



PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: May 25, 2021

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

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve awards for continuation of the Early Childhood Education Program grants to the identified public school districts.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Districts are eligible for continuation funds based on the amount of state aid calculation for 4 year olds in the program subtracted from the original grant amount.

The purpose of the Early Childhood Education Grant Program is to improve equity of access to early childhood education/prekindergarten programs. Children of diverse characteristics will be served in inclusive environments and will be better prepared to enter school and be successful. Early Childhood programs are required to operate in compliance with *Rule 11 – Regulations for Approval of Prekindergarten Programs Established by School Boards or Educational Service Units and for the Issuance of Early Childhood Education Grants*.

Approximately 1,680 children are expected to be served in the 2021-2022 school year as a result of this funding.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2021

ESTIMATED COST: \$2,995,269

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: State General Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: Dependent upon school district

Supporting Documentation Included:

The following public school districts are recommended to receive an Early Childhood Education continuation grant:

Adams Central Public Schools
Ashland Greenwood
Auburn Public Schools
Bayard Public Schools
Beatrice Public Schools
Blair Community Schools
Broken Bow Public Schools
Centennial Public Schools
Clarkson Public Schools
Columbus Public Schools
Cozad Community Schools
Deshler Public Schools
Elm Creek Public Schools
Franklin Public Schools
Grand Island Public Schools
Kearney Public Schools
Kenesaw Public Schools
Lakeview Community Schools
Lincoln Public Schools
Lyons Decatur Northeast Schools

Malcolm Public Schools
Nebraska City Public Schools
Norfolk Public Schools
North Platte Public Schools
Northwest Public Schools
Oakland-Craig Public Schools
Palmyra District OR 1
Papillion-La Vista Community Schools
Ralston Public Schools
Scottsbluff Public Schools
Sidney Public School
Stanton Community School
Stapleton Public Schools
Thayer Central Community
Tri-County Public Schools
Valentine Community Schools
Wallace Public School District 66
Waverly District 145
Wayne Community Schools
York Public Schools

For Additional Information on this item:

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