00 a.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER** – President Patsy Koch Johns called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels	Patti Gubbels	Robin Stevens
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	Deborah Neary
Jacquelyn Morrison	Kirk Penner	

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.4. President Koch Johns led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3. President Koch Johns announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

Commissioner Blomstedt shared information on the COVID-19 Meeting Protocol.

**2. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

2.1. Career and Technical Education (CTE) Month Recognition

Katie Graham, Administrator of the Office of Career and Technical Education, recognized February as National CTE Month and introduced:

Cassidy June, Senior at Milford High School, FCCLA

Grady Johnson, Holdrege FFA, FFA American Start Farmer Award Finalist.

The two students shared information about their experiences in Nebraska Career and Technical Student Organizations.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

3.1. Board Members discussed that there are 29 public speakers that signed up and at 5 minutes each for speaking, the amount of time for public comment would be two hours and twenty minutes. Robin Stevens said that consistency is important to this Board and made a motion to reduce the amount of time for each speaker from five minutes to two minutes, second by Maureen Nickels.

After discussion of the motion, Robin Stevens made an amendment to the main motion to strike five and insert four (minutes), second by Jacquelyn Morrison.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea

Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Kirk Penner	Nay

The amendment passed.

Board Members voted on the main motion.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Kirk Penner	Nay

The following individuals from the public spoke against the Health Standards: Amanda Ripley, Ben Stangl, Bradley Reinke, Brenda McGill, Christina Campbell, Cindy Guthrie, Deb Miller, Elissa Martin, Elizabeth Tegtmeier, Gwen Easter, Jeanne Greisen, Jenna Derr, John Ringsmuth, Judy Derr, Julie Sheldon, Justin Thiel, Katie McClemens, Liz Davids, Mark Barflenecht, Mark Bonkiewicz, Marni Hodgen, Merlyn Bartels, Monti Starkey, Peg Fong, Sherry Jones, Teresa Carey, Ward Greisen

Jason Martinez spoke on disturbing content found in the Kearney High School library.

Deloris Tonack spoke on the Board's focus on the need for more educators in the state and continuing to expand the pool of educators to represent the diversity in our student population.

### 3.2. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 3.2., SBOE Written Public Comment February 2022.

## 4. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

### 4.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

4.1.A. No consent agenda items were requested for removal.

### 4.2. Report on Rules

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24 is with the Governor awaiting approval.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51 is on the Board agenda for approval today.

### 4.3. Board Operations Information

No report.

## 5. PRESIDENT’S REPORT

President Patsy Koch Johns thanked past President Maureen Nickels for the Board retreats scheduled the past few months. President Koch Johns noted from her perspective the biggest challenge for this year is filling the classrooms with teachers and creating ways for teacher certification that make sense.

## 6. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Maureen Nickels to approve the Consent Agenda.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Kirk Penner	Nay

The motion passed.

## 7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. **Executive Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Executive Committee met weekly since the January Board meeting to advise the Commissioner on legislative topics. The Committee has reviewed bills introduced in the Nebraska Legislature and brings to the Board recommendations for action on Board positions for education-related bills. The Committee recommends Board approval of the recommended Board positions.

The Committee also received an update from NDE staff and the Commissioner on the Commissioner’s appraisal process for the current year. The Committee will carry out the current process previously established by the Board. Changes to the Commissioner’s job description, evaluation instrument, and appraisal process may be considered for the next contract period. Board members will receive more information at a future date about participating in the appraisal process for the current year.

The Committee will continue to meet weekly to advise the Commissioner on legislative topics and will keep the Board informed of its advice to the Commissioner.

7.1.A. Action Item: Review 2022 Proposed State Legislation and Act on Board Positions

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Lisa Fricke to adopt the positions as presented by the Executive Committee.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea

Jacquelyn Morrison: Yea  
Kirk Penner Nay

The motion passed.

Board Members were encouraged to review the Nebraska Legislature website to review the bills listed. Board Members discussed the recommendations on each bill and what those recommendations meant and how the status could change. This list will continue to change as bills progress through the Legislative session.

7.2. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Chair, reported on the Committee Meeting.

The Committee met on February 3, 2022 at 2:45 p.m. Committee members include Patti Gubbels, Jacquelyn Morrison and Vice Chair Kirk Penner. Also in attendance were NDE Staff who have related roles to the Budget & Finance Committee. Those staff included Bryce Wilson, Jen Utemark, Lane Carr, Kristen Yates, Zainab Rida and Commissioner Blomstedt.

Time was taken at the start of the meeting to have each staff member share what their responsibilities are at the NDE and how their position fits in with the Budget and Finance Committee. The NDE discussed the contract with Dr. Barbara Buttes and the need to work with Native American children. A tribal education guide has been developed by Dr. Buttes that will be used as part of this work.

A Committee member asked for the length of the contract and if it could be renewed. The contract is for one year and may be renewed depending on a review of the success of the work.

One of the Committee members wanted to know if the Latino/Native American Liaisons Position allocation was increased since the presentation last month. Per the NDE the allocation was increased by \$30,000 which was less than the amount of the increase for the African American commission due to timing of contracts.

The timing of the contracts for the liaison for the African American and Latino positions was also discussed. Per NDE the contract for the Latino liaison is in process and the NDE is still working to find the appropriate contact to begin working on a contract for the African American liaison. The NDE has identified and begun work with these Commissions since they are currently in existence. Some of the at-risk populations do not have established Commissions available.

The Committee discussed what these positions would do. Per the NDE staff they would work with the Communities and families in need. They will help identify priority areas that need support and educate the NDE staff on the need areas with the respective groups. The intention for these positions is to be informative for future budget plans and resource allocations.

The Commissioner provided information on the proposed uses of the remaining ESSER funds which is heavily directed by stakeholder input. The following areas were highlighted: Early childhood support, teacher recruitment preparation, retention and elevation, rural community school initiatives to encourage collaboration amongst groups supporting rural education, supports for early childhood regional coaches and provide training for early childhood trainers.

The Committee discussed if it would be better to use these funds for infrastructure needs for early childhood centers or help navigate workforce barriers.

Additional use of the ESSER funds included an NDE position to cover needs as they arise related to administering the funds. The NDE is also looking to support the activity around the educator workforce by hiring a person who can coordinate different activities.

Last, the NDE staff covered the proposed technology needs that the ESSER funds will be used to address. The ESSER funds will be used in five different areas around technology and will be used to build on work that has been done through other Federal grants in the past. Some of the highlighted uses include working on providing resources for districts to use data and modernization of data warehouses to communicate more efficiently between agencies.

The Committee recommended bringing the ESSER proposal forward to the full Board for action.

The Committee reviewed the Monthly Board travel expenses and had no issues or concerns.

The Committee reviewed in-state travel authorization with no issues or concerns.

The Committee discussed what other roles should this Committee be involved with. Discussion included the following ideas

- Review of data related to operations, contracts, and other topics
- Looking at collection and data points across the education system
- Accountability and data related to contracts that are scheduled for renewal

The Committee will continue discussion on the Committee's duties and bring any revisions to the full board for approval.

7.2.A. Action Item: Accept the Commissioner's Proposed Plan for use of the remainder of American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) Funds.

Motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Patti Gubbels to accept the Commissioner's proposed plan for use of the remainder of the American Rescue Plan (ESSER III) Funds.

Board Members discussed concerns about the use of the ESSER III Funds. There is a specific timeline of when a proposal needs to be filed as to how the remaining funds may be spent.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Deborah Neary to lay the motion on the table until later today to provide the Commissioner an opportunity find out when the federal report is due.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea

Kirk Penner

Nay

The motion passed.

President Koch Johns called for a recess at 12:39 p.m. The meeting resumed at 1:29 p.m.

7.2.B. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item

7.2.C. Review In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.3. **Planning and Evaluation Committee** – Patti Gubbels, Chair, reported on the Committee.

NDE staff members in attendance at the Committee meeting introduced themselves and shared how their work responsibilities are associated with the Committee.

The Committee orientation included:

Setting expectations of the Committee chair and Committee members, reading the B2 Board Committees description of the Planning and Evaluation Committee, defining and exemplifying Committee duties as indicated in the B2 Committee description, reviewing the draft list of regular activities with the intent of developing a Committee calendar.

Cory Epler, Marissa Payzant, and Deb Romanek provided an update on the Nebraska College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics revision process.

Specific topics discussed:

- History of math standards development and current standards revision processes and progress
- Summative math assessment data 2017-2018 and 2018-2019 with noted pandemic effects on data
- Instructional materials use data indicating an increasing trend of number of schools using high-quality instructional materials and professional development and materials
- Roles and responsibilities of groups involved in writing and advising standards development
- Key considerations for revision as of January 2022
  - Identifying big math ideas to reduce the number of standards
  - Focus on grades 6-8 on proportional reasoning, ratios, and arithmetic of rational numbers
  - Examination of high school math standards to identify skills relevant to future learning
  - Strengthening the data strand across grade levels
  - Strengthening process standards throughout the standards document

7.3.A. Discussion Item: Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for Mathematics

There was no further discussion.

7.4. **Rules and Regulations Committee** – Jacquelyn Morrison, Chair, reported on the Committee

The Rules and Regulation Committee met on February 3, 2022; all members of the Committee were present.

The Committee started with introductions by staff members who discussed their role in the rule and regulations process. Staff members present were Ryan Foor, Amy Rhone, Brian Halstead and Brenda Wid.

The Committee conducted an initial orientation for the Committee. Brian Halstead outlined the rules and regulations process required by state statute as outlined in the Administrative Procedures Act. The Committee also discussed the purpose of rules and regulations and the delegation of authority for rules and regulations from the Legislature.

The Committee discussed the Agency's Rules and Regulation revision process and learned that the process is currently being improved. This ongoing improvement process presents an opportunity for the Committee to inform the process. The Board was also presented with the current review timeline for rules and regulations, which currently requires that each rule and regulation be reviewed every five years. The Committee in its work will review this document alongside the NDE staff and see if it should be updated. Another area that the Committee will specifically need to address is where in the rule and regulation revision process will a revision proposal be presented to the Committee.

The Committee also discussed factors which lead to rules and regulations being reviewed outside of the five-year review timeline. Those include legislative changes, federal statute changes, and recommendations from advisory committees.

As the State Board appoints members to advisory committees, the Committee considered whether advisory committee representatives should be invited to Committee meetings to provide their insight, whether the Committee should review appointments to those Boards, and whether there should be congruency among those Committees.

At the conclusion of the orientation discussion, the Committee discussed Board documents that relate to the Committee and whether they should be reviewed and updated. Those include board policies B4, P4, and B13.

After the orientation discussion, the Committee reviewed an Action Item regarding Rule 51, Regulations Standards for Special Education Program. This item had previously been discussed by the previous Students Success and Access Committee.

The Committee unanimously agreed to move forward the action item to the Board and recommends adopting the approved action item for Rule 51.

The next item on the Agenda was the Committee update. Rules and Regulations that are upcoming for revision include Rule 21, Rule 25, Rule 51 and Rule 52, possibly Rule 71 and Rule 72. Rule 24 is waiting for Governor approval.

7.4.A. Action Item: Approve the proposed revision to Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51 (Rule 51), Regulations and Standards for Special Education Programs. Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second by Maureen Nickels to approve the proposed revision to Title 92 NAC Chapter 51.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion passed.

## 8. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

### 8.1. Report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Content Area Standards

Jacquelyn Morrison, Chair, provided the final report from the Ad Hoc Committee.

The Committee was formed at the November meeting of the Nebraska State Board of Education (“Board”) and began meeting shortly afterward. The first meeting of the Committee was 11/9/21. At the 11/9/21 and 11/17/21 Committee meetings, the Committee compiled responses received from Board Members at the November meeting. The responses encompassed the concerns of Board Members with the Health Standards Process. After reviewing the information in the responses, the Committee drafted recommendations related to the Policy Committee. The recommendations, which centered around the composition of standing committees, are incorporated into Recommendation Number One of this report.

During the meetings, the Committee also drafted questions to submit to the Nebraska Department of Education (“NDE”) to gain clarity about NDE’s current standards processes. On 11/30/21, the Committee sent the drafted questions to NDE. A list of the questions sent are incorporated into the final report as Attachment A. On 01/04/21, NDE staff sent responses to the Committee with answers to the questions. The responses are incorporated into the final report as Attachment B.

At the 12/3/21 meeting, the Committee met with Board President Maureen Nickels to request permission to make early recommendations to the Policy Committee regarding the formation and make up of Committees. Permission was granted, and recommendations were made to the Policy Committee at the first Policy Committee meeting following the request. The Committee also gave an update to the Board President and sought clarification on the length and purpose of the Committee.

On 01/06/22, the Committee requested permission from the Commissioner to utilize Ryan Foor to do additional research for the Committee. The Committee specifically requested more information about the participation and role of other state Boards in their respective standards development

processes. The Commissioner granted permission to the Committee and the Committee met with Ryan Foor on 01/07/22, to outline their requests. The compiled materials are incorporated into the final report as Attachment C.

On January 19, 2022, the Committee met to review the responses provided by the NDE staff. The Committee discussed the responses and potential next steps for the Committee and NDE staff. The Committee created a list of recommendations to include in this report and subsequently met on January 23, 2022, to finalize the report. This report concludes the work of the Committee.

Recommendations: After reviewing all information presented to the Committee, the Committee has five recommendations to the State Board of Education and NDE.

The recommendations are as follows:

1. The Board improve the makeup and operation of Standing Committees.
2. The Board define the role of the Board in the Standards Processes.
3. The Board continue to work on the standards development process through the Planning and Evaluation Committee.
4. The NDE enlist the services of a consultant; and
5. The Board approve content standards for all subject matter areas.

## 9. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

### 9.1. Permanently reject any development of Health Standards.

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Robin Stevens that the State Board of Education hereby permanently rejects any development of Health Education Standards. The State Board of Education received substantial input on the draft Health Standards and recognizes that from this day forward, any decision or any policy regarding health education standards, including sex education, sexual orientation and gender identity must be left entirely to local school Boards, parents within the district and medical professionals.

Board Members discussed the previously adopted motion and the difficult conversations and compromise to develop the previous motion. The Health Standards are not required by state statute and would not be mandated but provide schools a starting point for teaching.

Lisa Fricke:	Nay
Patsy Koch Johns:	Nay
Deborah Neary:	Nay
Maureen Nickels:	Nay
Robin Stevens:	Nay
Patti Gubbels:	Nay
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion failed.

### 9.2. Adopt a Policy on Local Control of Non-Required Standards

Motion by Kirk Penner, second by Robin Stevens to adopt a policy on local control of non-required standards.

Board Members discussed this motion, and it is counter to the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee for Content Area Standards.

Motion by Robin Stevens, second by Deborah Neary to refer this proposed policy on local control of non-required standards to the Planning and Evaluation Committee to report back at the March 2022 meeting for full Board discussion and potential action.

Board Members discussed the motion and why this policy was being referred to the Planning and Evaluation Committee when approving the policy is a function of the Executive Committee.

Lisa Fricke:	Nay
Patsy Koch Johns:	Nay
Deborah Neary:	Nay
Maureen Nickels:	Nay
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Nay
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay
Kirk Penner	Nay

The motion failed.

Board Members voted on the main motion.

Lisa Fricke:	Nay
Patsy Koch Johns:	Nay
Deborah Neary:	Nay
Maureen Nickels:	Nay
Robin Stevens:	Nay
Patti Gubbels:	Nay
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay
Kirk Penner	Yea

The motion failed.

### 9.3. Discussion on books available in school libraries.

Board Member Penner brought forward the discussion of obscene materials found in school libraries to bring awareness to the parents. Mr. Penner indicated that local school boards need to be aware of what is in the school library, not for censorship, but awareness. Penner reads excerpts from books he found objectionable.

Motion by Jacquelyn Morrison, second Lisa Fricke to take from the table the motion to accept the plan for the use of ESSER III Funds.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Yea

Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea
Kirk Penner	Nay

The motion passed.

Commissioner Blomstedt provided that if the NDE makes an initial determination how the reserved funds will be used before the deadline, even if the funds are not yet committed for that purpose or are later committed for a different purpose, the response is requested to the US Department of Education by the close of business on February 28, 2022. The NDE will need to a proposal by February 28, 2022, and the Board will have the ability to revisit the matter.

## **10. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

President Koch Johns referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

## **11. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

(NONE)

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

President Koch Johns adjourned the meeting at 3:36 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, March 4, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**March 3, 2022**  
**107th Legislature, Second Session**

**State Board Positions to be Proponent at Hearings**

- LB690**     *(Senator Blood)* – Redefine basic skills competency for purposes of teachers' and administrators' certificates or permits - **Education Committee**
- LB754**     *(Senator Bostar)* – Extend the commercial air filter pilot program of the State Department of Education – **Signed by Governor**
- LB758**     *(Senator Brandt)* – Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Farm-to-School Program Act – **Signed by Governor**
- LB838**     *(Senator Kolterman)* - Require the State Department of Education to create an aid program relating to the early childhood workforce - **Education Committee**
- LB868**     *(Senator Morfeld)* - Change provisions relating to a classification system administered by the State Department of Education - **General File**
- LB902**     *(Senator Aguilar)* **Speaker Priority Bill** - Adopt the Nebraska Career Scholarship Act –; **Education Committee**
- LB945**     *(Senator Linehan)* - Adopt the Teach in Nebraska Today Act and provide for adjustment to income for income tax purposes for student loan repayment assistance - **Education Committee**
- LB960**     *(Senator Vargas)* - Eliminate certain basic skill and content test requirements for eligibility for teaching certificates - **Education Committee**
- LB1087**    *(Senator Stinner)* - Appropriate federal funds for Aid to Community Colleges for dual enrollment - **Appropriations Committee**
- LB1105**    *(Senator Day)* - Provide for Autism Awareness Plates - **Transportation & Telecommunications Committee**
- LB1128**    *(Senator DeBoer)* - Adopt the Student Loan Repayment Assistance for Teachers Act - **Education Committee**
- LB1161**    *(Senator Wishart)* - Appropriate federal funds to the State Department of Education for programs and interpreters that provide services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing - **Appropriations Committee**
- LB1203**    *(Senator Briese)* - Appropriate federal funds for child care programs - **Appropriations Committee**
- LB1218**    *(Education Committee Priority Bill)* **Education Priority Bill** - Change provisions relating to certification of school employees and student loan forgiveness - **Education Committee**

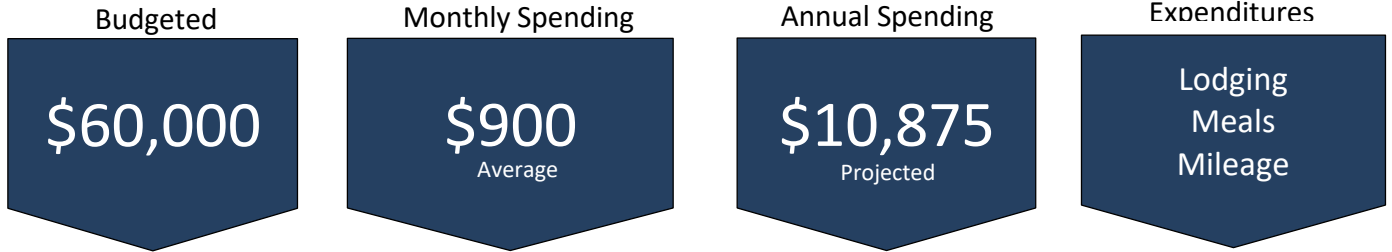
**State Board Positions to be Opponent at Hearings**

- LB768**     *(Senator Albrecht)* - Change provisions relating to establishment of academic content standards for school districts - **Education Committee**
- LB1077**   *(Senator B. Hansen)* - Prohibit public schools, public postsecondary institutions, and governmental entities from training or teaching certain concepts relating to race and sex and provide for withholding of state funds - **Gov't, Military & Veterans Committee**
- LR278CA**   *(Senator Linehan)* - Constitutional amendment to eliminate the State Board of Education and provide for the Governor to appoint the Commissioner of Education - **Education Committee**

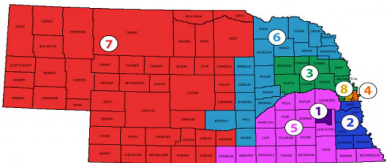


2021-2022 Board Travel

*At-A-Glance*



Even under pandemic conditions, the Nebraska Board of Education has retained the ability to attend meetings, conferences and conventions, sustain meaningful and dynamic work in addition to engaging in new opportunities provided through innovation and virtual technology during unexpected circumstances.



*Board Member Activity*

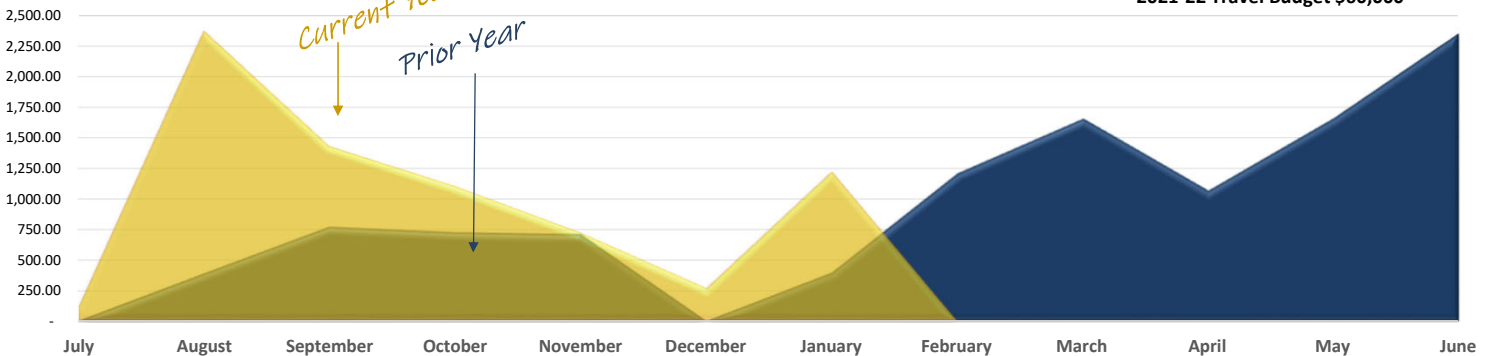
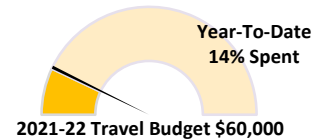
District Board Member

1	Patsy Koch Johns, President
2	Lisa Fricke
3	Patti Gubbels <i>Appointed Jan. 2021</i>
3	Rachel Wise <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>
4	Jacquelyn Morrison <i>Appointed Jan. 2021</i>
4	John Witzel <i>Outgoing Dec. 2020</i>
5	Kirk Penner <i>Appointed Dec. 2021</i>
5	Patricia Timm <i>Outgoing Nov. 2021</i>
6	Maureen Nickels
7	Robin Stevens, Vice President
8	Deborah Neary

	Current Year July 2021-June 2022		Prior Year July 2020-June 2021		Variance	
	February	Year-To-Date	February	Year-To-Date	February	Year-To-Date
1	\$0	\$212	\$0	\$173	\$0	\$39
2	\$0	\$1,044	\$111	\$988	-\$111	\$56
3	\$0	\$2,342	\$290	\$290	-\$290	\$2,052
3	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,038	\$0	-\$1,038
4	\$0	\$1,047	\$112	\$112	-\$112	\$935
4	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,683	\$0	-\$1,683
5	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
5	\$0	\$239	\$162	\$401	\$0	-\$162
6	\$0	\$1,164	\$232	\$959	-\$232	\$205
7	\$0	\$1,964	\$112	\$1,645	-\$112	\$319
8	\$0	\$660	\$188	\$682	-\$188	-\$21
<b>Annual Budget</b>		<b>\$8,672</b> <b>14%</b>	<b>\$1,208</b> <b>13%</b>	<b>\$7,971</b> <b>13%</b>	<b>(\$1,046)</b>	<b>\$701</b>
<b>Over/(Under) Budget</b>		<b>(\$51,328)</b> <b>86%</b>		<b>(\$52,029)</b> <b>87%</b>		

2020-21 vs. 2021-22

*Expenditures by Month*



Historical Annual Expenditures - FY2021 (\$11,000), FY2020(\$35,000), FY2019(\$48,500)

**In-State Travel Authorization Reports - March**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F</b>
Lisa Fricke	(NONE)			
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)			
Deborah Neary	(NONE)			
Kirk Penner	(NONE)			

**In-State Travel Authorization Reports - March**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Event Name</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Board Bylaw B16 Code A-F</b>
Patsy Koch Johns	(NONE)			
Patti Gubbels	NRCSA Spring Conference	March 17-18	Kearney, NE	E
Maureen Nickels	High Plains Public Schools (Board Visitation)	March 15	Polk and Clarks, NE	E
	NRCSA Spring Conference	March 17-18	Kearney, NE	E
Robin Stevens	(NONE)			



## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** February 22, 2022

**TO:** Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Cory Epler, Ph.D.  
Academic Officer/Administrator for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

Marissa Payzant, Ed.D.  
Assistant Administrator for Teaching, Learning, and Assessment

Deb Romanek  
Mathematics Education Specialist

### PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Discussion Item: Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for Mathematics

### RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska Revised Statute 79.760.01 requires the Nebraska State Board of Education to adopt measurable academic content standards in the subject areas of reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies. The statute requires the State Board to review and update the standards every seven years. Pursuant to 79.760.01, and under the leadership of the Nebraska Department of Education, the process to review and revise Nebraska's College and Career Standards for Mathematics will begin in Fall 2021. The current mathematics standards were approved by the State Board of Education in 2015.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):** March 2022

## Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics Revision Process Overview

Nebraska Revised Statute [79-760.01](#) requires the State Board of Education to “develop a plan to review and update standards for reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies” every seven years. Content area standards that are measurable, appropriately rigorous, and scaffolded become the framework for locally determined curricula. Guided by local and national resources, including an [evaluation of state standards](#) by the Fordham Institute (2018), a group of Nebraska educators is working to revise the 2015 Mathematics standards, [Nebraska's College- and Career-Ready Standards for Mathematics](#).”

**September 2021.** The standards revision process began in the Fall of 2021 with Public Input Survey #1. The survey was disseminated through the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) website and directly to groups including the Nebraska Mathematics Cadre, the Nebraska MTSS network, District Assessment Contacts, and District Curriculum Contacts. The survey was also sent to state and national mathematics experts identified by the NDE's Mathematics staff. State mathematics experts are individuals with specialized training in mathematics and who work closely and extensively with Nebraska educators. Likewise, the identified national mathematics experts have previously collaborated with both the NDE and Nebraska educators as well as conducted and published mathematics research.

**October 2021.** Public Input Survey #1 sought feedback on the 2015 Mathematics standards including the content, or the knowledge and skills students are expected to learn, and the rigor, or cognitive complexity, of the standards. The questions were organized into four grade bands—K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and 9-12, respectively, and responses were made either individually or in groups (i.e. ESU staff developers, a school mathematics department, etc.). The survey was open between October 22, 2021 and November 16, 2021 and received a total of 292 responses. The majority of respondents identified as educators (e.g. Pre-K-12 educators, school or district administrators, postsecondary education representatives) followed by parents and business/industry representatives. Educators and other stakeholders were also invited to provide input to [nde.mathstandardsinput@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.mathstandardsinput@nebraska.gov).

Next, the NDE began recruiting educators for revision teams. Invitations to apply were sent to Educational Service Units (ESUs), post-secondary institutions, the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics (NATM), and the Nebraska Mathematics Cadre (a statewide collaboration between the NDE and ESU math professionals) along with a request to share with educators. The NDE received 134 applications and used a rubric to assess applicants' qualifications. The rubric utilized a 4-point scale that evaluated educators' experiences with teaching, curriculum development, standards writing, and working with diverse groups of learners, i.e. special education and EL students. In addition, the NDE math staff determined applicants' geographic locations, i.e. rural, urban, and suburban districts in various regions of the state, to ensure writing team members represented Nebraska's diverse student population

**November 2021.** Selection notifications were sent to applicants in early November. Revision team members will receive a stipend upon completion of the work in the amount of \$600.00. Applicants who

had indicated their willingness to lead groups were then identified as team facilitators according to their grade-level experience. The role of the team facilitators is to organize meeting times and locations, provide an agenda to writing team members, track and maintain attendance, and communicate progress with other writing team members and the NDE staff. Team facilitators will receive a stipend of \$750.00. Writing team members and team facilitators also signed an assurance document confirming their status as individual contractors.

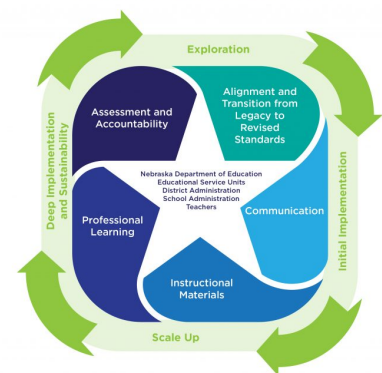
Writing team members participated in an initial, virtual meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in which they received an orientation to the revision process, previewed and discussed survey data, and began coordinating future meetings.

**December.** Throughout December, team facilitators with their revision team members as part of the planning and preparation phase. Members of the revision also began a book study, [\*Inigorating High School Math: Practical Guidance for Long-Overdue Transformation\*](#) by Steven Leinwand. In December, two stakeholder engagement sessions (K-5 and 6-12) were held with mathematics leaders from districts and ESUs. Meetings with the NDE staff (Cory Epler, Marissa Payzant, Deb Romanek, and Jane Strawhecker) are ongoing and occur weekly. This time is used to discuss considerations of the revision team, coordinate revision activities, and develop agenda items for future meetings. December 13<sup>th</sup> marked the first meeting with subject matter experts from the Nebraska University system. This meeting allowed university subject matter experts to provide input relative to this guiding question: *What do students need to know and be able to do in order to be successful in postsecondary mathematics coursework without the need for remediation?*

**January.** The January weekly check-in meetings were also used to begin discussing possible standards rollout resources. The NDE would like to, as staff did for the revised English Language Arts standards, develop professional learning modules to support educators in the *Exploration* stage of implementation (see right). The modules would orient educators to the major revisions to structure and content, the instructional shifts, and considerations for initial implementation (SY 2022-23). A steering team, consisting of the NDE staff, ESU staff, and representation from Nebraska's MTSS, would design the professional learning series.



#### Nebraska Content Area Standards Implementation Framework



Throughout January, the revision teams continued to meet virtually. In addition, a meeting with subject matter experts from Nebraska's State Colleges took place on January 25<sup>th</sup>. This conversation allowed state college subject matter experts to provide input on this guiding question: *What do students need to know and be able to do in order to be successful in postsecondary mathematics coursework without the need for remediation?* Table 1 includes key considerations for the revision as of January 2022.

**February.** The mathematics revision team convened for in-person work on Monday, February 21<sup>st</sup>. Group members worked in their grade band teams to continue developing the standards draft, as well

as across grades to begin aligning the standards and indicators. Teams spent the morning recording information to be communicated with above- and below-grade-level teams pertaining to deleted or relocated standards and any additions of new standards and/or indicators. They also wrote questions for the other grade levels as discussion topics for the afternoon. The NDE staff provided team members a transition chart that indicated essential questions posed to later or earlier grade bands. For example: *Which proposed Kindergarten revisions have important implications for Pre-K?* The latter portion of the day was spent in purposeful discussion and making appropriate adjustments. A closing activity consisted of a whole-group reflection and guidance from the NDE staff regarding next steps for development of the first standards draft. Throughout the day, the teams used a wide variety of math research and resources, including ongoing feedback from public input surveys, post-secondary advisors, and subject matter experts.

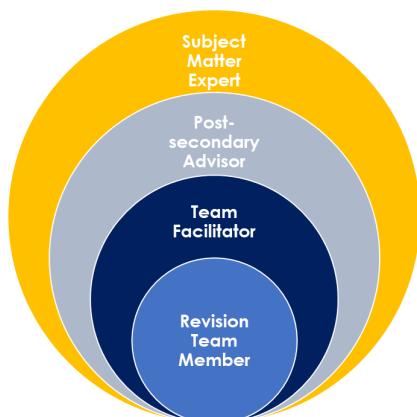
The internal team, which consists of NDE staff, continues meeting weekly during the spring months to discuss progress of the revision and organize upcoming events.

**Next steps.** The writing teams will meet for an in-person collaboration on Monday, March 28th in Kearney during the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Mathematics' (NATM) annual conference. They will review the proposed draft as well as have the opportunity to attend professional learning sessions.

The writing teams will meet throughout the Spring, working within and across grade bands and content areas. Following a public release of a first draft in April 2022, Public Input Survey #2 will open to collect feedback on the proposed draft. In addition, the NDE staff will identify and coordinate a series of "futuring panels." These create an opportunity for representatives from Nebraska's business and industry community to provide feedback on the draft. Employer engagement informs the revision team of the essential knowledge and skills employers seek from high school graduates entering the workforce.

The NDE staff will then identify members of an editing team, selected from the revision team, to prepare the next draft. These individuals will meet in the summer of 2022. Validation and sign-off from postsecondary education will also be procured in the summer months. The anticipated approval date for the revised College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics is September, 2022.

**Roles and responsibilities.** NDE's Office of Teaching, Learning, and Assessment, which oversees the development of content standards, uses principles of the [RAPID Model](#) for its revision process. This model emphasizes the importance of establishing clear roles for those involved in decision-making within an organization.



This graphic illustrates the various roles of educators involved in the revision of content area standards. *Revision team members* (see pg. 6) are directly responsible for carefully reviewing the current standards while considering recommendations from various stakeholders. This team adds, removes, or revises standards and indicators based on their grade appropriateness,

measurability, specificity, and scaffolding. These decisions determine the content of the final, approved document. *Team facilitators* coordinate the revision team meetings and establish channels of communication between the NDE and other team facilitators. *Post-secondary advisors* are university faculty who oversee mathematics education programs, and/or prepare pre-service teachers in one of Nebraska's 16 Educator Preparation Programs. The advisors provide feedback and expertise via multiple channels including surveys and collaboration with the NDE staff and revision team members. Their feedback is critical to the development of standards, as they help determine the extent to which the standards support college and career readiness for Nebraska's students. These individuals also share important updates to other faculty and pre-service teachers. *Subject matter experts* are engaged flexibly throughout the process. Subject matter experts provide feedback on key considerations for revision (see Table 1), review standards drafts, share content-specific research and resources, and communicate with other stakeholders during the process of revision.

**Key Considerations.** Writing team members have been engaged in activities and conversations that build their mathematics knowledge and help them develop a shared vision for mathematics education for Nebraska's K-12 students. Table 1 outlines key considerations for the revision that have emerged from collaborations amongst the educators involved in the process. A goal of the next phase is to establish recommendations that will shape the content, scope, and rigor of the revision.

Table 1

**Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Mathematics  
Key Considerations (As of March 2022)**

Considerations	Rationale
Identification of “big” mathematical ideas to consider reducing number of standards	<p>Teachers indicate there is insufficient time to develop students' understanding of math concepts. Fewer, but more focused, standards may allow teachers and students time to develop conceptual understanding of key math ideas. A refined distribution of concepts would allow students to understand the “why” of a math concept and how to apply it in real-world contexts.</p> <p>For example, current K-2 standards acknowledge the importance of building number sense. To identify the “big ideas” and foundational framework, the team has proposed adding <i>Numeric Reasoning: Counting and Cardinality</i> along with <i>Numeric Reasoning: Base 10</i>, in order to refine the distribution of number sense concepts.</p>
Grade 6-8 focus on ratios and proportional reasoning and arithmetic of rational numbers to build a strong foundation prior to high school	<p>A shift in focus to these foundational concepts in the middle grades would better prepare students to be successful in high school Algebra courses.</p> <p>For example, to encourage more instructional time to build foundational understanding for high school algebra at the middle grades, a shift toward emphasis of numerical operations, including ratios, would be added to the standards.</p>
Closely examine standards found in high school math to identify skills that may not be relevant to future learning	Public input survey data and feedback from revision teams and subject matter experts indicates the Advanced Algebra 2 course may not be beneficial to students. The first semester is typically a repeat of the full year Algebra 1 and the second semester contains topics that, with technology, may be outdated.
Strengthen the data strand across the standards K-12	A frequent theme of survey data and conversation thus far has been the need to develop standards related to understanding data and basic statistics. It is important to be able to collect, display and interpret data accurately.
Strengthen the process standards throughout the document	In past input from Nebraska business and industry leaders, the process standards reflected skills that were more important for their employees to have than the content of mathematics. The current format does not provide the emphasis that is desired.

	<p>The proposed revisions reflect input from various stakeholder groups and may include the addition of <i>Reasoning</i>. The number of processes at 4-5 would increase the likelihood of implementation by classroom teachers. In addition, to make the process standards more transparent, a consideration is to include a visual across every page of the document.</p>
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**The mathematics standards revision team is represented by the following:**

**Districts**

- Omaha Public Schools
- Grand Island Public Schools
- Millard Public Schools

**Elementary and Middle Schools**

- Wahoo Public Schools
- Gretna Public Schools
- Hastings Public Schools
- Kearney Public Schools
- Papillion LaVista Public Schools
- DC West Community Schools
- Lincoln Public Schools
- Grand Island Public Schools
- Omaha Public Schools

**High Schools**

- Harvard Public Schools
- Scottsbluff Public Schools
- Columbus Public Schools
- Umoho Nation Public Schools
- Westside Community Schools
- Cambridge Public Schools
- Cross County Community Schools
- Thayer Central Community Schools
- Lexington Public Schools
- North Platte Public Schools
- Nebraska City Public Schools
- Fremont Public Schools

**Educational Service Units**

- ESU 8

**Non-Public Schools**

- Faith Christian School
- Creighton Preparatory School
- Boys Town High School

**Nebraska Department of Education**

- **Cory Epler, Ph.D.**, NDE Academic Officer
- **Marissa Payzant, Ed.D.**, Director - Content Area Standards & Instruction
- **Deb Romanek**, Mathematics Education Specialist
- **Jane Strawhecker, Ph.D.**, Professor of Teacher Education, University of Nebraska Kearney

**Members of the mathematics standards revision team, organized by work strand:**

	Full Name	School / District (Role)	ESU
Gr K-2	Judy Stukenholtz	Wahoo Public Schools (Kindergarten teacher)	2
	Andrew Boone	Gretna Public Schools (1st grade teacher)	3
	Whitney Flower	Grand Island Public Schools (K-5 building principal)	10
	Adeline Johnson	Hastings Public Schools (2nd grade teacher)	9
	Sara Kucera	Kearney Public Schools (1st grade teacher)	10
Gr 3-5	Laura Melonis	Papillion-LaVista Public Schools (4th grade teacher)	3
	Janna Giles	DC West Community Schools (5th grade teacher)	3
	Jason Weseman	Grand Island Public Schools (5th grade teacher)	10
	Amy Barton	Lincoln Public Schools (3rd grade teacher)	18
	Marni Driessen	Omaha Public Schools (K-6 curriculum facilitator)	19
Gr 6-8	Tami Whitted	Millard Public Schools (6-12 math curriculum facilitator)	3
	Susan Christensen	Faith Christian School (4-8 math teacher)	10
	Kevin L Pettigrew	Valentine Community Schools (7-8 math teacher)	17
	Alicia K Davis	Lincoln Public Schools (8th grade math teacher)	18

	Mallory Charvat	Elkhorn Public Schools (7th grade math teacher)	3
	Rachel Kluthe	Seward Public Schools (7th grade math teacher)	6
HS Data	Jenne Gregor	Creighton Preparatory School (H.S. math teacher)	3
	Audrey Smalley	Harvard Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	9
	Shelby Aaberg	Scottsbluff Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	13
	Julie Kreikemeier	Columbus Public Schools (H.S. math teacher, math coach)	7
	Heidi Rethmeier	Educational Service Unit 8 (Staff developer)	8
HS Geom	Ann Marie Scott	Umo <sup>ho</sup> Nation Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	1
	Michelle Mika	Boys Town High school (H.S. math teacher)	3
	Angela Mosier	Westside Community Schools (H.S. math teacher)	3
	Peter Bogardus	Cambridge Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	11
	Jennifer Lange	Cross County Community Schools (H.S. math teacher)	7
HS Alg.	Deb Bulin	Thayer Central Community Schools (H.S. math teacher)	5
	Peg Fisher	Lexington Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	10
	Sasha Welch	North Platte Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	16

	Jason Bartman	Nebraska City Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	4
	Alexander Way	Fremont Public Schools (H.S. math teacher)	2



TO: Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D.  
Commissioner

FROM: Brenda Wid, Legal Services

DATE: February 16, 2022

SUBJECT: Report on Rules

**RULE APPROVED BY AGO**

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51, *Regulations and Standards for Special Education Programs*

Approved by AGO 02/15/2022

**RULES AWAITING APPROVAL FROM GOVERNOR**

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24, *Regulations for Certificate Endorsements*

Sent to Governor 12/10/2021

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 51, *Regulations and Standards for Special Education Programs*

Sent to Governor 02/16/2022



## Adoption of Ad Hoc Committee on Content Area Standards Recommendations

In accordance with the recommendations in the committee's report:

- The Executive Committee continue to review bylaw B2: Board Committees to improve the makeup and operation of standing committees, and recommend adoption of any revisions to the Board;
- The Executive Committee create a policy that defines the role of the Board in the development and revision of content area standards, and recommend adoption of the policy to the Board;
- The Planning and Evaluation Committee assume responsibility for guiding development, monitoring progress, and affirming revision of the NDE staff-managed content area standards development process;
- The Commissioner enlist the services of an external consultant to review and make recommendations to NDE staff to improve the content area standards development and revision processes; and
- The Executive Committee create a policy that directs the Board to approve content area standards for all subject matter areas, and recommend adoption of the policy to the Board.

# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

Individuals who submit written public comment for a given meeting should not plan to speak before the Board in live testimony at that month's meeting.

Individuals may submit only one written public comment entry per month. Multiple submissions will not be accepted.

Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Vicki

Last name \*

Ahrens

City \*

Kearney

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Thank you for taking my public comment. I am addressing the topic of health standards (CSE). As a parent and grandparent, I strongly encourage you to scrap the health standards from being allowed in our schools. (I don't see a need to reiterate what the standards are.) Our children should absolutely not be forced to learn these immoral values. CSE is so inappropriate and immoral no matter how you look at it. Let our children be children! Let their families teach these topics at home, according to each child's maturity level which is known best by their families. It's not a public school's job. Please love and respect Nebraska children by scrapping the harmful health standards.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Vicki

Last name \*

Ahrens

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Lynn

Last name \*

Olson

City \*

North Platte

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The majority of Nebraskans who did not want the health and sex education standards a year ago, still do not want them today. These issues should be decided at the local level, where parents have more impact, and can hold the school board members accountable for their votes.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Lynn

Last name \*

Olson

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Carol

Last name \*

Drake

City \*

Naponee

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to you asking that you not develop health and sex education standards. Those should not be set by neither federal nor state Departments of Education. The majority of Nebraskans are against these standards and I would sincerely hope that you would respect the voters of Nebraska's wishes.

Respectfully,  
Carol Drake

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Carol

Last name \*

Drake

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Sharon

Last name \*

Sevenker

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

State Board of Education:

I am writing to express my opposition to the sex education standards you continue to push in our state. It is appalling that we even have this discussion—we are not California where indoctrination begins in the womb. Indoctrination isn't even a strong enough word to describe what happens in the lives of California children, who are bombarded with this ideology. We are and have been a state where common sense and family values have been foremost for generations. I vehemently oppose these proposed sex standards to sexualize and groom our children according to a liberal theology of multiple options for "sexual identity" and "gender orientation." It is the job of the parents to teach their children about sex and not have the schools try and push some radical behavior modification program on our children. Please do the right thing for our children in Nebraska and do not adopt these inappropriate standards.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Sharon

Last name \*

Sevenker

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Nancy

Last name \*

Bentley

City \*

GERING

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I stand with Kirk Penner and Protect Nebraska's Children. I urge each of you to vote to prevent the development of health and sex education standards at the state level!

I ask you to vote and champion local control and local development of such standards.

Parents should have the voice to determine health and sex education curriculum in the schools that they support with their tax dollars in partnership with the teachers and local boards of education.

As a Grandparent and supporter of the local school systems, I do not want the state setting the health and sex education standards.

I understand the State Board of Education has this policy determination on their plate to discuss and vote on. I implore you to listen to the voters and Protect Nebraska Children's Voice and vote NO resoundingly on any State Board of Education development of health and sex education standards in the schools.

Please reach out to me if your opinion differs, I would most certainly like to hear your logic on this important family matter.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Nancy

Last name \*

Bentley

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Kenneth

Last name \*

Buttermore

City \*

Gretna

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Curriculums, health standards and school values must be the decision of each local school board. The state can give ideas and propose ideals but the local board should make the decisions, not be forced to comply with something that is contrary to their beliefs.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Kenneth

Last name \*

Buttermore

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Sally

Last name \*

Meinecke

City \*

St paul

State \*

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear State Board of Education,

I remain opposed to the State Health Standards. Decisions for our children should remain in local control.

The State Health Standards should be done away with once and for all.

Thank you,

Sally Meinecke

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Sally

Last name \*

Meinecke

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Leslie

Last name \*

Sikyta

City \*

Ord

State \*

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraska's do not want the state to control our Children's Health Education Standards. It needs to be under local control not the states. Please hear our plea for this and vote accordingly.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Leslie

Last name \*

Sikyta

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Kevin

Last name \*

Foley

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please hear the peoples request for local standards for health and sex education.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Kevin

Last name \*

Foley

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Janet

Last name \*

Buttermore

City \*

Gretna

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We still do NOT want health and sex education standards. Please kill this!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Janet

Last name \*

Buttermore

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Adam

Last name \*

Curry

City \*

Papillion

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The majority of Nebraskans do not want health and sex education standards at the state level. I stand with Kirk Penner and champion local control and local development of health and sex education standards.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Adam

Last name \*

Curry

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Alejandro

Last name \*

Santamaria

City \*

Omaha

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Hi, we continue to be against the health and sex standards proposed by the board last year and how the process played out in general. Please let's not repeat it again, the standards should be up to the local schools to develop and engage parents and teachers together to come up with comprehensive guidelines. Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Alejandro

Last name \*

Santamaria

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

Hall

City \*

Arnold

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear School Board. Please vote NO to the health and sex curriculum in our schools! Children are NOT sexual beings and should not be forced to become sexual beings. The schools need to concentrate on reading, writing, and arithmetic and stay out of the other stuff.

Thanks

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

Hall

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Vanessa

Last name \*

Fanning

City \*

Wauneta

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing today to inform you that myself and many of our community members as well as other surrounding communities are very opposed to the proposed health education standards. We want health education to be controlled by local school boards. This is overreach, listen to those that elected you. Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Vanessa

Last name \*

Fanning

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Courtney

Last name \*

Otto

City \*

Gretna

State \*

Nebraska

## Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I do not support health and sex education standards in the school that usurp my rights as a parent to determine what is appropriate for my child to know at a certain age. Sex education is a private discussion for parents to have with their children. It is not science education for children in school. The discussion of anatomy and reproduction is acceptable. That is all that students need, scientifically. The rest is one's own personal lifestyle opinions. The majority of Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards. Additionally, the same individuals responsible for the lies and manipulation of the process previously, are still in leadership and will still be part of any future process. Nothing has changed. The ad hoc committee created to review the standards process will be putting forth recommendations that WILL be voted upon, and based upon public statements from every board member, we know how they will vote. Nothing has changed. The right of parents to chart their child's course for their child's good and well being, is being stripped from parents by a bunch of bureaucrats who have one goal - to control families and push their agenda on local school districts. Please give back to the people the control of their own local school district.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Courtney

Last name \*

Otto

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Esther

Last name \*

Sander

City \*

Seward

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to you again to let you know I am still very concerned about the health education standards you tried to pass last year. District 5 board member Kirk Penner is the only member who cares about the Nebraska people think. Remember people are watching what you do and there are elections coming up! The majority of Nebraskans who did NOT want the health and sex education standards a year ago, and who still do NOT want them today. 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. And still, you all, aside from Kirk Penner, persist and are determined to develop health and sex education standards. I ask you to not vote for any state control in this area and allow each local district to create their own standards. Listen to the people and do the right thing!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Esther

Last name \*

Sander

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Julia

Last name \*

Howe

City \*

Bellevue

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I oppose sex education standards at the state level because of the poor and extremely inappropriate materials first produced by this board and also because it needs to be at the local level for control and development.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Julia

Last name \*

Howe

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Steele

City \*

Kearney

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am in favor of local control of all sex education in schools

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Steele

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Steven

Last name \*

Suttles

City \*

Mitchell

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Scrape the health standards permanently!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Steven

Last name \*

Suttles

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## Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Rebecca

Last name \*

Suttles

City \*

Mitchell

State \*

Ne

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Scrape the health standards!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Rebecca

Last name \*

Suttles

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Judith

Last name \*

Upson

City \*

Beaver City

State \*

Nebraska

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing in support of Mr. Penner and the fact that he wants to support those of us who do not like it that you are not listening to the public and our desire to have local control over standards in our states. We are watching your actions and do not approve. You can not think that we are going to forget and stop protecting the children of Nebraska. You do work for us and we do not approve of your agenda. We will be organized and vote you out. Please change your thinking. Represent those who elected you.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Judith

Last name \*

Upson

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Christina

Last name \*

Pyle

City \*

Omaha

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I oppose the development of health and sex education standards at the state level. Curriculum, standards, and education should be controlled locally.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Christina

Last name \*

Pyle

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Amber

Last name \*

Endres

City \*

Bloomfield

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am opposed to having State health and sex education standards. Any standards regarding health or sex education should be left to local schools to implement, which therefore gives parents more control of what their children are learning in school. Parents are responsible for their children's education especially in regards to health and sexuality, so please allow parents to have that ability! Please vote no to implementing state health and sex education standards!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Amber

Last name \*

Endres

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Debbie

Last name \*

Hallock

City \*

Omaha

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The majority of Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards. I oppose this view and don't understand why you won't allow this on a local level. I want to be on record that I OPPOSE your standards!! It's time to listen to the people of Nebraska!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Debbie

Last name \*

Hallock

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Cyndi

Last name \*

Splear

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraskans have been very vocal for a long period of time in opposition of the health and sex standards the NDE wants to continue to shove in our faces.

Can you not read what 90% of your survey opposing this standard stated?

Why are you not hearing us now?

We are still concerned, we are still engaged and watching . We still do NOT nor will want your perverted ideology thrust on our children. Nothing has changed.

We can also still see the same individuals responsible for former lies and manipulation remain in leadership .We understand you will be part of a new process so , we will be even more watchful.

I want to thank the board member (s) that are and hopefully will listen to the voices of the voting public. Listen to parents that are trying to protect their children.Listen to God loving conservatives who pray for you to do the right thing.

Hear us please.

Thank you.

Cyndi Splear.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Cyndi

Last name \*

Splear

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Scott

Last name \*

Andrews

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

A survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. And still, you board members, aside from Kirk Penner, persist and are determined to develop health and sex education standards.

Why do you continue to work against the will of students & families. Stop this crap and focus on real education.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Scott

Last name \*

Andrews

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Barbara

Last name \*

Luzum

City \*

GRAND ISLAND

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I continue to be concerned and opposed to the development of health and sex education standards at the state level. I support local control and development of standards. The majority of those in NE are also opposed to teaching CRT propaganda in our public schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Barbara

Last name \*

Luzum

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Joshua

Last name \*

Magill

City \*

ARNOLD

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing in opposition to state sex education standards in our public schools. Please leave this in the hands of local communities and family discretion.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Joshua

Last name \*

Magill

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Sandra

Last name \*

Rucilez

City \*

Kearney

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

For the love of all that is good and holy just do the right thing!!  
Remember how & why you got the position you hold and do what's right!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Sandra

Last name \*

Rucilez

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Cynthia

Last name \*

Montgomery

City \*

North Platte

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am requesting that you DO NOT support a health and safety standard. Please leave these issues at the local level. Sex education is currently done very well in our schools. Please don't change this, let the parents and local schools decide for themselves. Thank you

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Cynthia

Last name \*

Montgomery

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Gary

Last name \*

Davis

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I wish to express my strong and unwavering concern and belief that local school districts should decide for themselves to establish or not to establish health and sex standards for their students. There is no compelling reason to have one state political agenda pushed onto every district in the state. Local school districts have awakened the sleeping parents to what is being taught in the schools today and a lot of parents are not happy with those in charge. It is much easier for a political ideology to control the education of our children by one state standard then by allowing parents involvement at local school districts. Let local parents and local school districts decide.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Gary

Last name \*

Davis

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Fern

Last name \*

Place

City \*

Grand Island

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The school is no place for this sex education to be taught regardless of age of a child. This is for parents to provide.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Fern

Last name \*

Place

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Tammy

Last name \*

Hanel

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing to you AGAIN fighting for the innocent children of Nebraska. I thought your job as a sitting board member was to look out for the best interest of our children & to protect them, but apparently that's not the case. Remind me again who you work for? It's obvious you don't represent the 90% of parents in this state who, without ceasing, have opposed this board's push for crt, cse, & sel at every turn. I ask again, who then are you working for? In case you haven't paid attention, parents are pulling their kids from public schools in droves. By promoting & pushing an agenda a huge majority of the people in this state don't want in their public schools, you are the problem. It's clear at this point that you're not reading the emails, listening to those who show up to speak at the board meetings, or listening to phone calls made. There must be only one reason why: you have no intention to because your mind is already made up. If you're not beholden to the 90% of people who oppose this evil agenda, then who are you beholden to? The people will not give up on this & will replace each & every one of you when it's your time for re-election. Light always overcomes darkness!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Tammy

Last name \*

Hanel

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Molly

Last name \*

Magill

City \*

Arnold

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear,  
Nebraska State Board of Education

As a citizen and concerned parent in the state of Nebraska, I am against the development of state health and sex education standards. This topic should be left under the control of the parents and local discernment. Parents should be able to choose when topics like this are introduced to their children, NOT the state/government.

Sincerely,

Concerned Nebraska Parent  
Molly Magill

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Molly

Last name \*

Magill

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Paul

Last name \*

Lauby

City \*

Lexington

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To the board members,

My message to you is very brief. I believe the state should not be setting the health and sex standards in our schools. Local boards, with the input and oversight of parents, are best suited to make these decisions for our children's education. I have found no one that thinks otherwise and I believe the vast majority of Nebraska as feel as I do. Please do not vote for these standards.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Paul

Last name \*

Lauby

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Linelle

Last name \*

Kelley

City \*

Inman

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I oppose the establishment of sex education standards by the state board of education.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Linelle

Last name \*

Kelley

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Laurie

Last name \*

Brokaw

City \*

Bancroft

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

## Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraska State Board of Education,

My name is Laurie Brokaw. I live in Bancroft, NE. My husband and I own and operate a small engine repair business here in Bancroft. We are concerned and watchful where and how our tax dollars are spent. We DO NOT want our dollars going to fund some radical, evil program aimed at INDOCTRINATING our public schools children with pornographic materials, elementary, high school nor colleges!!

God has bless us with nine children, four BOYS and five GIRLS who call us Grandpa and Grandma. This year they are ALL attending Nebraska schools. God made each of them special and unique, BOYS and GIRLS.

The Bible tells us in Genesis 1:27, "So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; MALE and FEMALE He created them."

The Bible also tells us in Luke 17:1-3a, "Jesus said to his disciples: "Things that cause people to sin are bound to come, but woe to that person through whom they come. It would be better for him to be thrown into the sea with a millstone tied around his neck than for him to cause on of these little ones to sin. So watch yourselves."

Someday, we will ALL stand before our Maker and answer for our actions. I am SO thankful for Mr. Penner! Thankful that he is willing to step up, speak out and represent the MAJORITY of Nebraskans.

I will continue to pray for each of you. EYES OPEN and HEARTS CHANGED!!

Actions have consequences and SO DO ELECTIONS!!

Thank you for taking time to read this.

A concerned Nebraskan and Grandma,  
Laurie Brokaw  
103 Washington St  
Bancroft, NE 68004

---

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Laurie

Last name \*

Brokaw

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Rachel

Last name \*

Beasley

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I'm writing you today to show my support of Kirk Penner's proposal in allowing health education standards to be made at the local level. The parents of Nebraska did not want the health standards proposed last year and we still do not want those health standards. We want to keep our child pure and innocent. We want to be the ones to decide when and at what age it is appropriate to talk about such topics. This is our privilege as a parent and it is something we cherish; for we know them better than anyone else.

Please show us as parents that you hear us and give us the control over our children's education.

Thank you for your time.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Rachel

Last name \*

Beasley

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Donna

Last name \*

Teten

City \*

Yutan

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

With all due respect, I have not heard of anything as harmful to children as the health and sex standard being pushed by a radical agenda. There are those who wish to deprive our children of their innocence, indoctrinate them in the way they should think, and confuse them as they go through a normal progression of maturity. I wish to make clear my opposition to this measure as a tax payer in this state, as a mother, and as a grandmother. Those who's plan it is to advance this initiative, are guilty of abuse, and I believe, do not represent the majority of Nebraskans, nor the majority of US citizens. Please respond with reason and a sound mind. Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Donna

Last name \*

Teten

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### Identification

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First name \*

Rochelle (Shell)

Last name \*

Ramey

City \*

Kearney

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear State Board of Education:

I absolutely STAND AGAINST all your efforts to reintroduce your "health" and "sex education" standards! They are abusive and extremely unhealthy and furthermore are an abusive attack upon our children's God given natural modesty, innocence and purity. Even though your polls have shown that 90% of those surveyed were NOT in favor of your standards, yet you remain deaf to the majority of Nebraskans, and deaf to the countless speakers at public meetings who voiced the same.

A GREAT THANK YOU to Mr. Penner who is not deaf and who understands the wisdom and importance of maintaining local control!

Please stop all your efforts to push radical agendas which are intentionally designed to turn our children from godly, healthy lives!

SINCERELY,

Rochelle (Shell) Ramey

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Rochelle

Last name \*

Ramey

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Maureen

Last name \*

Johnson

City \*

Omaha

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am one of a growing majority of NE residents who does NOT feel it is within the responsibilities of NSBoE to develop health and sex education standards for our schools or even as recommendations for our schools. I feel that in the past you have overstepped your bounds and have lost all credibility with Nebraskans. You are seemingly more of a distraction and detriment to the good people and especially the children of this state. If it ever comes to a vote on whether the SBOE should continue to exist - I think you would find that a majority see little value in the continued existence of this body.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Maureen

Last name \*

Johnson

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Ronald

Last name \*

Lawson

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear Nebraska State Board of Education,

I am absolutely opposed to making State wide Health and Sex Education standards. These are best left to parents who know their children better than any educator ever could, let alone any committee could ever can.

Thanks, Ronald Lawson

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Ronald

Last name \*

Lawson

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Blaine

Last name \*

Weir

City \*

Aurora

State \*

NE

## Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I stand with Kirk Penner in opposition of the changes that you want to make to the sex education that would be taught in our public schools in Nebraska. I believe the best people to make those decisions are parents first, then 2ed the local school board. There is no data I have found that suggests these changes you are suggesting, would help the future generations taught in our schools. However there is overwhelming evidence indicating how these changes have impacted our society in a negative way in other areas around our nation. Like others in our state and nation I am more engaged than ever in what's taking place at a local, state, federal level. Not afraid to hold our public official accountable, or vote them out of office. Because they have an bad agenda or lost focus of their responsibility to the office they hold.

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Blaine

Last name \*

Weir

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Caitlin

Last name \*

Jay

City \*

Sprague

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As a mother, as well as an educator, I am very concerned by the proposed standards currently under consideration. I strongly urge any and all involved in the consideration process to unequivocally turn down these discriminatory, dangerous standards.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Caitlin

Last name \*

Jay

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Angela

Last name \*

Nosal

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please listen to the majority of Nebraskas who do not want the health and sex education standards that the board was trying to pass last year (2021). Health education should not consider talking to kindergarteners about different genders. These are children. Studies show that most "gender confused" children are choosing this based off of confusion and peer pressure. Once a child goes through puberty the body and hormones will align with the gender and sex that the child was born with. XX = girl, XY = boy. Follow the correct science.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Angela

Last name \*

Nosal

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Carol

Last name \*

Allen

City \*

Pender

State \*

NE

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

### Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing again as a concerned tax payer. Per the many board meetings / public speaking and written comments it shows the majority of Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards. I am deeply saddened that the same individuals responsible for the lies and manipulation of the process previously are still in leadership and will still be part of any future process. Nothing has changed. At the Feb. meeting, board member Kirk P. asked for a vote that would have prevented the development of health and sex education standards at the state level, instead, championing local control and local development of such standards, sadly no other board members agree with this.

I also think it's BAD that your board is now limiting the time for the public to speak and this horrifying things found in public school libraries. This needs to be addressed by the NSBOE and STOPPED.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Carol

Last name \*

Allen

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Jaimie

Last name \*

Montag

City \*

Seward

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are opposed to any statewide standards in this area. This sensitive area of education should be handled within the family. Thank you!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Jaimie

Last name \*

Montag

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Daniel

Last name \*

Behm

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing this to you in OPPOSITION to introducing CRT and CSE in Nebraska schools, and especially to elementary students. These topics have no place in education, and are meant as a tool to confuse and distract young minds.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Daniel

Last name \*

Behm

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Kaila

Last name \*

Mailahn

City \*

Denton

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Hello,

Please base your decision on the voice of the people. Base your decisions on those of us that care about appropriate boundaries for children and also pay the school taxes.

I am NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. And still, the state board members push this down our throats to develop health and sex education standards.

WE DO NOT WANT HEALTH AND SEX EDUCATION STANDARDS. I worked on a child psychiatric unit in Lincoln, Nebraska for 9 years. I saw repeatedly what sexual abuse and pedophilia does to children. Why do the liberals continue to want to legalize traumatizing our children? Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards. Period.

Vote to represent what the people want. . . which is NO health and sex ed. standards.

Kindly,

Kaila Mailahn

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Kaila

Last name \*

Mailahn

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Brianna

Last name \*

Rerucha

City \*

Bellwood

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please vote NO to the new health and sex education standards!! I have been a resident of Nebraska my whole life (28 years) and love this great state. I'm now raising 2 kids of my own and I am STRONGLY OPPOSED to the new health and sex education standards. Please do not let these into our school systems!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Brianna

Last name \*

Rerucha

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Amy

Last name \*

Bishop

City \*

Belgrade

State \*

NE

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

90% of the surveys returned wanted control of sex education at the local level yet you continue to ignore the public and continue down your path of perversion. We can petition for your removal from the Board if you continue to ignore the public.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Amy

Last name \*

Bishop

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Andrew

Last name \*

Vinton

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am a concerned parent and am very disappointed that, regardless of overwhelming survey results which reflect distaste of state level health and sex education standards, the Department of Education continues to ramrod this ideology that undermines a parent's right to decide what is best for their own child. I support board member Kirk Penner in urging local control and development of health and sexual education standards, where heads of families can have more direct involvement in the development of such standards. There is not a "one-size fits all" standard for such a critical maturity-based topic such as sexual education. I and the majority of parents in Nebraska will not stand for this direct attack on parental rights.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Andrew

Last name \*

Vinton

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Teresa

Last name \*

Cook

City \*

Kearney

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Over and over again the majority of Nebraskans have asked you to scrap the standards. This is a local issue and you need to let this go and listen to the majority. Scrap the standards.

The trust has been broken and it will have zero chance to be restored until you scrap the proposed health standards. Shame on you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Teresa

Last name \*

Cook

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Karen

Last name \*

Salyer

City \*

Kearney

State \*

NE

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. That has not been shown to have changed in any significant way. Still, the board members, aside from Kirk Penner, persist and are determined to develop health and sex education standards. Nebraskans, myself included, are tired of government policy makers going beyond the scope of their assigned responsibility and mandating policies that should remain under local control. STOP state level discussions on health and sex education and get back to work on academics where you belong!

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Karen

Last name \*

Salyer

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Brian & Judy

Last name \*

Borden

City \*

Holdrege

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As retired educators w/ 45 and 42 years of service in public education, we first attended your monthly meetings in September and October. We cannot describe the depth of our disappointment in the immature actions of the board members at both of these meetings. You have evidently lost your moorings in serving the schools of Nebraska. To hire Planned Parenthood to build a health curriculum is worse than hiring a fox to guard the chicken house. It is quite evident that you do not want to serve which will most certainly end your time on this board at the elections which are not too far away. We want to thank you for awakening the more than a majority of concerned parents and Grandparents across this great state. Hopefully you will be able to find a position where you can help people.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Brian & Judy

Last name \*

Borden

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Sara

Last name \*

Rajewski

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am opposed to any and health and sex education standards statewide. This is an area for parents to teach their children

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Sara

Last name \*

Rajewski

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

S Wayne

Last name \*

Smith

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I continue to be opposed to the NE State Board of Education Health Standards. Please drop this project.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

S. Wayne

Last name \*

Smith

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Joseph

Last name \*

Vinton

City \*

Cortland

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please drop this wrongful sex education. I find it offensive and very irresponsible to teach this when in fact the parent is the primary educator of their child. They are to teach sensitive issues.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Joseph

Last name \*

Vinton

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Erin

Last name \*

Hall

City \*

Gretna

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I do not agree with the health and sex education standards the current committee has been pushing. Bringing in people to consult from out of state, who do not represent Nebraskan values, is unacceptable. I am grateful for Kirk Penner for standing up for the morals our state wants to promote. It should not be up to a small committee of outsiders to tell local school boards what must be taught. These standards initially proposed are teaching age inappropriate materials and are completely unacceptable. The committee needs to be disband, allowing local school districts to make the best decisions for their students.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Erin

Last name \*

Hall

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

McEndarfer

City \*

Aurora

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Good evening,

I'm writing today to express my concern about sex education and health standards that are still in the BOE's consideration. Parents are responsible for teaching their children about sex and their family's belief in gender identity, etc. It is not a schools job to teach or kids about sex organs and get them used to discussing them in public or with their peers. Please permanently remove the proposed health standards from the Board's consideration.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

McEndarfer

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Ashley

Last name \*

Meyer

City \*

Saint Paul

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Dear State Board of Education,

I am writing today in opposition of the health and sex education standards. Our children should be taught this information in their homes, by their parents. These standards are teaching young children information that will draw attention to their differences. Children are blind to their differences until adults bring light to them. Kids inherently love each other until they are taught by adults that they are different or wrong.

Kids are also inherently weary of the opposite sex until they reach near puberty. They feel uncomfortable when taught this information to young. Please save the innocence of our children. Allow them to be Kids, innocent, loving kids until their parents feel they are ready, then allow those parents to teach their children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Ashley

Last name \*

Meyer

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Teri

Last name \*

Taylor

City \*

BLAIR

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Good morning.

I am a concerned tax payer and parent in Nebraska. I am asking you to vote against the liberal sex education standards and to keep the choices for what our children are taught at the local level. Nebraska is a state of values and ethics of which the potential changed sex ed standards would violate. Kirk Penner has it right in keeping it local. We cannot vote in such dangerous education standards or take the rights away from parents. There is no one other than parents who have their children's best interests in mind. We do not want the sex education standards forced on our children

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Teri

Last name \*

Taylor

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Kenda

Last name \*

Kuehner

City \*

Kearney

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We need to completely scrap the proposed sex education standards. It is very obvious throughout the state that this is not what constituents want for their children. Kirk Penner is on the side of his constituents and is standing up for local control of these appalling and hideous items. As a licensed RN, these are not age appropriate and have no business in our schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Kenda

Last name \*

Kuehner

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Denise

Last name \*

Lowry

City \*

Cairo

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I remain very concerned about this Board and it's pushing of CRT and Sex Education standards, far out of their legal responsibilities.

As a retired teacher, I had seen the intent by socialist, amoral individuals and groups and know the goals are, in truth, to divide our children and promote wrong thinking and acting.

This Board needs to return to their purpose, as stated in the Nebraska Constitution and laws, and stop destroying real education!

Thank you! Denise Lowry in Cairo, NE

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Denise

Last name \*

Lowry

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Amy

Last name \*

Graham

City \*

Kearney

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Our three kids went through the public school system. They're grown now. When they were in school If the health education had included what has been proposed I would have home schooled them.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Amy

Last name \*

Graham

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Pamela

Last name \*

Frecks

City \*

Cambridge

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I hope that you are aware of the exposure of the horrible plan for this state and our nation concerning these "health standards". Granted, we trusted our state school board to prioritize academic standards and we were terribly deceived. The deception is over and the great state of Nebraska will not succumb to the evil you are attempting to promote. Scrap the standards and any other devious plan you have!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Pamela

Last name \*

Frecks

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Elizabeth Jane

Last name \*

Moore

**City \***

Nebraska City

**State \***

NE

**Written Comment**

There is a limit of 750 words.

**Written Comments \***

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I just want to go on record to say that I have not forgotten the effort by the Nebraska State Board of Education to 'recommend' health and sex education standards to all the schools of Nebraska. I also want to say that I have reviewed those guidelines and speak from my own researched knowledge that I am diametrically opposed to all guidelines that reference gender as being fluid and sex outside of marriage as being a healthy approach to life. Yes, I am a Christ follower and believe what the Bible says is written for our good when taken in the total context of its message .. that we are sinners in need of a Savior. To teach our children that the things mentioned above are normal and okay, is to open up pathways of life to them that will bring them harm. (Those who struggle with these things should be offered counseling to help them navigate these difficult waters. I am not without compassion.) It also undermines the beliefs of all parents who do not want to have their children taught these concepts. The school used to be a safe place for our children, but not any more. This saddens me.

**Signature**

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

**Signed,**

First name \*

Elizabeth Jane

Last name \*

Moore

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Denton

Last name \*

Hoy

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

NE State Board of Education

Dear Board Members:

A clear majority of Nebraskans surveyed in a NE Department of Education survey indicated they were against health and sex education standards coming from the State Board of Education. If health and sex education standards are written, the majority of Nebraskans want those standards to come entirely from local communities. Trying to impose those standards from above, using an authoritarian mentality, is insane. That approach shows no RESPECT for individual communities.

Sincerely,  
Denton Hoy  
Omaha, NE

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Denton

Last name \*

Hoy

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Clayton Bruce and Cheryl

Last name \*

Willis

City \*

KEARNEY

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are still watching and saying "No" to the CSE/CRT push and pressure for curriculum. The one board member that gave voice for the majority of Nebraskans is Kirk Penner. He asked for a vote that would have prevented the development of health and sex education standards at the state level, instead, championing local control and local development of such standards. He was the only board member to support this proposal. Remember, the survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. And still, board members, aside from Kirk Penner, persist and are determined to develop health and sex education standards. We do not want this type of activity. We still say "No."

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Clayton B and Cheryl

Last name \*

Willis

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Myrtle

Last name \*

Burney

City \*

Wilcox

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We do NOT NOT NOT want sex issues presented at school. That is the parents responsibility

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Myrtle

Last name \*

Burney

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Jurgena

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

To the board members,

I think it should be very obvious Nebraska parents, grandparents and guardians do not want the CRT and CSE standards you are all advocating except Kirk Penner. Your wishes should not override the will of the people. Nationwide parents are speaking out and making it clear you will be removed from your positions via voting or resignations if you persist in pushing these abhorrent agendas. This agenda is not one that you can push through without repercussions. Parents can remove their children from the public school systems, alternatives are available. Vote wisely.

Linda Jurgena

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Jurgena

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Nancy

Last name \*

Price

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As you know a survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards.

I am in opposition to the NDE board developing and voting on the standards, that should be placed under local control.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Nancy

Last name \*

Price

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Barry

Last name \*

Denning

City \*

Central City

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Schools are for TEACHING children, NOT INDOCRINATING them to a liberal view point. This Board should be listening to the majority of parents in Nebraska. Please scrap the CRT, CSE, and SEL standards and let's get back to teaching science, biology, math, and social studies base upon ACTUAL history.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Barry

Last name \*

Denning

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Mary

Last name \*

Nickel

City \*

Cambridge

State \*

NE

## Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing my comment for the upcoming Nebraska State Board of Education meeting. I have either been to your SBOE meetings or submitted online my comments and streamed your meetings since June 2021. I should be saying our meetings as you all were elected by the people of Nebraska to do your utmost BEST to ensure the children of Nebraska are provided with an education that will prepare them to be productive, effective, successful citizens upon graduation. Instead, I have heard your priority being sexuality, gender fluidity, LBGQT+ rights/recognition and yes some Critical race theory! Why are you as a board not concerned with how poorly Nebraska children are doing acedemically? Shame on you, that is your job!! I am also appalled that members of your board that acted less than professional like dishonesty and deceit have never even been held accountable namely Deborah Neary. The only member I find that has any backbone is Mr Penner. The survey which you originally put out there was witness of what majority of Nebraskan's want and believe in but that was also disregarded. Last month, all but 1 person on the board voted to continue with the sexual "health standards". Local control is needed not one size fits all for all Nebraska children. I;m not sure why I keep submitting these comments as you obviously ignore them but I'm going to keep trying as I feel stongly that it is the "RIGHT" thing to do!

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Mary

Last name \*

Nicklel

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Evelyn

Last name \*

Kumm

City \*

Blair

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Nebraska State Board of Education,

I and a majority of Nebraskans am strongly against the Nebraska Department of Education's development of health and sex education standards for Nebraska schools. Instead, I support local control of schools and local development of such standards. I support parents having control of their children's education. Please listen and act in accordance with the desires of the majority of the people of Nebraska.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Evelyn

Last name \*

Kumm

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Jacquelyn

Last name \*

Jenner

City \*

Sutherland

State \*

NE

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I'm am OPPOSED TO and ABSOLUTELY DO NOT approve of the "sex and health standards" that the State School Board is trying to force on our schools. This choice should be given to each school, not mandated. These issues DO NOT belong in school. There is absolutely no academic benefit to any of the young minds that the school board is trying to corrupt. Stay focused on the main subjects and keep the pornography OUT OF OUR SCHOOLS!

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Jacquelyn

Last name \*

Jenner

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Barbara and Joseph

Last name \*

McNamara

City \*

Omaha

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

As citizens of Nebraska, we DO NOT want development of Nebraska state health and sex standards in education. It's time the NE Board of Education listens to the majority of citizens and stops pushing their own agenda. They work for US! We want what WE think is best for OUR children.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Barbara and Joseph

Last name \*

McNamara

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

bill

Last name \*

longnecker

City \*

mccook

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please know that I believe it is the family that should educate their own children on sexual matters and sexual education.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

bill

Last name \*

longnecker

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Winifred

Last name \*

Callahan

City \*

York

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are still very concerned about the proposed program for sex education in our schools.. Board members who continue to propose/vote for such proposals, that polls show are clearly against the will of the public' will see the reaction at the polls. Please respect parental rights for educating their children in this area according to their own convictions.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Winifred

Last name \*

Callahan

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Clara & Bob

Last name \*

Frazier

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

**Written Comments \***

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

March 1, 2022

To: The State Board of Education

From: Clara & Bob Frazier

RE: Health and sex education standards

I am Clara, mother of four, grandmother of six and a retired Registered Nurse. I am a four-year resident of Lincoln, but have raised my family and lived in Nebraska for 60 years. It was with pride that our three sons graduated from Nebraska Wesleyan University. We always perceived the overall education system in Nebraska to be one of honor. It seemed reasonable "then" to support Nebraska and Lincoln Public Schools with our tax dollars. We had no reason to doubt or mistrust the actions of the Board Members of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Today we are questioning and declaring our opposition to the funding of the Lincoln and Nebraska Public Schools who teach outside of the backbone curriculum like math, science, reading, writing etc. Please bring pride and honor back into our education system.

One suggestion is to utilize curriculum resources to support quality education of students who want to be teachers so they can pass the standard testing. Lowering standards does not make the educational system better or teachers better. Children are taught with less qualified teachers which decreases the learning of the students.

As a school registered nurse, I was continuously aware that the number of unwed teen pregnancy continued to be climbing. Teaching students sex education at school will not reduce or prevent that. It will only teach them to be more curious and promiscuous. It is a domino effect. Parents are responsible for the personal health and education of their children, not the government or Department of Education.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment.

**Signature**

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

**Signed,**

First name \*

Clara

Last name \*

Frazier

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Peggy

Last name \*

Reier

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am one of many citizens concerned with the sexualization of our children that is being encouraged by the decisions of this Board. I am a part of the majority not in favor of the health and sex standards that are being considered. I would ask that you not go forward with the implementation of these standards.

Peggy Reier

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Peggy

Last name \*

Reier

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## Nebraska State Board of Education

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Kathy

Last name \*

Peter

City \*

O'Neill

State \*

Nebr.

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I'm asking again for the State Board of Education to scrap the health standards. These standards are setting our children up for death- death emotionally, physically, emotionally and spiritually. Think of the children,not your own agenda.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Kathy

Last name \*

Peter

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Miller

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am voicing my opposition to the health/ sex education that the department wants to instill into our children have on the taxpayers dime. Sex education needs to be done at home based on what the parents want their children taught not based on what others beliefs / opinions. It is inappropriate to be showing any type of sex acts to any children of any age. This is child abuse and child pornography. What this all sounds like is people with a little power and an altered mindset and those that want this need to be prosecuted as it is child abuse. I do not want my tax money used for this subject.

How is it that 90% of parents voice opposition but the department just does what it wants. I believe you work for us and you do not know better than parents.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Linda

Last name \*

Miller

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Mindy

Last name \*

Bednar

City \*

Roca

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

## Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

The survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those survey participants were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards.

Health and sex education standards with verbal and pictorial descriptions of sexual acts are harmful to minors due to their "explicit and detailed verbal descriptions or narrative accounts of sexual excitement and sexual conduct" This criteria is stated by the 2006 Nebraska Statute 28-808 obscene literature and minors.

This explicit literature needs to be addressed to protect our youth. What needs protecting? Their mental and emotional health and developing brain. Although this essay speaks of teens, it is the same for children.

It is important to be aware of the development of the brain. Defend Young Minds explains teens have an underdeveloped prefrontal cortex which is where "Rational thought patterns and self-control take place. But this area of the brain isn't fully developed. That means .....they don't always have a natural ability to make safe, healthy decisions on their own. A teen's dopamine system which pursues and receives pleasure is in overdrive. Youth "feel more and get a higher hit of dopamine than an adult. Dopamine cravings are also stronger at this age"

Let me explain it another way. Research shows adults think with the prefrontal cortex, the brain's rational part. This is the part of the brain that responds to situations with good judgment and an awareness of long-term consequences. Teens process information with the amygdala. This is the emotional part.

To conclude regarding brain research, in teen's brains, the connections between the emotional part of the brain and the decision-making center are still developing—and not always at the same rate. That's why when teens have overwhelming emotional input, they can't explain later what they were thinking. They weren't thinking as much as they were feeling.

This would support the statement of Stanley Greespan MD. ".We have found that emotional and intellectual development cannot be separated; that these two functions come together as the child actively explores the emotional, social, and cognitive challenges at each of these stages."

How does this correlate to reading? Teens exercise their responsible decision-making skills and moral development as they reflect on their favorite characters' choices and the outcomes that result. So do we want that reflection to be flavored by accounts of sexual behavior and experimentation found in books?

Jennifer Burek Pierce writes in her book, *Sex, Brains, and Video Games: A Librarian's Guide to Teens in the Twenty-first Century* "...studies indicate sexual content proliferates across media types—so whether teens prefer magazines, the Internet, or MTV doesn't matter—and it is the pervasiveness of these messages that is influential rather than simply their content." She notes, "Despite the mythic power of teen hormones, teen sexual behavior is influenced by many factors, including parental involvement and media messages... We want to believe books have powerful positive effects, so we can't deny the possibility they may have negative ones."

Health and sex education standards which are explicit in nature is detrimental to children of all ages. Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards at a state level.

<https://www.defendyoungminds.com/post/5-ways-kids-brains-susceptible-porn>

<https://www.stanfordchildrens.org/en/topic/default?id=understanding-the-teen-brain-1-3051>

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/powerpoints/southern-stories.html>

<https://parentingmontana.org/reading-16/#fn1>

<https://nebraskalegislature.gov/laws/statutes.php?statute=28-808>

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

**Signed,**

First name \*

Mindy

Last name \*

Bednar

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Marvin

Last name \*

Tiffany

City \*

York

State \*

Nebraska

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

### Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Mr. Kirk Penner is right when he said it is "sick" when it comes to books in school libraries. Board member Lisa Fricke is wrong when she said it should not have been brought up due to it being a local issue. I would assume the Nebraska State Board of Education has to approve any book in any school library for the entire state of Nebraska.

It is my opinion that any person who writes these kinds of books for school children and any person who approves them to be in school libraries is morally bankrupt.

LBGTQ literature should be targeted as not appropriate in public school libraries in my opinion. And, any other sexual material that pertains to not normal sexual activity between children and adults.

Thank you.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Marvin

Last name \*

Tiffany

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Amanda

Last name \*

Ripley

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

## Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am writing out of frustration at your recent actions. I attended the February board meeting. I was disgusted to hear 7 of you vote against permanently getting rid of the health standards that have been proposed. You have been told by 90% of the public comments that the people of Nebraska do NOT want the health standards. At this point is becoming apparent that you are pushing an agenda. Ms Neary stated that she has received emails from people in support of the health standards. When I emailed each of you in opposition, I was directed to use this website so my comments would be public. Why didn't she direct all of those supporters to do the same so their comments would be public? I have asked her to provide those emails - I have yet to hear back. Ms Neary has a bad track record of integrity especially in regard to her email conversations. Providing the excuse for the supporters of the health standards - they can't be at the meetings because they work and have children - Hello! So do the opponents of the health standards! We have to take time off of work to come in opposition of the health standards! Does our time not matter because it doesn't fit with your agenda?!

Your actions have lost the trust of the Nebraska public. Ms Neary -the snide comment in reference to Mr Penner's "fan club" was inappropriate. He does have people who support him because someone is finally listening to We the people! You could have a fan club too, if you would make choices out of integrity and to protect the Children of Nebraska.

These health standards continue to be disgusting and inappropriate for young people The further we get into this, the more apparent it has become how disturbing materials are there are available to young children. Before this, we sent our children to public schools expecting them to be safe and protected. No more. Pornographic reading materials are easily accessible to several children throughout the public schools without their parents' knowledge. Parents should have to opt their children in to have access to this material, not opt them out. How in the world can we opt them out from things that parents don't even know exist!

You can do better if you would choose to.

Ms Morrison - you were concerned about the mental health of children and that's why you wouldn't vote down the health standards. I appreciate your concern for their mental health, but I feel that it could be addressed separately from the health standard. Or get rid of the pornographic, in appropriate gender identity components of the health standards. Teach children how to care for themselves mentally without an agenda.

---

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Amanda

Last name \*

Ripley

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Janice

Last name \*

Jackson

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am totally against the proposed sex education standards proposed !

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Janice

Last name \*

Jackson

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Sue

Last name \*

Rikli

City \*

Kearney

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am opposed to the Nebraska Department of Education writing Health standards for our Nebraska schools which include sexuality teaching, training, exposure to all the various types of LGBTQ etc type of sex and vocabulary. This ALL should be thrown out and not a responsibility of state or federal government. Leave responsibility with parents and local schools. We do not need government involved in these areas. Get back to basic educational goals.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Sue

Last name \*

Rikli

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Betty

Last name \*

Mapes

**City \***

Merriman

**State \***

Nebraska

**Written Comment**

There is a limit of 750 words.

**Written Comments \***

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am opposed to the Nebraska State Board of Education and the Nebraska Board of Education putting out anything about Critical Race Theory or Health Education. It needs to be dropped completely. Health Education should be up to each local school district. the Nebraska State Board of Education needs to begin to listen to the people that elected them and vote in the way each of their areas are telling them. STOP this nonsense and concentrate on making sure the children in Nebraska excel in Math, Science and History.

**Signature**

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

**Signed,****First name \***

Betty

Last name \*

Mapes

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Jane

Last name \*

Kinsey

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

## Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

## Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Members,

I am a mental health therapist and members of my profession are trained in the developmental stages of human development. The health standards that are proposed are not examples of appropriate information for the mental health of children. The accepted rule for parents and teachers is to not expose children to discussion about subjects that concern adult life, such as sexual involvement, engagement in human conflicts, etc. . Doing so causes them to be confused and traumatized before their adulthood. Almost everyone, except sex offenders, agrees children should not be exposed and/or coerced into sexual activity before they are able to make adult decisions. Even state and federal law in the U.S. reinforces these opinions. The proposed standards call for sexual principles to be presented and discussed with elementary age children. This is outrageous and and detrimental to our children, besides being in violation of the spirit of law. Please deny that the proposed standards be considered, much less implemented, in the State of Nebraska.

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Jane

Last name \*

Kinsey

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Belinda

Last name \*

Gratopp

City \*

Norfolk

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are against sex education taught in the public schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Belinda

Last name \*

Gratopp

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Margene

Last name \*

Horst

City \*

Grand Island

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am still concerned about our precious Nebraska children and their education.

I am strongly opposed to the development of health and sex standards at the state level.

Instead I am in favor of local control and development of such standards.

The majority of Nebraskans still do NOT want them today, because they are totally inappropriate!

Remember the survey created by the NE

Department of Education showed 90%of those surveyed were NOT in favor of the health and sex standards!

Thank you for listening and respecting my views.

Sincerely,

Margene Horst

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Margene

Last name \*

Horst

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Cathy

Last name \*

Frisch

City \*

Newman Grove

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am still opposed to the sex education standards that you will be voting on soon. Our children are failing in the basic courses required to be productive in society. The sex education should not be our focus!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Cathy

Last name \*

Frisch

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

PHYLLIS

Last name \*

Schwab

City \*

Kearney

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

i want to go on record as being in Opposition to the Nebraska State School Board developing and implementing health and sex educations at the state level. The survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of those surveyed were NOT in favor of the health and sex education standards. We need to let this item be decided at the local level. The basic subjects are the most important subjects that need to be taught, esp. reading.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Phyllis

Last name \*

Schwab

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Robert

Last name \*

Pfeiffer

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am a tax payer of this state. I want to go on record of being against this so called health and sex referendum you are attempting to push through. This type of teaching does not belong in the classroom curriculum. A strong majority of Nebraskans agree. Do not push this through. I would suggest you listen to the parents who disagree. This is group contains more people by far than the group you listen too. Thank you for time.

Robert Pfeiffer

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Robert

Last name \*

Pfeiffer

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# Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment March 2022

## Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Judy

Last name \*

Derr

City \*

Amherst

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Please discard the proposed health standards completely! There are urgent issues that need addressed!!!! Academic scores, teacher shortages/retention, etc. This board must attempt to try and repair the trust that has been so damaged. Voting to end the proposed health standards would be a step in the right direction. The board must remember: Ninety percent of respondents said NO!  
Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Judy

Last name \*

Derr

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Robert

Last name \*

Derr

City \*

Amherst

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

End the proposed health standards at the March 4 meeting. Show the state of Nebraska the SBOE is LISTENING to their CONSTITUENTS!! Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Judy

Last name \*

Derr

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Patricia

Last name \*

Bartels

City \*

Upland

State \*

Nebraska

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am letting you know that I am still watching what the SBOE is doing. It appears to me that you do not care about feedback from the people. The survey created by the Nebraska Department of Education showed that 90% of the survey participants were not in favor of the health and sex education standards. At the February meeting Kirk Penner was the only one who voted to leave this for local control by the school boards and abolish the state standards. I still believe the SBOE has lost the trust of the people. The same individuals responsible for the lies and manipulation of the process previously are still in leadership and will still be part of any future process. Same people, same mistrust, same standards and desired programs. What has changed! I would like to trust the board but need to see actions to be believed. I am still opposed to the CSE standards. I don't want them tabled. I want them gone. Let the local boards set standards for their people. Set some standards for the core subjects and see that they are all above average in the nation.

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Patricia

Last name \*

Bartels

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

McKenzie

Last name \*

Taylor

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

It is the right of parents to educate their children any way they are fit on private matters. Sex is private. Your genitalia and who you like to have sex with are private. We can't pretend that people who have different preferences don't exist, but it's not the job of the school to educate on how to have sex. It is the job of parents. Therefore parents should absolutely have the right to strongly object to this subjective, preference-based education. We cannot pretend sex and gender preferences are factual information kids need to become well rounded adults. The only job of schools is to support youth in their education in order to be intelligent and productive adults. Sex and gender ideology is not necessary for kids. Teaching children how to have sex is unhealthy and harmful.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

McKenzie

Last name \*

Taylor

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Anita

Last name \*

Childers

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I strongly urge you to vote AGAINST any changes to the Education Standards with respect to sex education. This is a subject that should be handled by a child's parents. This does NOT belong in public school education. Especially the immoral and degenerate information that is proposed to be included. In the survey of Nebraskans, the vast majority do NOT agree with or want ANY of the reprehensible changes and additions that you are suggesting for the state sex education standards!!!! If you do not listen to what the majority of Nebraskans are telling you and vote AGAINST these troubling suggestions then you have NO right or business on the State Board of Education for Nebraska and will be voted OUT of office!!!!!!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Anita

Last name \*

Childers

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### Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Lana

Last name \*

Flaming

City \*

Elkhorn

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

We are OPPOSED to the proposed Health and Sex education standards. We have NOT changed our minds from last year. Ninety percent of Nebraskans are opposed and are in favor of local standards and local control. Parents should determine what their children should be taught about sex. Period!!!! Get off your LGBTQ bandwagon!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Lana and Gaylord

Last name \*

Flaming

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Beth

Last name \*

Ogle

City \*

Blair

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am in opposition to the CSE standards and their agenda for public schools. Please focus on improving the poor scores in core subjects. Local control is best for the non-core material. I would also like to know how the content of the books in the school libraries can be changed. Some are not appropriate for children. These should never be allowed and the ones that are there need weeded out. I also believe that sex education is a matter for parents to teach and has no place in elementary schools.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Beth

Last name \*

Ogle

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Susan

Last name \*

Watson

City \*

Grand Island

State \*

Nebraska

### Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I want to remind the Board that Nebraskans still do NOT want health and sex education standards. The NE State Board poll revealed that 90% are opposed to development of the health and sex education standards so the Board needs to listen and stop trying to ram standards .... imposing their own opinions instead of representing the parents and grandparents of the kids in the state. These standards should be scrapped!

### Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Susan

Last name \*

Watson

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Don

Last name \*

Fletcher

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Vote no for any state standards concerning health and sex!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Don

Last name \*

Fletcher

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

Pickering

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I attended the February meeting and agreed with all of the public comments expressed that day – which were all opposing the direction of your Board. Since I’m not able to attend this month’s meeting, I want to reiterate that Mr. Penner, not the other six members, has the conservative values, ethics, morality, and passion for excellence that our children deserve. The education system is failing them by not helping them be proficient in the basic educational subjects. The February meeting was the first I had ever attended, and was appalled what the six of you thought should be taught in our schools. It is nothing short of pornographic, and I am disgusted with your inability to realize this. I pray that you have a change of heart and your conscience tells you how wrong your direction is, and join Mr. Penner in his quest to do the right thing for our children. Thanks for your time.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Deb

Last name \*

Pickering

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Teresa

Last name \*

Carey

City \*

Wilcox

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I am opposed to the Comprehensive Sexuality Education & the Critical Race Theory.

Scrap these standards!!

We need to focus on teaching our children useful subjects that help them become productive, proud Americans!

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Teresa

Last name \*

Carey

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Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Elissa

Last name \*

Martin

City \*

Lexington

State \*

NE

## Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

## Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

For almost a year, my husband and I have stood before you each month begging for you to do something to improve our failing education system. Little progress has been made. More time and energy has been spent on debating non essential sex education standards than on finding solutions to the real and well documented issues of failing student proficiencies and teacher and staff shortages.

I would like to see suggestions on ways to fix these issues, beyond just assuring the public that ESSER funds will be used. Vague promises and idealistic plans feel like platitudes at this point. Parents are frustrated. Teachers are frustrated. We are failing our kids.

I have heard of schools that have implemented para TA programs, where high school juniors and seniors can be paid for a class period of serving as an elementary school para. This is one temporary solution that I have not seen presented to this board, and I thought it might be a viable option. I also appreciated the speaker at the February meeting who suggested that the NDE employees use a portion of their day to cover classes in Lincoln or Omaha to help with the sub shortage.

We are not making progress continuing to say the same things every month. Everyone needs to be seeking for solutions to fix the problems that are evident in our current education system. (And just a reminder...sex health education standards are not the answer.)

## Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Elissa

Last name \*

Martin

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

KIRBY

Last name \*

WILSON

City \*

KEARNEY

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

**DO NOT MAKE ANY ATTEMPT AT PASSING ANY HEALTH STANDARDS. YOU DO NOT HAVE ANY AUTHORITY TO DO SO!**

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

KIRBY

Last name \*

WILSON

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Paul

Last name \*

Fredricks

City \*

Hastings

State \*

NE

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

I wish to once again state my opposition to the State Board of Education coming up with any health standards. The local School Boards who are much more accountable to the parents with in the District are the ones who should sent the standards. I agree with the legislation that is being proposed that the State School Board should be dissolved. You should be looking into how to do that. Thank You

Paul Fredricks

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Paul

Last name \*

Fredricks

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## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Marron

Last name \*

Keady

City \*

Lincoln

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

Thank you for your time. Even though the Board may have the majority vote in favor of the development of health and sex education standards at the state level; please be aware that there are many quiet citizens, and likely the majority, who favor instead championing local control and local development of such standards. Nebraska is filled with quiet people who have conservative standards. Please don't let the vocal - and often times 'new' to the state liberals override the majority.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Marron

Last name \*

Keady

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## Nebraska State Board of Education

Pursuant to State Board of Education Bylaw B9 - Public Participation at Board Meetings:

Persons may address the Board for public comment purposes by written submission in lieu of live testimony. Such written submissions must be provided 24 hours in advance to the start of the public meeting where public comment is scheduled, or by close of business of the Thursday prior to any meeting scheduled for a Monday, and is limited to 750 words. Written public comments submitted in accordance with these requirements will be provided to the Board members and become part of the record of the meeting, but will not be read aloud during the meeting.

Individuals who submit written public comment for a given meeting should not plan to speak before the Board in live testimony at that month's meeting.

Individuals may submit only one written public comment entry per month. Multiple submissions will not be accepted.

Submissions must include your complete first and last name, city and state. You will also be required to electronically sign the submission. This information will be included with your comments.

Click the "Next" button below to begin.

## Identification

Please complete the following information to identify yourself. This information will appear with the text of your written public comment.

First name \*

Jill

Last name \*

Greenquist

City \*

Omaha

State \*

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments \*

There is a limit of 750 words (approximately 5000 characters with spaces.)

My name is Jill Greenquist. I am a mother to three children in midtown Omaha (two bonus kids and one biological). I am also a 20 year professional working in education and business settings.

I do not support the development of health and sex education standards at the state level, instead, I champion local control and local development of such standards. I watch. I advocate. I am informed of all that has been happening. I vote.

Let me end with this. In the Emperor's New Clothes, it was a young child who pointed out the folly of the king and the conniving actions of the tailors who tricked him. I, and 90% of Nebraska parents, stand as that child. We see reality. We see what people are saying about these standards versus the reality of what these standards mean. I am asking you to stop being the king. Stop being the tailors. Join the child who got it right because that child understood the reality of the situation.

Thank you.

Signature

Please type your first and last name again. This will appear with your written comments and serves as your signature.

Signed,

First name \*

Jill

Last name \*

Greenquist

This form was created inside of NE-Dept Of Education.

Google Forms

TO: MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D.  
FROM: BRYCE WILSON, DENISE THEGE  
DATE: March 4, 2022  
SUBJECT: MONTHLY LIST OF CONTRACTS \$10,000 TO \$50,000  
RATIONALE: As stated in the Nebraska State Board of Education Policy Manual P5 the Commissioner shall provide the Board each month with a list of contracts between \$10,000 and \$50,000.

1. Contractor(s): Ai-Media Technologies  
Contract Amount: \$49,999  
Funding Source: General/Federal  
Scope of Services: Live closed captioning  
Date of Contract: 2/14/22-2/13/25  
Contact Person: Kristin Yates
2. Contractor(s): American Program Bureau  
Contract Amount: \$13,500  
Funding Source: Federal  
Scope of Services: Provide training.  
Date of Contract: 6/1/22-6/30/22  
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
3. Contractor(s): Lrene Jo Braun  
Contract Amount: \$10,000  
Funding Source: Federal  
Scope of Services: Provide coaching and training services.  
Date of Contract: 3/1/22-2/28/23  
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
4. Contractor(s): Brain Injury Alliance of NE  
Contract Amount: \$12,268  
Funding Source: General  
Scope of Services: Collaborate with Nebraska VR and the Indiana Neuropsychology, LLC consultant to develop and implement a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Resource Facilitation and Surveillance pilot.  
Date of Contract: 2/7/22-12/1/22  
Contact Person: Lindy Foley
5. Contractor(s): Brittany Jennett  
Contract Amount: \$15,500  
Funding Source: Federal  
Scope of Services: Observing and training services.  
Date of Contract: 2/15/22-2/14/23  
Contact Person: Melody Hobson
6. Contractor(s): Greg Adams  
Contract Amount: \$33,600  
Funding Source: General  
Scope of Services: Consult and train on legislative processes.  
Date of Contract: 2/22/22-2/21/23  
Contact Person: Ryan Foor

7. Contractor(s): Sarah Meyer  
Contract Amount: \$10,000  
Funding Source: Federal  
Scope of Services: Assist with 1801 Healthy Schools work.  
Date of Contract: 2/22/22-2/21/23  
Contact Person: Zainab Rida
  
8. Contractor(s): EdWise Group  
Contract Amount: \$49,500  
Funding Source: Federal  
Scope of Services: Development of an Ed-Fi ODS to Azure migration plan  
Date of Contract: 2/28/22-6/30/22  
Contact Person: Kristin Yates





