



# NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2017

## State Board of Education

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## BOARD APPROVES SCIENCE STANDARDS

The State Board of Education voted 6-1 to approve *Nebraska's College and Career Ready Standards for Science*. State law requires updates to standards every seven years. The revised standards create the framework for science education in Nebraska. Input from science and educational experts and public online surveys was used to craft the final draft. Dozens of people also provided feedback through public comment during several board meetings and the board was given letters of support from community colleges, independent and private institutions, the state college system and the university system.

### 2017 Nebraska Science Standards

## ACT CUT SCORES SET

The ACT is now the state's standard assessment for all public school juniors. The State Board of Education voted 7-0 to set cut scores with three different levels: the ACT Benchmark, On Track, and Developing. A student scoring in the top two levels would be meeting state expectations for the assessment. The cut scores were developed with input from Nebraska's post-secondary institutions and through a special committee.

### Commissioner's Recommendation for ACT Cut Scores

## **ESSA PLAN HEADED TO WASHINGTON D.C..**

Nebraska's plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) will soon be sent to the U.S. Department of Education. Commissioner Matthew Blomstedt presented the plan to the State Board of Education for their approval. Members unanimously voted to send the plan to the U.S.D.E. who now have 120 days to review Nebraska's plan and provide feedback before moving forward.

### **Nebraska's Consolidated State ESSA Plan**

## **FRESH FRUIT AND VEGGIES PROGRAM**

Nebraska schools will receive almost \$500,000 in federal funds for fresh fruits and vegetables. More than 50 schools will receive money through the Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant Award Program (FFVP). The FFVP has been a nationwide program since 2008 and operates in elementary schools in every state.

### **FFVP Nebraska Locations**

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, October 6, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. at the Nebraska State Office Building. A work session will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2017 at 2:00 p.m.

For detailed information about the work session or business meeting, visit [www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html](http://www.education.ne.gov/StateBoard/Agendas.html).



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