

## **NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA**

- Meeting Date:** Thursday, September 3, 2026 2:30 PM
- Meeting Title:** State Board of Education Work Session Meeting and Notification and Agenda
- Location:** NDE Office Building  
Board Room  
500 South 84th Street  
Lincoln, NE 68510
- 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/state-board-agendas/](http://www.education.ne.gov/stateboard/state-board-agendas/)
- Lunch:** On Thursday, September 3, 2026, the State Board of Education may also take a recess for lunch. The Board may resume work on the agenda at approximately 1:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER (The Board may take a recess)  
President Tegtmeier
  - 1.1. Roll Call  
President Tegtmeier
  - 1.2. Pledge of Allegiance  
President Tegtmeier
  - 1.3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information  
President Tegtmeier
2. BUSINESS  
President Tegtmeier
  - 2.1. Nebraska's Multi-tiered System of Support (NeMTSS) Presentation  
Amy Rhone

3. ADJOURNMENT  
President Tegtmeier



**NeMTSS**  
FRAMEWORK



# State Board of Education

## *NeMTSS Overview*

September 3, 2026

NeMTSS Implementation Support Team, University of Nebraska–Lincoln is funded by the Nebraska Department of Education (USDE IDEA, Part B-611 Grant). Contents do not necessarily represent the policy of NDE or USDE, and no endorsement should be assumed. Developed by UNL-CYFS MTSS Implementation Support Team.



# Why do Nebraska schools need MTSS?



NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



Varying  
Student  
Needs

Sustaina  
bility

Educati  
onal  
Trends

Initiativ  
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Overloa  
d

Professi  
onal  
Learning

Admin  
Turnov  
er

Resource  
Manageme  
nt

Staff  
Turnov  
er

Program  
Adoption

Time

Discon  
nect  
with  
Familie  
s

Putting  
Theory  
into  
Action



NeMTSS helps districts move  
from ***disconnected efforts*** to a  
***coherent system*** of  
***continuous improvement.***



**NeMTSS**  
FRAMEWORK



Nebraska's Multi-tiered System of Support (NeMTSS) is a framework designed through the lens of *continuous improvement* to guide school districts, schools, and all educators to ensure each and *every student* has *access* to learning experiences that *enhance their educational outcomes*.



**NeMTSS**  
FRAMEWORK



**How did we get here?**



- No Child Left Behind passed.
- President's Commission on Excellence in SPED.

- SSIP focus was to increase use of evidence-based practices (Targeted Improvement Plan).

2002

- Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP).
  - MTSS is a logical strategy to reach the state identified measurable result.

2015

2019

2004

- Results Driven Accountability (RDA).

2014

2016

- Reauthorization of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

- NeMTSS Framework developed.

# The Need for a Paradigm Shift

*Despite historical efforts, **very little has changed** for general or special education.*



*A **necessity** for each learner is continuous improvement through a **multi-tiered system of support**.*



NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



# **The NeMTSS Connection to Literacy**



# NeMTSS is the Infrastructure

Connecting state priorities to student outcomes through a strong system of support.



NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



## State Priorities:

Nebraska Reading  
Improvement Act  
Nebraska Literacy  
Project Plan  
CLSD Grant



## Student Outcomes:

75% of 3rd  
Graders Proficient

District Systems → Classroom Practice

Strong infrastructure. Aligned systems. Improved outcomes for every learner.



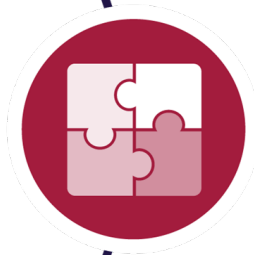
**Data-Based  
Decision-  
Making**



**Infrastructure &  
Shared  
Leadership**



**Communication  
& Collaboration**



**Layered  
Continuum  
of Support**



**ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS**



# Four Essential Questions

Standards

Assessment

Intervention

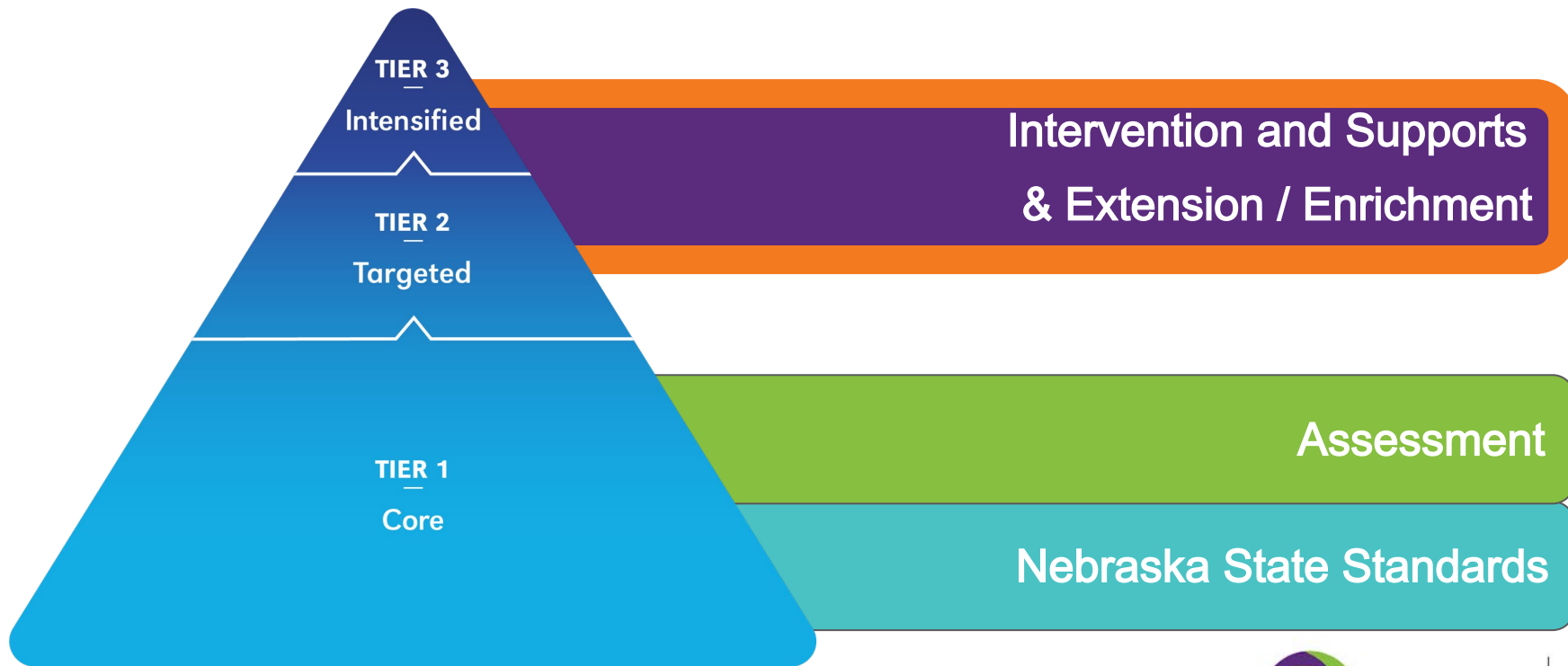
Extension / Enrichment



NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



# Layered Continuum of Support

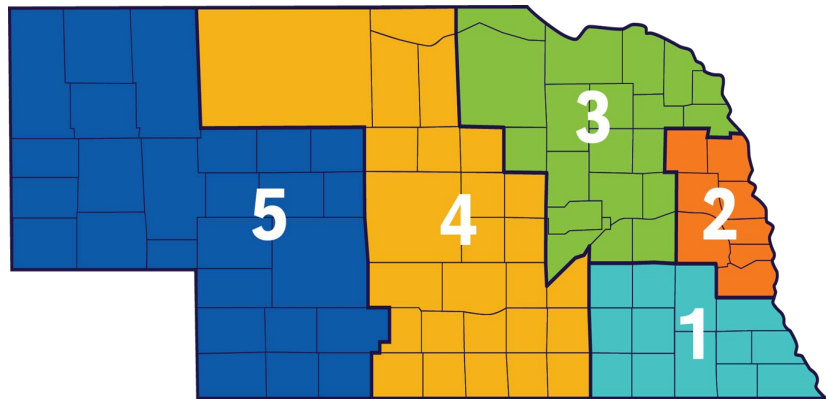


NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



**What support does  
NeMTSS provide?**





 [nemtss.unl.edu/team](https://nemtss.unl.edu/team)

NeMTSS **Regional Support Teams** work together with their region's ESUs to provide support around MTSS implementation efforts.



NeMTSS  
FRAMEWORK



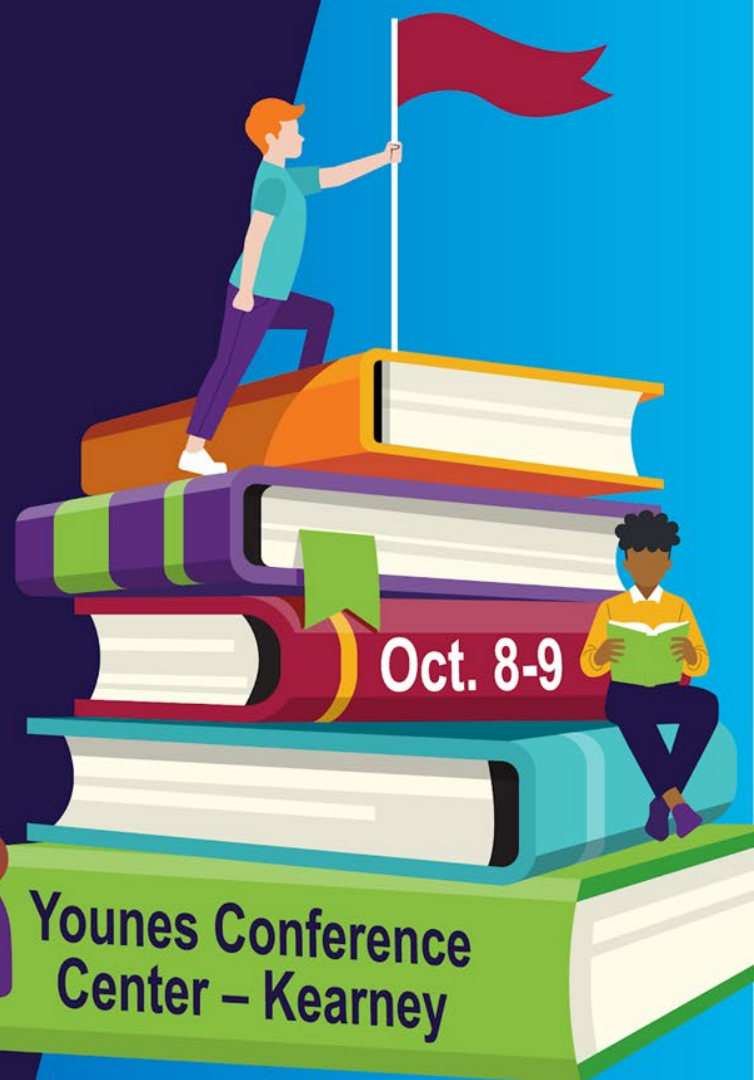


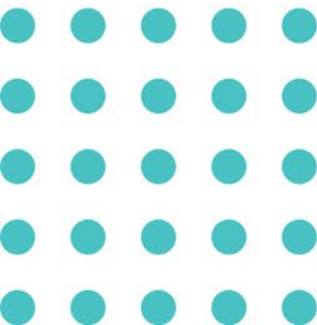
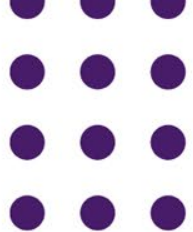
2026 NeMTSS Summit

# DESTINATION... IMPACT!

*Turning MTSS Systems Into  
Literacy-Driven Student Outcomes*

<https://bit.ly/NEMTSSsummit26>







**NeMTSS**  
FRAMEWORK



# **NeMTSS Impact Report**

*2025–26 School Year*

# NEMTSS SNAPSHOT

## Key Takeaways

- Expanded statewide support through regional coaching, professional learning, and technical assistance reached **181 of Nebraska's 245 school districts and all 16 Educational Service Units (ESUs)**.
- **Nebraska's State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP) professional learning** (NeMTSS Framework, NERcounts/SPED Determinations, and TIP workshops) received consistently high participant ratings, **averaging 5.19–5.53 on a 6-point scale**.
- Schools demonstrated continued growth in MTSS implementation, with **Essential Elements implementation improving** over the previous year.
- The **2025 NeMTSS Summit reached a record 1,043 educators**, reflecting continued statewide engagement in evidence-based MTSS practices.
- NeMTSS continues to strengthen educator capacity by providing accessible, evidence-based professional learning, coaching, and resources that support Nebraska's SSIP and continuous improvement efforts.

## Statewide Reach

- **181** school districts supported
- **16** Educational Service Units (ESUs) supported
- Regional coaching, workshops, and implementation assistance provided statewide

## Professional Learning

- **650** workshop evaluation respondents
- **5.19–5.53 / 6.0** average ratings across SSIP workshops
- **1,043** educators attended the 2025 NeMTSS Summit

## General Overview Presentations

- **680** participant evaluations completed
- **8.08–8.60 / 10.0** average overall satisfaction across all five regions
- **63** school districts and **13** ESUs participated in regional overview presentations

## Continuous Improvement

- **921** educators completed the NeMTSS Self-Assessment
- **5 of 6** MTSS Essential Elements improved from 2024–25 to 2025–26
- **Layered Continuum** demonstrated the largest year-over-year increase
- **Building Capacity** remains the greatest opportunity for continued growth

## Resources & Supports

- **45** research briefs available online
- **3** Coffee Connect sessions were published
- **1** webinar series on Literacy Support for Students with Disabilities was published
- **434** evidence-based programs in the Program Comparison Tool

## WHAT IS NEMTSS?

The Nebraska Multi-tiered System of Support (NeMTSS) is a framework designed through the lens of continuous improvement to guide districts, schools, and all educators to ensure every student has access to learning experiences that enhance their educational outcomes. Our mission is to empower schools to support and prepare all Nebraska students for success.

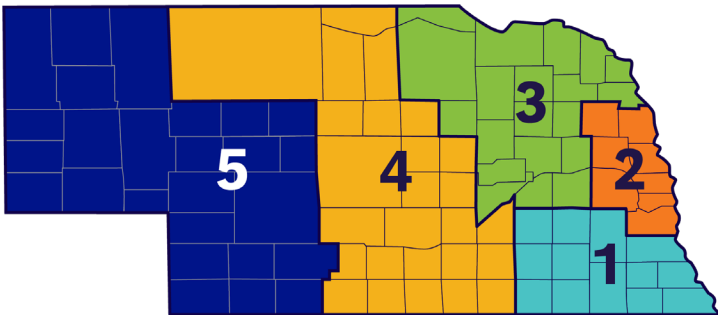
The NeMTSS Framework supports the Whole Child approach to address the needs of students, including academic, social, emotional, behavioral, physical, and environmental.



NeMTSS aligns with Nebraska's Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow (AQuESTT), which aims to improve educational efforts that support positive outcomes for both students and adults. Implementation of NeMTSS connects to the AQuESTT Domains and Tenets; accountability to students and staff relies on organizational and professional commitment centered on Educator Effectiveness, Student Achievement and Growth, and Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success.

## How does NeMTSS Support the Nebraska State Systemic Improvement Plan?

Nebraska's target outcome, known as the State Identified Measurable Result, identified in the State Systemic Improvement Plan (SSIP), is to increase the reading proficiency for students with disabilities at the fourth-grade level. This outcome is measured by the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS). To support this, NeMTSS partners with districts and ESUs to strengthen MTSS implementation through regional coaching, professional learning, and data-based continuous improvement.



### Regional Support Teams

NeMTSS serves all educational service units (ESUs) in Nebraska through a regional support model. Five regional support teams provide systematic and personalized support to educators statewide. Each team includes a Regional Support Lead and an Integrated Support Specialist.

- **Regional Support Leads** collaborate with districts, schools, and programs to begin or enhance their continuous improvement efforts. Along with other NeMTSS team members, they provide specialized assistance to leadership teams based on their unique needs and goals, creating a robust MTSS.
- **Integrated Support Specialists** promote implementation of systems-level and integrated whole-child support. Along with other NeMTSS team members, they connect regional providers with districts, schools, and programs needing support, leading to enhanced outcomes for each student.

## TEAM IMPACT

The NeMTSS team positively impacts the state by providing professional development and continuous improvement opportunities through workshops, an annual summit, self-assessment surveys, tailored implementation support based on request, and a growing collection of online resources, including a media library, research briefs, and the Program Comparison Tool.

### Implementation Support

To support SSIP goals, NeMTSS partners with districts, facilitating workshops that provide regional coaching, professional learning, and data-based continuous improvement. Workshops include NECounts/SPED Determinations, Targeted Improvement Plan (TIP), NeMTSS Framework Training, formerly known as System Days training, and general overview presentations. Through participating in these workshops, schools and districts establish a strong infrastructure to support staff and students in the continuous improvement process and consistently receive positive feedback. Listed below are individual workshop descriptions and respondent ratings.



### SPED Determination Workshops

SPED Determination workshops help districts understand Nebraska's annual special education determinations process, interpret determination data, and use those data to inform continuous improvement planning and IDEA compliance.

- **Across 139 respondents, average ratings ranged from 5.12 to 5.38 on a 6-point scale**, reflecting consistently positive feedback. Participants agreed that the workshops supported continuous improvement efforts, provided purposeful and practical information, and equipped teams with actionable knowledge to strengthen district practices. Facilitators were also highly rated for meeting participants' needs and effectively responding to questions.

### TIP Workshops

TIP workshops support districts in developing, implementing, and refining improvement plans that address identified needs and improve outcomes for students with disabilities.

- **Across 224 respondents, average ratings ranged from 5.16 to 5.61 on a 6-point scale**, indicating strong agreement that the workshops were valuable, aligned with district improvement efforts, and provided practical strategies for implementation. Participants also reported that the workshops supported planning, meaningful collaboration, and high-quality facilitation that effectively addressed participant questions and learning needs.

### NeMTSS Framework Workshops

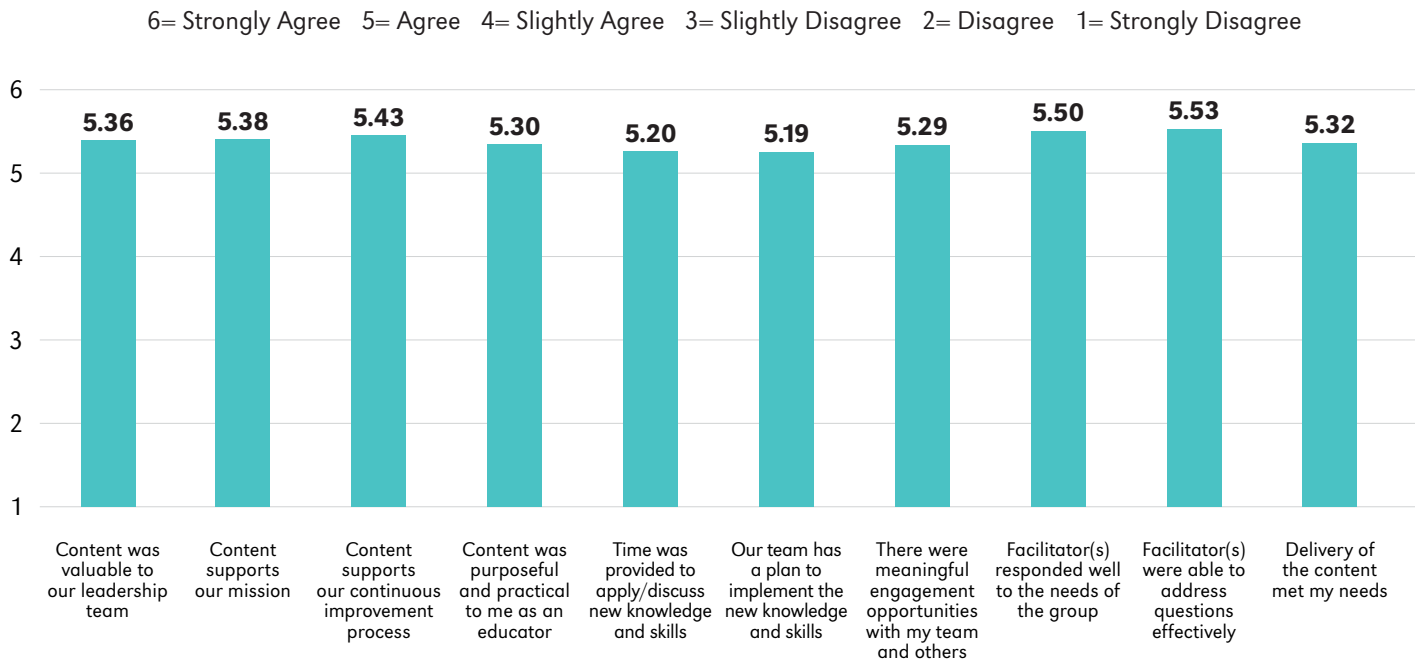
NeMTSS Framework workshops guide participants through examining current systems, strengthening implementation of universal, targeted, and intensive practices; and developing action plans that build sustainable infrastructure for continuous improvement.

- **Across 287 respondents, average ratings ranged from 5.2 to 5.59 on a 6-point scale**, indicating strong agreement that the professional learning was valuable, aligned with educators' goals, supported continuous improvement efforts, and provided purposeful, practical strategies for implementation.

Between August 1, 2025 and May 31, 2026, Regional Support Leads provided organized SPED determination, TIP, and NeMTSS Framework workshops to train and support schools and districts based on their unique needs and goals in **181 out of 245 districts and 16 ESUs**. See Figure 1 for overall workshop support implementation ratings.

- **Across 650 respondents, average ratings ranged from 5.19 to 5.53 on a 6-point scale**, reflecting consistently high satisfaction with the SSIP professional learning provided through NeMTSS Framework training, NECounts/SPED Determinations, and TIP workshops. Participants agreed that the sessions were valuable, aligned with their continuous improvement work, provided practical implementation strategies, supported planning and collaboration, and were facilitated effectively to meet participants’ needs. See Figure 2 for specific participant feedback.

**Figure 1**  
*Implementation Support Workshops Mean Evaluation Ratings*



**Figure 2**  
*NeMTSS Framework Participant Feedback*

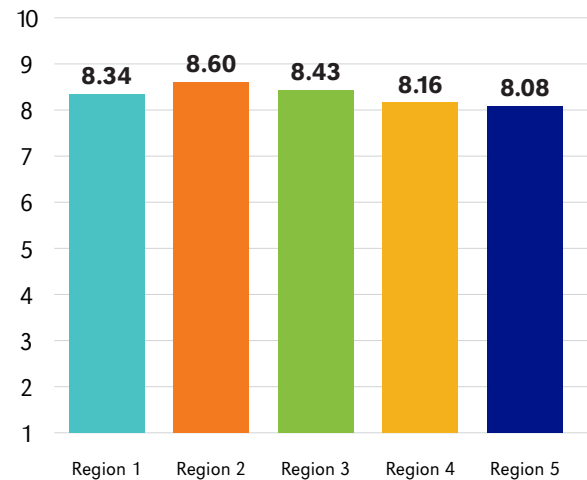
*“The way [facilitators] infused elements of UDL into our learning was very valuable because we were able to see the strategies modeled and reflect on how our learning was impacted by those elements. I also really appreciated the infusion of AI tools to the end to show us resources that can help us add UDL to our lessons.”*

*“I was able to learn more about creating and continuing to keep and strengthen the current relationships I have with students.”*

Between August 1, 2025 and May 31, 2026, Regional Support Leads provided general overview presentations to schools and districts based on their unique needs and goals in **63 out of 245 districts and 13 ESUs**. See Figure 3 for overall General Overview Presentations ratings by region.

- Across Nebraska’s five NeMTSS regions, participants reported high overall satisfaction with the regional overview presentations, with average ratings ranging from 8.08 to 8.60 on a 10-point scale (N = 680).** These consistently positive ratings indicate that participants across all five regions were highly satisfied with the overview presentations, suggesting the sessions effectively introduced NeMTSS priorities, highlighted available supports, and established a strong foundation for regional professional learning.

**Figure 3**  
*General Overview Presentation Averages*



*Note.* Participants rated their overall satisfaction with the general overview/ presentation on a scale from 1 to 10, where 1 indicated the lowest level of satisfaction and 10 indicated the highest. Sample sizes by region were as follows: Region 1 (n = 53), Region 2 (n = 15), Region 3 (n = 345), Region 4 (n = 141), and Region 5 (n = 126).

## Self-Assessment

The NeMTSS Self-Assessment is a process data tool aligned with the NeMTSS Framework’s Essential Elements and is designed to drive continuous improvement efforts within schools and districts. Schools and districts use this tool to assess both the academic and behavioral core components of MTSS, and to identify strengths and areas that may need further analysis and planning for improvement. The NeMTSS professional development is designed to help schools and districts as they work toward improving their self-assessment scores. Schools and districts report their performance on a scale from 1 to 4. See Table 1 for a summary of NeMTSS self-assessment data from 2021 to 2026, with mean scores for each Essential Element.

**Table 1**  
*NeMTSS Self-Assessment Data*

| Years                    | Shared Leadership | Communication, Collaboration & Partnerships | Evidence-Based Practices | Building Capacity | Layered Continuum | Data-Based Decision-Making |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
| 2021–22<br>(April–March) | 2.56              | 2.38                                        | 2.56                     | 1.88              | 2.31              | 2.14                       |
| 2022–23<br>(April–March) | 2.37              | 2.19                                        | 2.31                     | 1.97              | 2.19              | 1.98                       |
| 2023–24<br>(April–March) | 2.72              | 2.52                                        | 2.81                     | 2.53              | 2.98              | 2.79                       |
| 2024–25<br>(April–March) | 2.82              | 2.52                                        | 2.73                     | 2.39              | 2.72              | 2.44                       |
| 2025–26<br>(April–March) | 2.92              | 2.66                                        | 2.79                     | 2.32              | 2.87              | 2.56                       |

*These data represent different districts over time and provide a snapshot of district performance.*  
*Scale: 1= No Implementation, 2= Some Implementation, 3= Mostly Implemented, 4= Full Implementation.*

A total of 108 respondents completed the Self-Assessment. Compared to 2024–25, **5 of the 6 MTSS Essential Elements increased in 2025–26**, with Layered Continuum showing the largest gain (2.72 to 2.87). Over the last 5 years, scores generally reflect continued growth in MTSS implementation, while Building Capacity remains an area for continued improvement.

NeMTSS Summit

The NeMTSS Summit is an annual two-day conference featuring keynote and breakout sessions. The 2025 summit highlighted how a Multi-tiered System of Support can improve student outcomes in all areas, with a special emphasis on literacy. In 2025, 1,043 educators were registered for the summit, up from 1,004 educators in 2024 and 827 educators in 2023. Over the last 3 years, evaluation ratings remained consistently high (ranging from 3.45 to 3.79 on the 4-point scale) across all evaluation items, indicating sustained participant satisfaction with the quality, relevance, and applicability of the NeMTSS Summit. Table 2 includes mean ratings from 2023, 2024, and 2025 summit evaluations.

Table 2  
2023, 2024, and 2025 NeMTSS Summit Survey Mean Evaluation Ratings

| Summit Survey Question                                                                                                                                                           | 2023 Mean Score | 2024 Mean Score | 2025 Mean Score |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| How would you rate the summit overall?<br>1= Poor, 2= Average, 3= Good, 4= Excellent                                                                                             | 3.45            | 3.59            | 3.62            |
| How likely are you to use the information, procedures, processes or tools presented during the summit?<br>1= Very Unlikely, 2= Unlikely, 3= Likely, 4= Very Likely               | 3.55            | 3.73            | 3.62            |
| How likely are you to share the information, procedures, processes or tools presented during the summit with others?<br>1= Very Unlikely, 2= Unlikely, 3= Likely, 4= Very Likely | 3.57            | 3.79            | 3.62            |
| How likely are you to recommend this summit?<br>1= Very Unlikely, 2= Unlikely, 3= Likely, 4= Very Likely                                                                         | 3.59            | 3.71            | 3.64            |

Media Library

The NeMTSS website includes a media library with a variety of on-demand professional learning resources, including video recordings of Coffee Connect sessions and webinar series. Coffee Connect is a virtual event series hosted by NeMTSS that aims to build collaboration, community, and capacity among educators and others implementing Integrated MTSS in Nebraska schools. During the reporting period, three Coffee Connect sessions were published to the media library, featuring topics on educator wellness, restorative practices, and literacy skills within academic circles. A fourth on-demand session, Literacy Support for Students with Learning Disabilities, was also published, highlighting evidence-based strategies and supports to improve literacy outcomes for students with learning disabilities within an MTSS framework. Collectively, videos available through the NeMTSS website and YouTube channel received **2,783 views**, demonstrating continued engagement with on-demand professional learning resources. **Explore the [media library](#).**

Research Briefs

The NeMTSS website features **45 research briefs (including 4 new research briefs published during the 2025–26 school year)** that help bridge the research-to-practice gap and make research more accessible to Nebraska educators. Research brief topics include student support strategies, assessment and data-based decision-making, professional development, policy and practice, and influences on teaching and learning. Website analytics revealed that the Research Briefs page had **267 views from 176 active users** during the 2025–26 academic year. **View [research briefs](#).**

Program Comparison Tool

The Program Comparison Tool (PCT) provides school teams with information they can use to compare educational programs and assess the appropriateness of programs for their individual school or district (see Figure 4). This tool is highly visible and attracts thousands of viewers every year (see Figure 5). **3 new programs were requested and added to the PCT during the 2025–26 school year.**

For more information, visit the [PCT](#).

Figure 4  
Program Comparison Tool (PCT) Programs

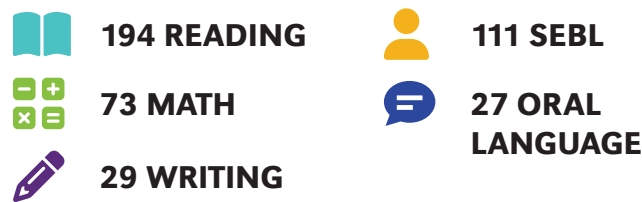
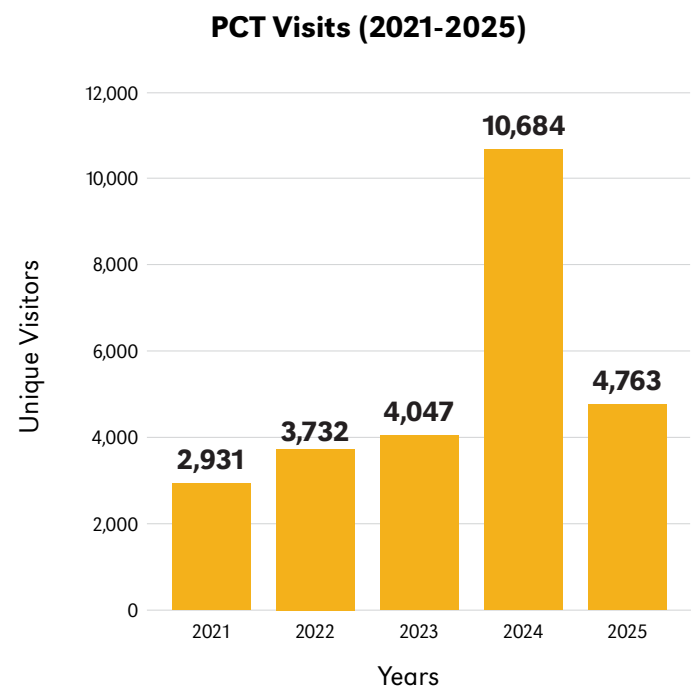


Figure 5  
Program Comparison Tool (PCT) Visits Per Year



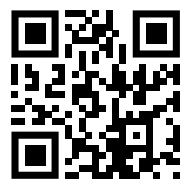
NeMTSS Partnerships

NeMTSS support is possible due to collaboration with the following Technical Assistance Partners:

- Assistive Technology Partnership (ATP)
- Nebraska Autism Spectrum Disorders Network (ASD)
- Regional Literacy Coaches

Future Projects

Through ongoing collaboration with Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) literacy leaders, the NeMTSS team has helped develop the Nebraska Literacy Plan and Statewide Literacy Framework Playbook while simultaneously preparing the systems, resources, and professional learning needed to support district implementation readiness. As implementation begins statewide, NeMTSS will partner with districts to strengthen evidence-based literacy systems that improve outcomes for all learners, including students with disabilities, in alignment with Nebraska’s SSIP.



For additional information on NeMTSS and available supports, scan the QR code or visit: [neamtss.unl.edu](https://neamtss.unl.edu)