



NEBRASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

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

FROM: Sharon Davis, Administrator Nutrition Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant Commissioner authority to submit a grant application for the USDA Farm to School (F2S) grant.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The 2015 USDA F2S Census reported that 29% of Nebraska school districts participate in F2S activities, compared to 42% nationally. The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) is committed to growing farm to school efforts statewide. NDE will apply for a FY20 USDA Farm to School grant to improve access to local foods in eligible Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) by developing and implementing comprehensive farm to CNP programming that includes local procurement and agricultural education efforts. This project will be a partnership between NDE and Nebraska Extension, providing training to Extension professionals to build their capacity to serve communities across the state. Partners on this project will also offer a Farm to School Institute in 2021 for a number of community farm to school teams, infusing local procurement and agricultural education components into the local, district level.

ESTIMATED COST: No costs, the maximum grant application amount is up to \$100,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS INDICATE THE FUNDING SOURCE USDA Farm to School Grant (CIFDA #10.575)