NEBRASKA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING NOTIFICATION AND AGENDA

Meeting Date:	**Friday, August 6, 2021 9:00 AM**
Meeting Title:	**State Board of Education Meeting Notification and Agenda**
Location:	**Nebraska Innovation Campus** **2021 Transformation Drive** **Banquet Hall** **Lincoln, NE 68508**
Web Streaming:	**Live web streaming will be available through the State Board of Education website: 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**
Lunch:	**On Friday, August 6, 2021, if necessary, the State Board of Education may break for lunch at 12:00 p.m. The lunch will take place in Conference Room C at the State Office Building, Sixth Floor, 301 Centennial Mall South, Lincoln, Nebraska. The Board may resume work on the agenda at approximately 1:00 p.m.**

1. CALL TO ORDER
   President Nickels

   1. Roll Call
      President Nickels

   2. Pledge of Allegiance
      President Nickels

   3. Announcement of the placement of the Open Meetings Act information
      President Nickels

   4. COVID-19 Meeting Protocol
      Commissioner Blomstedt

2. CONSENT AGENDA
President Nickels

1. Board Member Out-of-State Travel Approval

2. Committee Appointments

A. Appoint the proposed nominees for the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education
Kelly Heineke

B. Appoint the recommended individual(s) to fill vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC)
Amy Rhone

3. Contract Approvals

A. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to complete a cost methodology study to establish rates for Nebraska VR's supported employment program
Carla Lasley and Lindy Foley

B. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Boys Town, USA to become the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE
Zainab Rida and Jolene Palmer

C. Authorize the Commissioner to amend the contract with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to coordinate the creation of a community schools pilot program
Zainab Rida and Mariella Resendiz Alvarado

D. Authorize the Commissioner to amend the current contract with SchoolKit
Cory Epler

E. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Stone 2 Bread LLC to work on ServeNebraska AmeriCorp application
Zainab Rida and Mariella Resendiz Alvarado

F. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Children's Hospital & Medical Center for the purpose of providing expertise on child health topics and intervention through a partnership with the Nebraska Healthy Schools Program
Zainab Rida and Jessie Coffey

G. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the Board of Regents, University of Nebraska, University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the purpose of providing expertise on staff wellbeing efforts as part of the Healthy Schools program and Team Nutrition training grant

Zainab Rida and Jessie Coffey

H. Authorize the Commissioner to approve a contract renewal with Emspace + Lovgren Communications for continuation of the Step Up to Quality public engagement campaign
Melody Hobson

I. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the University of Massachusetts Boston to perform Progressive Employment training for Nebraska VR staff in September 2021
Janet Drudik and Lindy Foley

J. Authorize the Commissioner the authority to contract with Colyar Technology Solutions Inc for a period from September 1 2021 to August 31 2022 for the purpose of maintaining the netCNP system and incorporating change requests
Zainab Rida and Kayte Partch

K. Authorize the Commissioner to renew the contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Zainab Rida and Mariella Resendiz Alvarado

L. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit 13 for one year in a shared employee contract arrangement to fulfill services as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist
Shirley Vargas and Kim Snyder

M. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Firespring Print, Inc for Nebraska's AWARE-SEA Grant Project
Zainab Rida and Mariella Resendiz Alvarado

N. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with TNTP for three years from August 2021 – August 2024 for the (1) Statewide Learning Acceleration Series and (2) Leader Development Cohort
Shirley Vargas

O. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Instruction Partners for three years, from August 2021 – August 2024, for the (1) Learning Acceleration in K-8 Mathematics Network and (2) NeMTSS, Continuous Improvement, and High-Quality Instructional Materials Integration Project
Cory Epler and Shirley Vargas

4. Grant Approvals

A. Authorize the Commissioner to approve SY 2021-2022 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant Award Notifications
Zainab Rida and Sarah Smith

B. Authorize the Commissioner to approve McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grants for the 2021-22 school year
Beth Wooster

C. Authorize the Commissioner to Approve the 2021-2022 reVISION Action grants
Katie Graham

5. Lease Approvals (NONE)

6. Minutes of the Previous State Board of Education Meeting

7. Miscellaneous Approvals

A. Approve school districts' requests for exclusions to the budget limitation in accordance with the provisions of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act
Bryce Wilson

B. Approve request from school districts for payment of half their total 2020/21 State Aid
Kevin Lyons and Bryce Wilson

C. Grant approval under Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools, for Howells Community Catholic School to add Kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year
Don Loseke

D. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Board of Regents, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Nebraska Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Implementation Support Team (IST)
Amy Rhone

E. Approve public school districts and Educational Service Units that have established early childhood education programs in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 (92 NAC 11), Regulations for the approval of Prekindergarten Programs established by School Boards or Educational Service Units and for the Issuance of Early Childhood Education Grants
Melody Hobson

F. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the NeMTSS Regional Facilitator for Educational Service Units #3, #6, #10 and #13
Amy Rhone

G. Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an Interagency Agreement between the Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services/ServeNebraska
Zainab Rida and Mariella Resendiz Alvarado

H. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind/Visually Impaired (NCECBVI) Project specific to Outreach services
Amy Rhone and Teresa Coonts

I. Authorize the Commissioner to fund the ESU #10 Pyramid Model/EC MTSS Facilitator
Amy Rhone

J. Authorize the Commissioner to continue funding the Early Childhood MTSS and Early Learning Coach Consultants
Amy Rhone

K. Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the "NDE Transition System Support Project" with ESU #10
Amy Rhone and Theresa Hayes

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD (Per State Board action on 08/05/2021, public comment will be limited to 2 minutes per person and will end no later than 2:30 pm. There will be a 45-minute lunch break during the public comment period to be announced prior to recessing.)
President Nickels

    1. Public Comment

    2. Written Public Comment

4. DISCUSSION OF HEALTH STANDARDS
Commissioner Blomstedt and President Nickels

    1. Discussion Item: Nebraska Health Education Standards Process
    Cory Epler and Lacey Peters

5. ADJOURNMENT (4:00 p.m.)
President Nickels

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, September 3, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined. As needed, a work session will be held on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at a time to be determined.
The agenda contains a list of subjects known at the time of its distribution on July 29, 2021. 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. *Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda will not be changed later than 24 hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting.*

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

Nebraska State Board of Education
Covid-19 Meeting Protocol

Meeting date/time: Thursday, August 5, 2021, 1:30 pm
Friday, August 6, 2021, 9:00 am

Meeting location: Nebraska Innovation Campus Conference Center

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline and detail measures and protocols that seek to protect and ensure the health, welfare, and safety of the public in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. For the purposes of this protocol document, "attendee" shall mean any individual person who is attending the meeting, but not limited to: state board members, Nebraska Department of Education staff members, other State of Nebraska employees, hearing respondents, and members of the public.

Maximum attendance

Maximum attendance at the meeting is limited to the rated capacity of the meeting room. However in order to maintain physical distancing between individuals, the room will be setup with chairs spaced three (3) feet apart. Standing is not allowed in the meeting room. If there are more members of the public who attend than for which there is seating available, members of the public may sit in the overflow room. If the overflow room becomes full or crowded, members of the public may wait in the pre-function area.

Considerations for Attendees to Access Public Meetings

Attendees are asked to comply with the following directives:

a. **Accessibility:** Members of the public are encouraged to maintain 3 feet of physical distancing between others when entering and exiting the room.

b. **Masks:** Masks that cover the mouth and nose are recommended. Individuals who have not been vaccinated for COVID-19 are strongly encouraged to wear a mask.

c. **Hand sanitizer:** Use of hand sanitizer is strongly recommended upon entrance to the meeting room and after attendees touch their face, cough, or sneeze.

d. **Physical distancing:** The meeting room will be arranged to ensure that all attendees are able to practice physical distancing with a space of at least three feet between individuals. Arranged chairs and tables are not to be moved. Attendees are encouraged to avoid shaking hands or making physical contact with other attendees.

e. **Personal questionnaire:** Attendees will be presented with the following questions on signage at the entrance to the meeting room and asked to self-identify responses of "Yes" or "No" to each question.

1. Are you experiencing, or experienced any of the following symptoms in the last 14 days?
    i. Fever or chills
    ii. Cough
    iii. Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
    iv. Fatigue
    v. Muscle or body aches
    vi. Headache
    vii. New loss of taste or smell
    viii. Sore throat
    ix. Congestion or runny nose
    x. Nausea or vomiting
    xi. Diarrhea

2. Have you been in physical contact with or in close proximity to anyone who tested positive for COVID-19 in the last 14 days?

3. Have you traveled outside of the United States in the last 14 days?

4. Have you been in physical contact with or in close proximity to anyone who has traveled outside of the country, or who has been ill?

5. Do you have a temperature of greater than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit?

Should an attendee be able to identify a "Yes" response to any of these question, the Attendee should self-select to not enter the meeting room or overflow room and leave the meeting venue.

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - August

Name	Event Name	Date	Location
Patsy Koch Johns	(NONE)		
Patti Gubbels	(NONE)		
Maureen Nickels	(NONE)		
Robin Stevens	(NONE)		

Out-State Travel Authorization Reports - August

Name	Event Name	Date	Location
Lisa Fricke	(NONE)		
Jacquelyn Morrison	(NONE)		
Deborah Neary	(NONE)		
Patricia Timm	(NONE)		

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

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

FROM: Brad Dirksen, and Kelly Heineke, Accountability, Accreditation and Program Approval

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approval of the 2021-2022 Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE) membership roster.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nebraska Council on Teacher Education is an advisory body to the State Board of Education. They develop and recommend standards related to the following: approval of Nebraska teacher education programs, teaching endorsements, and issuance of educator's certificates. The nominations, which are shaded on the attached NCTE membership roster, were provided by various organizations and institutions that are specified in the Organizational Policies of the Nebraska Council on Teacher Education. The new or reappointed nominations comprise the roster of individuals plus alternates who vote on the recommendations which come before the Council.

Current terms expire on July 31, 2021 and new terms begin on August 1, 2021. The length of terms varies according to Section 4.0 of the Organizational Policies.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):
August 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

N/A

ORGANIZATIONAL POLICIES
OF THE
NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION

1.00 THE NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION

The Nebraska Council on Teacher Education (NCTE) is an advisory body to the Nebraska State Board of Education. The membership is appointed by the State Board of Education from representatives of state-wide organizations which have a direct involvement or interest in teacher and administrative preparation, and from higher education institutions in Nebraska which are approved by the State Board of Education to prepare and recommend for certification teachers, administrators, and counselors; and those people recommended for special services endorsements. The State Board of Education reserves unto itself sole authority over college program approval and certification.

2.00 PURPOSE

As an advisory body to the State Board of Education (Board), NCTE will develop and recommend for State Board approval and adoption:

2.01 Standards relating to state approval of higher education institutions providing teacher and/or administrative preparatory programs; and programs leading to special services certification.

2.02 Standards relating to admission into and retention in an approved professional education program leading to teacher, administrative, or special services certification.

2.03 Standards relating to the issuance of teacher, administrative, and special services certification.

2.04 Standards relating to certification endorsements.

2.05 Standards relating to the relationships of Nebraska teacher, administrator, and special services certification with other states and national bodies.

Further, NCTE members will, at the request of the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), and pursuant to NDE regulations, participate in educator program approval reviews and associated campus visits to those institutions seeking approval for their programs leading to teacher, administrative, and/or special services certification and endorsements, and may recommend approval or non-approval of those programs in compliance with regulations adopted by the State for such purposes.

Additionally, NCTE, through its regular meetings, will provide a forum where representatives of educator preparation, practicing educators, the Nebraska Department of Education, and other educator preparation and certification stakeholders can meet and discuss those issues affecting professional preparation, and seek solutions to problems impacting on the quality of preparation of certified professionals in school settings. The goal of the college approval and professional certification process is to ensure the citizens of Nebraska, in particular, and citizens of the United States, in general, that the teachers and administrators in this state are well qualified and meet all state laws governing certification.

3.00 STATUTORY AUTHORITY
Appointments to the NCTE are made by the Board pursuant to its authorization. Sections 79-318(9), R.R.S., 1943, and 79-808, R.R.S., 1943.

4.00 MEMBERSHIP
The State Board of Education shall appoint all members of the NCTE. Membership shall include equal representation of Higher Education, School Governance, and Teachers as specified in Sections 4.01, 4.02, and 4.03. Terms shall begin August 1 in the year in which the members are appointed and shall continue until July 31 in the year in which their terms expire.

Members are expected to act as liaisons between the NCTE and the groups they represent.

Organizations submitting nominations for members and alternates shall give consideration to balancing the representation with regard to geographic location and state board district, gender, ethnicity, grade level, academic subject area, and school enrollment size. Selection of members shall be in accordance with the following provisions:

4.01 Higher Education
One (1) representative shall be nominated from each Board approved teacher preparation college or university. The representatives shall be nominated by the university or college chancellor or president.

4.02 School Governance
The number of persons representing School Governance shall equal the number of Board approved teacher preparation institutions, and nominated as follows:

4.02A NCAPE Representative. One (1) administrator shall be nominated by the Nebraska Council of American Private Education (NCAPE) to represent private schools.

4.02B School Board Membership. Two (2) School Governance members shall be nominated by the Nebraska Association of School Boards (NASB).

4.02C Administrative/Supervisory Membership. Those nominated and appointed shall include individuals who perform in administrative or supervisory roles in public school or agency settings and include School Administrators, Curriculum Directors, Human Resources and ESU personnel.

4.02Ci Nine (9) members shall be nominated by the Nebraska Council on School Administrators (NCSA).

4.02Cii One (1) Administrative/Supervisory member shall by appointed by the State Board of Education.

4.02D Community College Representative. One (1) individual representing Community Colleges shall be nominated by the Nebraska Community College Association.

4.02E Nebraska Department of Education (NDE). Two (2) representatives of the Nebraska Department of Education shall be nominated by the Nebraska Commissioner of Education.

4.03 Teachers

The number of persons representing practicing teachers shall equal the number of Board approved teacher preparation institutions, and shall be nominated as follows:

4.03A Two (2) shall be nominated by the State Board of Education, and

4.03B The remaining shall be nominated by the Nebraska State Education Association (NSEA).

5.00 ALTERNATES

Each category of membership shall nominate alternates to the Council. The alternates may serve as voting members when members of the official delegation are unable to attend. Names of alternates shall be submitted at the same time as proposed NCTE nominations.

5.01 The NCSA may nominate six (6) alternates; NASB, one (1); NSEA, eight (8); NDE, one (1); NCAPE, one (1); State Board of Education, two (2); and Educator Preparation institutions, one (1) each.

5.02 Alternates may attend meetings of NCTE at times other than when serving as an official delegate but under such circumstances shall not have voting privileges. When not replacing an official delegate, expenses of alternates in attendance are not eligible for state reimbursement.

6.00 METHOD OF SELECTING MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES

Nominations for members and alternates shall be submitted to the Executive Committee of NCTE, which shall review the nominees to determine if the requirements are achieved as described in Section 4.00. If necessary, the Executive Committee will ask a nominating group to modify its list so that the requirements are achieved. The Executive Committee shall submit the final list of nominees to the Commissioner of Education for State Board action prior to the first meeting of the membership year.

When NCTE members are no longer in the position which qualified them for appointment to NCTE, they shall immediately resign from the NCTE. If an approved alternate cannot be utilized for the remaining membership year, the Executive Committee will ask the nominating group or institution for an immediate replacement. Interim replacements made after the annual State Board of Education approval will be approved by NDE staff and formally approved by the State Board if they continue to serve as an NCTE member in the next membership year.

7.00 LENGTH OF TERM

Representatives from the School Governance and the Teachers categories shall serve a term of four years. Representatives of Higher Education and the Department of Education shall be appointed annually.

8.00 NCTE OFFICERS

NCTE officers shall consist of President and President-Elect, who shall serve for a term of two years. Nominations for President-Elect shall be presented at the spring semester meeting of odd numbered years and elected by the membership of NCTE at the summer meeting. The President-Elect shall serve two years as President-Elect and two years as President. The President and President-Elect shall assume office August 1 of the odd numbered years. A representative of the Nebraska Department of Education or his/her designee shall serve as the recording secretary in a non-voting capacity.

The President and President-Elect shall be representative of different membership groups, i.e.,

Governance, Higher Education, Teachers.

The President or the President's designee shall serve as the presiding officer of NCTE and liaison to the Board.

The President and/or the President's designee, will attend regularly, and present a report, at least annually, to the State Board of Education as part of the Board agenda or public comment period.

9.00 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The President, President-Elect, Chairpersons of the Standing Committees, and the two NDE representatives shall constitute the Executive Committee. In the event that any of the following groups: Governance, Higher Education, or Teachers are not represented on the Executive Committee by virtue of office or serving on a Standing Committee, the Executive Committee shall appoint a representative of that unrepresented group to serve for a one-year term.

9.01 Duties. The duties of the Executive Committee shall include the following:

9.01A Meet at least thirty (30) days prior to each regular meeting of the NCTE to prepare an agenda.

9.01B Provide guidance and leadership in conducting the business of NCTE.

9.01C Coordinate the work of the Standing Committees and *ad hoc* committees.

9.01D Review the list of nominees and alternates for appointment to NCTE as provided under the provisions governing membership (Section 6.00) and transmit a final list of nominees to the Commissioner of Education for Board action. The Executive Committee is responsible for determining reasonable balance in the NCTE as described in Section 4.00.

9.01E Appoint a nominating committee of three members: one each from school governance, higher education, and teacher delegates who shall seek candidates for the office of President-Elect. This committee will prepare a slate of nominees to be presented at the March meeting of the odd numbered years and voted on at the June meeting. Nominations may also be made from the floor.

9.01F Appoint the President-Elect as President if the President fails to complete his/her term. The Executive Committee shall then appoint, from the membership of NCTE, an individual to fill the office of President-Elect until the office can be filled by election at the next June meeting.

9.01G Appoint the President and President-Elect if both offices should simultaneously become vacant, until the offices can be filled by election at the next June meeting.

9.01H Assign members of NCTE to Standing Committees of NCTE and make reassignments to fill vacancies as they occur.

9.01I Annually approve a calendar of anticipated endorsement reviews.

9.01J Review proposed endorsements as presented by the *ad hoc* committee chair. The Executive Committee may return the proposed endorsement to the *ad*

hoc committee with recommendations for modification, make minor changes in the proposed endorsement with the approval of the *ad hoc* committee chair, and/or forward it to the appropriate Standing Committee

9.01K Review every proposed endorsement as presented by the *ad hoc* committee chair for requests to change the number of semester credit hours, grade levels, and undergraduate or graduate status. Any changes in these three areas must be approved by the Executive Committee.

9.01L Initiate, receive, and/or evaluate proposals for new endorsements. The Executive Committee will refer any proposed new endorsement to the full Council. The full Council will decide whether such a proposed endorsement shall be recommended for addition to Rule 24. If the Council decides favorably, an *ad hoc* committee will be set up under the normal procedures.

9.01M The Executive Committee may initiate, receive and/or evaluate proposals for endorsement revisions and will refer those proposals to the appropriate *ad hoc* or Standing Committee for action under the normal procedures.

9.01N Act on behalf of the full Council when there is a need for a decision which cannot be postponed to a subsequent regular meeting of the full Council. When such action is taken, a report will be made to the membership at the next regular meeting. The Executive Committee may make a decision on any topic except to reverse a recent decision of the Council.

10.00 STANDING COMMITTEE OFFICERS.

During the spring semester meeting of each even numbered year, each Standing Committee, from its membership, shall elect a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and Secretary who shall serve for a term of two years. The officers may be re-elected once. Succeeding officers for each position must be elected from a different representational group. The term shall begin August 1st of the same year. In the event of a resignation or vacancy, the Standing Committee shall elect a successor at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

The Secretary shall provide a copy of the minutes to NDE within 14 days of the meeting for inclusion in the published minutes of the Council.

11.00 STANDING COMMITTEES

There shall be three Standing Committees with membership drawn from the members of NCTE. Membership on each Standing Committee shall consist of one-third of the NCTE membership, and each committee shall include a balanced number of representatives from Higher Education, Governance, and Teachers. The Executive Committee will determine, to the extent possible, the priority agenda items for the membership year for each Standing Committee at their meeting preceding the first annual NCTE meeting. Additional agenda items may be identified throughout the membership year.

11.01 Responsibilities of the Standing Committees shall be to:

Conduct periodic review of educator certification requirements and recommend changes to NCTE for consideration and adoption. Such recommendations, when approved, shall constitute recommendations to the Board for revision in applicable educator preparation and certification Rules.

Deliberate and make recommendations to the full Council on such special issues as assigned.

Review the requirements for endorsements on a schedule determined by the Executive Committee in collaboration with NDE staff and shall recommend revisions in such requirements to the full Council. Action taken by the full Council shall constitute a recommendation to the Board. The committee, in conducting such reviews, shall utilize the expertise of *ad hoc* committees which shall meet the requirements set forth under Section 17.00. Recommend the names and addresses of appropriate persons to serve on the *ad hoc* committees according to the categories stipulated in the *Ad Hoc* Committee Guidelines. Such names will be submitted to the Nebraska Department of Education who will create a balanced *ad hoc* committee according to the guidelines in Section 17.00.

If, in the opinion of the Executive Committee, extra meetings of a Standing Committee need to occur in order to process the endorsements in an expeditious manner, special meetings may be called. In such cases, the State of Nebraska will cover the usual expenses as described in Section 16.00.

12.00 COLLEGE APPROVAL

The full Council shall act as a committee of the whole to recommend college approval. Using the standards adopted by the Board for approval of educator preparation programs, the Department of Education shall schedule and provide for folio review teams and college visits. The visitation teams will include NCTE representatives who have participated in NDE-sponsored college approval process training.

A. The number of persons serving on State folio review and visitation teams will be determined by the size of the institution.

B. Areas of expertise for persons nominated to serve on state approval teams will be reviewed by NDE prior to appointment to a review team.

C. Persons selected to serve on visitation teams must verify that they do not have a conflict of interest with that institution.

D. The Nebraska Department of Education shall coordinate college program approval training and updates on a schedule recommended by the Executive Committee.

E. NDE staff will report the results of the state program approval to NCTE. The unit head, or his/her designee, shall be afforded an opportunity to respond to a visitation report before a recommendation is made by the full Council to the Department of Education. The rejoinder will be made to the Executive Committee prior to the commencement of the morning business meeting. A recommendation for action by the NCTE will be made by the Executive Committee during the afternoon business meeting.

F. NCTE executive committee representatives shall forward NCTE recommendations to the Commissioner of Education for State Board of Education action.

13.00 MEETINGS OF NCTE

There shall be three regular meetings of NCTE – one during the fall semester, one during the spring semester, and one during the summer. Meetings of the NCTE shall be subject to the open meetings law and public notice of said meetings shall be made by NDE.

The meeting agenda and associated materials for Council action will be posted to the website thirty (30) days prior to the meeting date.

Special meetings of the Council may be called by the President when authorized by the Executive Committee and approved by the Commissioner of Education.

All meetings will be in compliance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, Nebraska Revised State Statute 85-1401 through 84-1414.

14.00 VISITORS COMMENT PERIOD

In conjunction with each meeting of NCTE, there shall be a public comment period at which time those members of the public wishing to address NCTE shall have an opportunity to do so, subject to procedures adopted by NCTE. The presiding officer shall have the right to limit discussion in order to facilitate the work of NCTE.

In conjunction with debate on specific recommendations being considered by NCTE, the Chairperson of a Standing Committee or the President may request that a non-member be allowed to address the membership regarding that issue. The request shall be granted unless there is an objection. In such event, the non-member shall be granted speaking privileges only by an affirmative vote of a majority of the membership present.

15.00 AMENDMENTS TO THESE ORGANIZATIONAL POLICIES

These Organizational Policies may be recommended for changes by majority vote of the membership present provided that such recommended changes shall have been provided to the membership at least 30 days prior to the date of the business meeting at which a vote to amend is taken. The NCTE President, or his/her designee, shall present the recommendations to the State Board of Education. Such recommended changes shall become effective when approved by the State Board of Education.

16.00 EXPENSES

Expenses for Program Reviews, Approval Visits; NCTE, Executive Committee, Task Force, and *ad hoc* committee meetings; and NCTE member and alternate (when serving as a delegate) expenses for such meetings shall be borne by the State of Nebraska in accordance with state approved expense guidelines.

Members of *ad hoc* committees will be reimbursed for expenses by the State of Nebraska in accordance with state approved expense guidelines. School districts may be reimbursed for the cost of a substitute for teachers serving on *ad hoc* committees.

17.00 PROCEDURES FOR ENDORSEMENT REVISION

17.01 Ad Hoc Committee Overview. The *ad hoc* committee membership is selected to give representation to professional teacher educators; scholars in the field; PK-12 educators; the general public; administrators; and the Nebraska Department of Education. Members are selected to reflect balanced representation with regard to geographic location and state board district, gender, ethnicity, grade level, academic subject area, and school enrollment size. It is the responsibility of the *ad hoc* committee to review and update the criteria for endorsement in the specified area, such that

teacher, administrator, and special services educator requirements reflect the best of current knowledge and are responsive to special needs in Nebraska.

17.02 Ad Hoc Chairs. Chairs of the *ad hoc* committees shall be collaboratively determined by the NDE Team Leader responsible for the endorsement area, and the NDE designee with responsibilities for NCTE coordination.

17.03 Ad Hoc Membership. The membership of an *ad hoc* committee shall include representation from the categories below. *Ad hoc* committees will generally include 10-12 members. Members may fulfill more than one of the categories listed below:

17.03A Practitioners currently endorsed and employed in approved or accredited public or private schools in the endorsement area at the grade levels under consideration.

17.03B Faculty members from a college or department of education who are teaching professional education courses or serve as the certification official at an approved educator preparation institution.

17.03C Specialists in the content area which might include Arts and Science college faculty or persons drawn from professional practice in the endorsement area.

17.03D Administrative or supervisory personnel from approved or accredited public or private schools with responsibility for supervision, leadership or personnel functions at the grade levels and/or in the content area.

17.03E Representation from the NCTE Standing Committee to which the endorsement has been assigned.

17.03F A Nebraska Department of Education representative who has responsibilities related to the endorsement area and who may also serve as the *Ad Hoc Committee* chair.

17.03G Representatives of national/state specialty professional associations or professionals drawn from areas of employment related to the content areas.

17.03H Additional PK-12 school practitioners or higher education faculty members to equalize the representation between these two groups.

17.03I A Nebraska Department of Education designee, who will be a non-voting member and serve as a consultant for the *ad hoc* committee.

17.04 Ad Hoc Procedures

Designated Nebraska Department of Education staff will coordinate with Ad Hoc committee:

17.04A Review Nebraska endorsement requirements for the specific area.

17.04B Review guidelines from other regulating bodies such as learned societies/specialty professional associations, national accrediting bodies, Nebraska K-12 Content Standards/Frameworks and the National Board for

Professional Teaching Standards.

17.04C Review Nebraska and national supply and demand data.

17.04D Review current trends and research for educator preparation in the specified areas.

17.04E Determine if there is a need to continue the endorsement area.

17.04F Act as liaison persons between *ad hoc* committee deliberations and the groups they represent.

17.04G Present endorsement revisions to the NCTE Executive Committee.

17.05 NCTE Endorsement Approval. Upon approval by the Executive Committee, the revised endorsement will move through NCTE utilizing the following process.

17.05A First Hearing. The proposed endorsement (Rule 24 and Guidelines) is presented to the full Council at the general session. The *ad hoc* committee chair (or the individual(s) proposing a revision) presents the proposed endorsement and also leads discussion from the NCTE membership regarding questions and concerns identified by the membership, including those submitted prior to the meeting.

17.05B Second Hearing. The Standing Committee assigned to the endorsement continues discussion of the endorsement immediately following the 1st general session of the NCTE meeting. The Standing Committee may:

1. Recommend changes before the next regularly scheduled NCTE meeting. If major changes are needed before the Standing Committees will approve the endorsement, it is usually sent back to the ad *hoc* committee. However, the appropriate Standing Committee reserves the right to make any and all final changes before presentation to the full Council. If substantive changes or further clarification or discussion is needed prior to a final vote, the proposed endorsement will be moved to consideration at the next NCTE full Council meeting;

2. Accept the proposed endorsement at this second reading, and if no changes are needed, recommend a final vote at the 2nd General Session; or

3. Recommend the endorsement be held for final vote until the next full Council meeting.

17.05C Presentation to the Full Council. The proposed endorsement with the approval of the Standing Committee is presented to the full Council by the Chair of the Standing Committee for a roll call vote. If a majority vote to accept the endorsement is not achieved, the endorsement will remain in Second Hearing and return to the Standing Committee for additional discussion and revision. Upon approval by the full Council, the recommendations are forwarded to the State Board.

NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
2021-2022 MEMBERSHIP

__/__/21 – State Board Approved
❖Indicates members with NCATE Training
⌘Indicates members with CAEP training
D1 - D8 Indicates State Board District
*New NCTE Members

HIGHER EDUCATION

Bellevue University
*Susan Alford (2022) – D8
1000 Galvin Road South
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-557-7131
salford@bellevue.edu

Bellevue University
*Erin McDonnell-Jones *alternate* (2022 – D8
1000 Galvin Road South
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-557-7582
emcdonnelljones@bellevue.edu

Chadron State College
*Ira Ortega (2022) - D7 – *(replacing Don King)*
1000 Main St.
Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-6364
iortega@csc.edu

Chadron State College
*Adam Fette *alternate* (2022) - D7 – *(replacing Eric Rapp)*
1000 Main St.
Chadron, NE 69337
308-432-6469
afette@csc.edu

College of Saint Mary
Paula Peal (2022) - D8
7000 Mercy Rd.
Omaha, NE 68106
402-399-2651
ppeal@csm.edu

College of Saint Mary
Mary Ritzdorf *alternate* (2022) – D8
7000 Mercy Rd.
Omaha, NE 68106
402-399-2630
mritzdorf@csm.edu

Concordia University
Lorinda Sankey (2022) - D5
800 N. Columbia
Seward, NE 68434
402-643-7385
Lorinda.Sankey@cune.edu

Concordia University
❖Kathleen Wheeler *alternate* (2022) - D5
800 N. Columbia
Seward, NE 68434
402-643-7372 (office)
Kathleen.Wheeler@cune.edu

Creighton University
Tim Cook (2022) - D4
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178
402-280-2561
timothycook@creighton.edu

Creighton University
April Buschelman *alternate* (2022) - D4
2500 California Plaza
Omaha, NE 68178
402-280-3583
aprilbuschelman@creighton.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION (continued)

Doane University
⌘Tim Frey (2022) - D5
1014 Boswell
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-8648 (work)
timothy.frey@doane.edu

Doane University
Emily Griesch *alternate* (2022) - D5
1014 Boswell
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-8538 (work)
emily.griesch@doane.edu

Hastings College
Darci Karr (2022) – D6
710 N. Turner Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-461-7304 (office)
dkarr@hastings.edu

Hastings College
❖⌘Kass Rempp *alternate* (2022) - D6
710 N. Turner Ave.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-461-7307 (work)
krempp@hastings.edu

Midland University
Sara Tiedeman (2022) - D3
900 North Clarkson
Anderson 422A
Fremont, NE 68025
402-941-6380 (office)
tiedeman@midlandu.edu

Midland University
To Be Appointed – *(replacing Andrew Goodman)*

Nebraska Wesleyan University
Randy Ernst (2022) - D1
5000 St. Paul Ave.
Lincoln, NE 68504
402-465-2310
rernst2@NebrWesleyan.edu

Nebraska Wesleyan University
Diane Mickey *alternate* (2022) - D1
5000 St. Paul Ave.
Lincoln, NE 68504
402-465-2308
dmickey@NebrWesleyan.edu

Peru State College
*Dwayne Chism (2022) *(replacicng Gina Bittner)*
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421
402-872-2244 (office)
dchism@peru.edu

Peru State College
Stephanie Holmes *alternate* (2022) – D5
P.O. Box 10
Peru, NE 68421
402-872-2399 (office)
sholmes@peru.edu

Union College
Peter Adams (2022) - D1
3800 South 48th St.
Dick Building 406-A
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-486-2600 ext. 2173
peter.adams@ucollege.edu

Union College
Susan Byers *alternate* (2022) - D1
3800 South 48th St.
Dick Building 403-E
Lincoln, NE 68506
402-486-2522 ext. 2158
susan.byers@ucollege.edu

HIGHER EDUCATION (continued)

University of NE - Kearney
Jenny Jansky (2022) - D6
College of Education, C128
1615 W. 24th
Kearney, NE 68849
308-865-8266 (office)
janskyjl@unk.edu

University of NE – Kearney
Chandra Diaz *alternate* (2022)- D6
College of Education, B151
1615 W. 24th
Kearney, NE 68849
308-865-8930 (office)
diazcc@unk.edu

University of NE - Lincoln
⌘Sara Skretta (2022) - D1
116 Henzlik Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0355
402-472-8626 (office)
sskretta2@unl.edu

University of NE - Lincoln
Guy Trainin *alternate* (2022) - D1
44A Henzlik Hall
Lincoln, NE 68588-0355
402-472-2231
gtrainin2@unl.edu

University of NE - Omaha
⌘Kris Swain (2022) – D8
College of Education, Roskens Hall
6005 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0163
402-554-3119 (office)
kswain@unomaha.edu

University of NE - Omaha
Kathy Danielson *alternate* (2022) – D8
College of Education, Roskens Hall
6005 Dodge Street
Omaha, NE 68182-0163
402-554-2218 (office)
kdanielson@unomaha.edu

Wayne State College
Nick Shudak (2022) – D3
Brandenburg Education 136
1111 Main St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7164
nishuda1@wsc.edu

Wayne State College
Brook Jech *alternate* (2022) – D3
Brandenburg Education 136
1111 Main St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-7373
brjech1@wsc.edu

York College
⌘Erin DeHart (2022) - D6
Middlebrook Hall
1125 E. 8th
York, NE 68467
402-363-5684 (office)
edehart@york.edu

York College
Sarah Van Gomple *alternate* (2022) - D6
Middlebrook Hall
1125 E. 8th
York, NE 68467
402-363-5691
smvangomple@york.edu

NEBRASKA COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATION

Paul Illich (2023)
Southeast Community College
8800 O Street
Lincoln, NE 68520
402-471-3333
pillich@southeast.edu

To Be Appointed – *(replacing Greg Adams)*

NEBRASKA ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS

Jim Vlach (2023) – D3
PO Box 143
775 S. 7th Ave.
Lyons, NE 68038
402-687-8083
kvlach@abbnebraska.com

Dana Blakely (2023) – D8
1204 S. 99
Omaha, NE 68124
402-598-0816
blakely.dana@westside66.net

Lisa Wagner *alternate* (2024)
1802 10th Road
Archer, NE 68816
308-940-0228
lisa.wagner@centralcityps.org

NEBRASKA COUNCIL ON AMERICAN PRIVATE EDUCATION

Vickie K. Kauffold - (2024) – *(replacing Jeremy Ekeler)*
Superintendent of Schools
Catholic Schools Office
2222 N. 111th St.
Omaha, NE 68164-3817
402-557-5600 Ext. 2002
vkkauffold@archomaha.org

*Bob Ziegler, *alternate* (2025) – *(replacing Vickie Kauffold)*
Superintendent of Schools
Nebraska District Lutheran Schools
152 S. Columbia Ave. – P.O. Box 407
Seward, NE 68434
1-888-643-2961, Ext. 1010
bobz@ndlcms.org

NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS

To Be Appointed – *(replacing Mark Adler)*

Chad Boyer – (2023) – D3
Wisner Pilger Public Schools
PO Box 580
Wisner, NE 68791
402-529-3249 (office)
cboyer@igators.org

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NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (continued)

Jason Harris (2023) – D8
Columbus Public Schools
2508 27th St.
Columbus, NE 68601
402-563-7000 (office)
harrisj@discoverers.org

Kraig Lofquist (2023) – D8
Ex. Director - ESUCC
6949 S. 110th St.
La Vista, NE 68128
402-597-4915 (work)
klofquist@esucc.org

Joshua McDowell (2023) – D5
Crete Public Schools
920 Linden Ave.
Crete, NE 68333
402-826-5855
joshua.mcdowell@creteschools.org

Sharra Smith (2021) - D3
Director of Personnel
Bellevue Public Schools
2600 Arboretum Drive
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-293-4032 (work)
sharra.smith@bpsne.net

Jerry Beach *alternate* (2021) - D3
1550 Betts Circle
P.O. Box 128
Ft. Calhoun, NE 68023
402-468-4509
beach@midlandu.edu

John Schwartz *alternate* (2024)
Norris School District 160
25211 South 68th
Firth, NE 68358
402-791-0000
john.schwartz@nsdtitans.org

Mark Lenihan (2023) - D3
Wayne Community Schools
611 W. 7th St.
Wayne, NE 68787
402-375-3150 (office)
malenih1@waynebluedevils.org

Dawn Lewis (2023) – D3
Arlington Public Schools
P.O. Box 580
Arlington, NE 68002
402-478-4173
dawn.lewis@apseagles.org

Kim Saum-Mills (2023) – D2
Millard Public Schools
5606 S. 147th St.
Omaha, NE 68137
402-715-8418
ksaummills@mpsomaha.org

Cory Worrell (2024)
Waverly School District 145
14511 Heywood
P.O. Box 426
Waverly, NE 68462
402-786-2321
cory.worrell@district145.org

Josh Fields *alternate* (2023) – D5
Seward Public Schools
410 South St.
Seward, NE 68434
402-643-2986
josh.fields@sewardschools.org

Kami Jessop *alternate* (2023) – D8
Westside Community Schools
909 S. 76th St.
Omaha, NE 68114
402-390-2110
jessop.kami@westside66.net

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NEBRASKA COUNCIL OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS (continued)

Mitch Kubicek *alternate* (2024) – D5
Milford Public Schools
724 238th Road
Milford, NE 68405
402-641-3627
mkubicek@milfordpublicschools.org

Nicole Regan *alternate* (2023) – D1
Lincoln Public Schools
5905 O St.
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-436-1576
nregan@lps.org

TEACHERS
State Board Appointed

Michelle Helt (2023) – D3
South Sioux City Public Schools
820 E. 29th Street
South Sioux City, NE 68776
402-494-1662 (work)
712-898-8197 (home)
michelle.helt@ssccards.org

Tanishia Jacobs (2024)
Bellevue Public Schools
2600 Arboretum Drive
Bellevue, NE 68005
402-293-4510 (work)
402-981-7434 (Home)
butlertanishia@gmail.com

To Be Appointed -*alternate – (replacing Jordan Burns)*

NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

❖Sarah Brown (2024) – D5
Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools
1540 Forest (Home)
Crete, NE 68333
402-821-2508 (work)
402-826-2698 (home)
travelersarah@hotmail.com

Jordan Burns (2025)
Papillion LaVista Community Schools
7909 Reed St.
Papillion, NE 68046
402-898-0408 (work)
605-661-2386 (cell)
jeburns20@gmail.com

❖Diana Casey (2025) – D8
Omaha Public Schools
1524 Cuming Street, #319
Omaha, NE 68102
402-596-1668 (home)
531-299-1480 (school)
diana.casey@ops.org

Marsha Edquist (2022) – D8
14820 Mary Street
Omaha, NE 68116
402-660-4282
maedquist@cox.net

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NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (continued)

Devin Garcia (2023) – D5
P.O. Box 115
Diller, NE 68342
402-239-6551
devin.garcia307@gmail.com

Pat Ludeke (2022) – D3
Fremont Public Schools
108 S. Irving St.
Fremont, NE 68025
402-727-3164 (work)
402-206-3303 (cell)
pat.ludeke@fpsmail.org

*Lee Perez (2025) – *(replacing Michelle Tebbe)*
1502 Pasadena Ave.
Omaha, NE 68107-2114
402-301-1252
lee.perez@ops.org
leemartinperez@gmail.com

*Dashiell Rohan (2025) – *(replacing Rachel Hanson)*
441 Frank St.
Harrison, NE 69346
308-668-2177
drohan00@hotmail.com

Edward Ventura (2024) – *(replacing Patty Wenninghoff)*
Omaha Public Schools
7800 S. 25th St.
Omaha, NE 68147-2125
531-299-1220 (work)
402-210-1655 (cell)
edward.ventura@ops.org
venturaomaha@gmail.com

Susan Loney (2022) – D1
4107 N. 162nd Ave.
Omaha, NE 68116-2966
402-898-1697 (work)
402-660-6732 (cell)
susan.loney@ops.org

❖Donna Moss (2023) - D6
616 Thomas Dr.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-670-1611 (cell)
402-461-7578 (office)
donnajean.moss@gmail.com

❖⌘Caroline Rice (2023) – D5
18202 Nicholas Rd.
Plattsmouth, NE 68048
402-297-4263 (cell)
carolinerice@hotmail.com

Susan Stake (2023) – D1
6615 Shenandoah Ct.
Lincoln, NE 68510
402-786-2348 (work)
204-484-6927 (home)
susan.stake@district145.org

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NEBRASKA STATE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (continued)

Doreen Jankovich *alternate* (2023)
509 South 51st Ave.
Omaha, NE 68106
402-517-8949 (cell)
doreen.jankovich@gmail.com

Fran Marymee *alternate* (2023)
5325 W. Idlewilde Dr.
Hastings, NE 68901
402-984-7800
wallf7@gmail.com

Jason Wiese *alternate* (2024)
Arlington Public Schools
705 N. 9th St.
P.O. Box 443
Arlington, NE 68002
402-478-4171
jason.wiese@apseagles.org
jwiese1974@gmail.com

To Be Appointed - *alternate* *(replacing Linda Mihm)*

To Be Appointed - *alternate* *(replacing Rachel Palmer)*

To Be Appointed - *alternate* *(replacing Ed Ventura)*

NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Brad Dirksen (2022) - D1
Nebraska Dept. of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-430-0267
brad.dirksen@nebraska.gov

Kelly Heineke (2022) – D1
Nebraska Dept of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-314-4432
kelly.heineke@nebraska.gov

Clayton Waddle (2022) – *alternate* - D1
Nebraska Department of Education
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509
402-471-0738
clayton.waddle@nebraska.gov

DRAFT

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 26, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Rhone – Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Appoint the recommended individual(s) to fill vacancies on the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The State Board approves all SEAC members. The normal expiration of terms of individuals after the 2020-2021 year created five SEAC vacancies. In addition to the five members who completed their four-year terms, one member, who represented institutions of higher education, resigned from her position, and another member who represented state and local educational officials carrying out activities under the Homeless Assistance Act also resigned, bringing the total number of member vacancies to seven. To meet the requirements of the federal special education law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), it is necessary to fill the vacancies. Members chosen represent all eight of the State Board of Education election districts. The Council voting membership shall not be fewer than 15 members nor more than 30 members.

Members whose first term expired and are eligible to serve a second term will fill four SEAC vacancies along with the recommendation of two new members. Below is listed the recommended new members along with the four returning members requesting re-appointment. The completed applications for the recommended members are on file in the Special Education Office, available upon request; not included due to IDEA confidentiality requirements.

Name	Representation
Adia Brightman (v) **State Board District 4*	SPED Supervisor – Omaha Public, *****Returning Member
Samantha Jacobson (i) (ii) **State Board District 5*	Individual, SPED Teacher – Madison Public, *Returning Member

Jennifer Meints (i) Parent
**State Board District 1*
Jennifer is a parent of a child with disabilities and is also the Board Chair for the Arc of Lincoln. Jennifer has been an advocate for the past 18.5 years for her daughter and sits on the DD Council as their Chair. It is Jennifer's mission to help parents and guardians find their voice to advocate for their loved one.

Kirk Russell (iv) Assistant Administrator – NDE (Homeless Assistance Act)
**State Board District 1*
Kirk is an Assistant Administrator for the Office of ESEA Federal Programs/Section Director Title 1 Dep. Of Education. Kirk is replacing recently retired NDE employee Cathy Mohnike to represent the Homeless Assistance Act.

Graciela Sharif (i) (vi) Parent, Parent/Resource Coordinator – UNMC/MMI, *Returning Member
**State Board District 8*

Allison Wilson (ix) DHHS Program Specialist, *Returning Member
**State Board District 1*

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 16, 2021**

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

FROM: Carla Lasley, Program Director of Community Services
Lindy Foley, Nebraska VR Office Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Public Consulting Group (PCG) to complete a cost methodology study to establish rates for Nebraska VR's supported employment program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Supported employment services include job placement and development, job coaching, and other supports for Nebraska VR clients who meet criteria as having the most significant disabilities. Nebraska VR requested proposals to develop a cost methodology study. Two proposals were received in response to Nebraska VR's Request for Proposals.

The Public Consulting Group proposal obtained the highest overall score. In addition, PCG was the only organization with demonstrated experience developing a cost methodology for vocational rehabilitation supported employment rates. Based on the higher score and PCG's experience with other state vocational rehabilitation agencies, Nebraska VR selected PCG to complete this important work.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $125,464

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Award #H126A210039-21A, 84.126A Federal/State Vocational Rehabilitation Funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 23, 2021

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

FROM: Dr. Zainab Rida and Dr. Jolene Palmer, Office of Coordinated Student Support Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Boys Town, USA to become the communications center for the LB 322 School Safety and Security Reporting System Act, specifically Safe2HelpNE.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

LB322 passed on May 26, 2021, with an effective date of July 1, 2021. It provides for NDE to establish the Safe2HelpNE report line as a statewide anonymous reporting system to support threat assessment teams and reduce potential risks and incidents of violence. Steps are being taken toward the transition of the Douglas County pilot to become a statewide implementation by September 1, 2021.

LB322 creates and funds the Nebraska Safety and Security Reporting System. The bill requires the Department of Education to establish a multi-modal statewide, anonymous reporting system enabling students, parents, and school personnel to report threats or concerns of possible harm. The communications center is to be functional 24/7/365 with trained crisis counselors receiving and triaging reports then notifying school district threat assessment teams of the details of the reports. This reporting system will support public and nonpublic K-12 school threat assessment teams, the intent of which is to reduce risk and incidents of targeted violence including harm to self, others, or school property. The reporting system shall be named and known as the Safe2HelpNE.

Boys Town, USA provided the communications center support for the Douglas County pilot project and continues to operate under funds provided by the Omaha Police Department and The Sherwood Foundation until August 31, 2021. Boys Town, USA is the only in-state 24/7/365 communications center with trained crisis counselors. This contract will transfer the operations of the project to NDE with the assistance of Boys Town, USA as the communications center.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $809,445
FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Covid-19 funding sources for first three years of implementation of Safe2HelpNE (BU TBA)

- New or Renewal: New

- If renewal, date of first approval: NA

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 28, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to amend the contract with Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to coordinate the creation of a community schools pilot program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Initial request identified the Full-Service Community School approach would be piloted at three or four communities. Upon receiving applications, four communities have been selected due to their unique implementation plans of the Full-Service Community School approach. Grant Island has selected the O'Connor Early Learning Center, Schuyler and South Sioux City have selected an elementary school and Fremont has selected their middle school. The four sites will each target Full-Service Community School focus areas and provide coordination and integration of a Full-Service Community School approach at various school levels. This will allow for a diverse approach as we continue to develop Full-Service Community Schools in Nebraska. By amending the contract, we request an additional $200,000 to cover the delivery of FSCS approach at four sites and the evaluation of all four models.

Due to the amendment increasing the cost of the contract by more than $50,000, and this contract being previously approved by the State Board, board approval is required for this amendment.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed $200,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER II (CRSSA), ESSER III (ARP)

- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: May 2021

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 21, 2021**

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

FROM: Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

PROPOSED ACTION ITEM: Authorize the commissioner to amend the current contract with SchoolKit.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In their current contract, SchoolKit provided professional learning to support the implementation of the Zearn Math Summer Intensive Series. With this amendment, SchoolKit will provide professional learning for schools implementing Zearn Math for SY 2021-2022 as either (1) core instructional materials for mathematics or (2) as a digital companion to core instructional materials for mathematics.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Contract is amended not to exceed $241,400 (from $166,400)

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 21, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Stone 2 Bread LLC to work on ServeNebraska AmeriCorp application.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) proposes to develop an AmeriCorps planning grant program serving in the State of Nebraska that will focus on the education alignment to the Nebraska's Framework for School Renewal and Acceleration due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NDE seeks to contract with Stone 2 Bread LLC to initiate the development of an application to apply for an AmeriCorps grant. This will allow the NDE to assess and assist the needs of Nebraska school districts, communities, and students to refocus and accelerate student learning, particularly for historically underserved student groups.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed $58,800

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Department of Health and Human Services-ServeNebraska
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 27, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Administrator Office of Coordinated School Student Support & Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Children's Hospital & Medical Center for the purpose of providing expertise on child health topics and intervention through a partnership with the Nebraska Healthy Schools Program.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Children's will continue to partner with the Nebraska Healthy Schools program to support the development of training and professional development in chronic care management best practices and activities (population based and individual case management) related to COVID-19 education, the reduction of childhood obesity and advancing the management of chronic health conditions and behavioral health topics for the time frame from August 9, 2021 to July 31, 2022.
Utilize Children's expertise to support the development of Rule 59 management and support for LEA's, as well as legislative approved asthma and seizure safe schools management and execution of workplan elements for the CDC health surveillance data collection efforts.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $169,383

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal- CDC 1801 Healthy Schools Funds, CDC 1807 Health Surveillance
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: August 2018

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
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Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 27, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Administrator Office of Coordinated School Student Support & Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Board of Regents, University of Nebraska, University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the purpose of providing expertise on staff wellbeing efforts as part of the Healthy Schools program and Team Nutrition training grant.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: UNL will continue to partner with the Nebraska Healthy Schools program to support the development of training and professional development in the support of health and wellbeing efforts for staff wellbeing and the utilization of local foods within local schools for the time frame from August 9, 2021 to July 31, 2022.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $58,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal- CDC 1801 Healthy Schools and USDA Team Nutrition Grant Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: August 2018

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TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 20, 2021

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

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to approve a contract renewal with Emspace + Lovgren Communications for continuation of the Step Up to Quality public engagement campaign.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This contract is a continuation of the statewide communications and public engagement project for Nebraska's Quality Rating and Improvement System for early childhood providers called Step Up to Quality. The original contract was awarded to Emspace + Lovgren Communications in August of 2020 after a Request for Proposals (RFP) process was completed. The renewal recommendation is based on the following outcomes:

- **Account management**. Emspace provides monthly updates regarding website activity including areas of the website that are being visited and the frequency of the visits.
- **Expanded website**. Continual improvements to the website are being made based on reported data for ease of use and clarifications for users.
- **Paid media and online advertising.** Emspace provides reports regarding on-line advertising to determine the advertising spots that are working and driving individuals to the Step Up to Quality website.
- **Using local media to highlight providers and share progress**. Emspace creates media templates and press releases. Collaboration between the contractor and the NDE communication team resulted in numerous local TV and newspaper stories.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $150,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: State General Funds and Federal Child Care and Development Funds.
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2016, Re-bid in 2020.

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TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 20, 2021

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

FROM: Janet Drudik, Program Director of Special Projects
Lindy Foley, Nebraska VR Office Administrator

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with the University of Massachusetts Boston to perform Progressive Employment training for Nebraska VR staff in September 2021.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This is a second session of Progressive Employment training for additional staff following the previous training held in March 2021 (contract #41282, $41,123.98.)

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $21,999.84

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Award #H126A210039-21A, 84.126A Federal/State Vocational Rehabilitation Funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 24, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.
Administrator, Office of Coordinated School Student Support & Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant the Commissioner the authority to contract with Colyar Technology Solutions, Inc. for a period from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 for the purpose of maintaining the .netCNP system and incorporating change requests.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Nutrition Services implemented the web-based Child Nutrition Program (CNP) application and claiming system in 2000. The CNP System & Administrative Review module will require ongoing maintenance to insure uninterrupted service to schools and institutions.

The change requests will further enhance the software to increase efficiency of State agency staff, simplify operation for our SFAs (School Food Authorities) and ensure integrity of the system.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $116,750

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: USDA State Administrative Expense Funds
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 1998

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301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 15, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Grant the Commissioner the authority to renew the contract with partners for the Project AWARE grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nebraska Department of Education was awarded a Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resiliency in Education) State Education Agency Grant through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The State Board of Education authorized the Commissioner to accept the grant at the October 5, 2018 Board Meeting.

As documented and approved in the grant application, the Department intends to contract with the following partners through September 29, 2021:

- University of Nebraska Board of Regents—Lincoln Public Policy Center for project evaluation, including data collection, performance measurement, and written reports;
- Chadron Public Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection;
- Hastings Public Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection, and;
- South Sioux City Community Schools Public Schools for local project development, implementation, operation, and data collection.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

Not to exceed $1,344.676

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal SAMHSA Project AWARE Grant
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: October 5, 2018

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TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 26, 2021

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

FROM: Dr. Shirley Vargas and Dr. Kim Snyder

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Educational Service Unit 13 for one year in a shared employee contract arrangement to fulfill services as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nebraska State Board of Education approved revisions to the *Nebraska Teacher and Principal Performance Standards* in April 2020. With the changing landscape in educational roles and responsibilities, courageous and necessary shifts toward consistency in expectations within Nebraska will translate to equitable opportunities for each student. In order to develop and implement an educator effectiveness system to reflect this work, we are requesting the Commissioner have the ability to contract with ESU 13 to provide an ESU 13 employee with necessary credentials, experience, and expertise to fulfill services for NDE as an Educator Effectiveness Specialist while remaining an ESU 13 employee. This employee will support the development, implementation, and improvement of Nebraska's educator effectiveness system.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Up to $125,000 based on qualifications

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:
Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Title II-A Statewide funds 3% set-aside funds

- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: April 7, 2020

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 26, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to contract with Firespring Print, Inc for Nebraska's AWARE-SEA Grant Project.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska's AWARE-SEA Grant Project would like to contract with Firespring Print, Inc to create a communications strategy and creative assets that will be used to bring about meaningful positive change throughout Nebraska's schools through the creation and distribution of these materials. These assets will be used to increase awareness of mental health issues and provide information on what individuals can do to either help others or get help. Content will also be formulated that has the purpose of reducing the stigma of mental health issues and those in Nebraska school's that are suffering.

Due to the existence of two current contracts between the Department of Education and Firespring Print, Inc, this proposed contract would put the total amount contracted with Firespring Print, Inc to more than $50,000, so board approval is required for this contract.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $45,690

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal SAMHSA AWARE-SEA grant
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

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301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 27, 2021

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

FROM: Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

PROPOSED ACTION ITEM:

Authorize the commissioner to contract with TNTP for three years from August 2021 – August 2024 for the (1) Statewide Learning Acceleration Series and (2) Leader Development Cohort.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) application identifies five themes that guide Nebraska's School Renewal and Acceleration strategies for SY 2021-2022, SY 2022-2023, and SY 2023-2024. The proposed work with Instruction Partners aligns to the following ARP priorities:

- Investment in teacher professional development, upskilling, and the teacher and leader pipeline.
- Ensure students have equitable access to grade-level instruction to address unfinished learning and support learning acceleration

Specially, this contract would support two projects over three years.

1. Statewide Learning Acceleration Series: TNTP will deliver monthly professional development sessions made available statewide to teachers, leaders, and ESU instructional staff. The vision is a three-year learning arc that acknowledges all the current work done in partnership between NDE & TNTP to support districts across the state with addressing unfinished learning and implementing the four resources identified in The Opportunity Myth in their schools (strong instruction, grade appropriate assignments, deep engagement and teachers with high expectations).

2. Leader Development Cohort: TNTP will lead learning cohorts with leaders of CSI schools focused on both content and adaptive leader skills to create significant momentum toward the NDE Acceleration Framework and increasing access to strong instruction, grade appropriate assignments, deep engagement and teachers with high expectations for students in those schools.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed $2,700,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III Funds, General Funds, Title II-A

- New or Renewal: New contract

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 27, 2021**

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

FROM: Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

Shirley Vargas, Ed.L.D.
School Transformation Officer

PROPOSED ACTION ITEM:

Authorize the commissioner to contract with Instruction Partners for three years, from August 2021 – August 2024, for the (1) Learning Acceleration in K-8 Mathematics Network and (2) NeMTSS, Continuous Improvement, and High-Quality Instructional Materials Integration Project.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Nebraska's American Rescue Plan (ARP) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) application identifies five themes that guide Nebraska's School Renewal and Acceleration strategies for SY 2021-2022, SY 2022-2023, and SY 2023-2024. The proposed work with Instruction Partners aligns to the following ARP priorities:

- Investment in teacher professional development, upskilling, and the teacher and leader pipeline.
- Ensure students have equitable access to grade-level instruction to address unfinished learning and support learning acceleration

Specially, this contract would support two projects over three years.

1. Learning Acceleration in K-8 Mathematics: In Year 1, the NDE would work with a set of ESU and district partners to co-create, test, and continuously improve a set of approaches to strengthen K-8 mathematics instruction through a multi-tiered system of support (MTSS). This work would build on high-quality instructional materials for K-8 mathematics while attending to unfinished learning, so schools are equipped with individualized supports and levers to improve instruction in mathematics for all students. In Year 2 and Year 3, the work

would be scaled across all ESUs, continuously tested, refined, and disseminated to create systemwide change in K-8 mathematics instruction.

2. NeMTSS, HQIM, and Continuous Improvement Integration Project: Across ARP consultation meetings, there was a consistent push to create more coherence, efficiency, and mutual reinforcement across the major processes and to create a clearer sense of connection of how these processes interact and to plan into these processes tiers of support based on need. This work would seek to align, define, and streamline NeMTSS, high-quality instructional materials (HQIM), and continuous improvement processes and tools with attention to social emotional learning and whole-child wellbeing.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed $5,600,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: ESSER III Funds

- New or Renewal: New contract

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TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 24, 2021

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

FROM: Kayte Partch

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: SY 2021-2022 Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Grant Award Notifications

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), under Section 19 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act (NSLA), has been a nationwide program since 2008 and operates in selected elementary schools in the 50 States, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. The School Food Authority's (SFA) allocation is based on enrollment and receives a specified amount per student. In order to fund as many SFAs as possible and to best utilize the funding allocated to Nutrition Services, obligations were based on the number of days during the school week when the FFVP is anticipated to be implemented as indicated on the approved SFA FFVP grant applications ($50-$54/student) for SY 2021-2022. Out of 182 SFAs that applied, an estimated 163 will be funded.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (August 2021):

ESTIMATED COST: $3,000,245.00

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: USDA FFVP Funds
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval: NA

Agreement Number	School District	Site Number	School Building	City	Total Allocation	FR Lunch PCTage
010018	Hastings Public Schools	001	Lincoln Elementary	Hastings	$17,544.00	88.92%
010018	Hastings Public Schools	002	Alcott Elementary	Hastings	$15,402.00	77.19%
010018	Hastings Public Schools	003	Longfellow Elementary	Hastings	$16,065.00	62.91%
040001	Banner County School	001	Banner County School	Harrisburg	$4,452.00	73.07%
060075	Riverside Public School	001	Riverside Public School-Cedar Rapids	Cedar Rapids	$3,876.00	59.42%
070006	Alliance Public Schools	013	Early Childhood Center	Alliance	$3,551.00	79.36%
070006	Alliance Public Schools	002	Emerson Elementary	Alliance	$15,876.00	71.71%
070006	Alliance Public Schools	001	Grandview Elemtary	Alliance	$15,444.00	67.82%
070006	Alliance Public Schools	005	Alliance Middle School	Alliance	$15,444.00	60.06%
080051	Boyd County Schools	003	Lynch	Lynch	$2,450.00	78.37%
100007	Kearney Public Schools	019	Kearney Education Center	Kearney	$5,508.00	90.56%
100007	Kearney Public Schools	004	Bryant Elementary	Kearney	$11,988.00	81.01%
100007	Kearney Public Schoolsa	007	Emerson Elementary	Kearney	$10,530.00	75.10%
100007	Kearney Public Schools	006	Central Elementary	Kearney	$14,634.00	73.94%
120056	David City Public Schools	002	Bellwood Elementary School	Bellwood	$5,141.00	57.60%
150536	Wauneta-Palisade Public School	001	Palisade School	Palisade	$5,800.00	57.46%
160030	Cody Kilgore School District	001	Cody-Kilgore Elementary School	Kilgore	$4,081.00	63.75%
190123	Schuyler Community Schools	008	Schuyler Elementary School	Schuyler	$36,888.00	78.32%
190123	Schuyler Community Schoools	009	Schuyler Middle School	Schuyler	$23,638.00	74.82%
210084	Sargent Public Schools	001	Sargent Public Schools	Sargent	$4,452.00	56.42%
220011	South Sioux City School District #11	005	Lewis & Clark Elementary	South Sioux City	$11,800.00	87.80%
220011	South Sioux City School District	009	EN Swett Elementary	South Sioux City	$10,750.00	82.10%
220011	South Sioux City School District #11	001	Harney Elementary	South Sioux City	$17,800.00	79.03%
220011	South Sioux City School District 11	010	Covington Elementary	South Sioux City	$17,200.00	77.60%
220011	South Sioux City School District 11	004	Dakota City Elementary	Dakota City	$10,050.00	74.01%
220011	South Sioux City School District 11	003	Cardinal Elementary	South Sioux City	$18,750.00	69.15%
220701	St. Michael's School	001	St. Michael's School - South Sioux City	South Sioux City	$9,234.00	72.28%
270001	Fremont Public Schools	001	Washington Elementary	Fremont	$17,400.00	87.14%
270001	Fremont Public Schools	008	Linden Elementary	Fremont	$17,800.00	77.65%
270001	Fremont Public Schools	009	Milliken Park Elementary	Fremont	$12,350.00	74.88%
270001	Fremont Public Schools	018	Johnson Crossing Academic Center	Fremont	$35,050.00	68.86%
270001	Fremont Public Schools	005	Grant Elentary	Fremont	$6,200.00	66.66%

270001	Fremont Public Schools	014	Bell Field Elementary	Fremont	$14,900.00	66.22%
280001	Omaha Public School	007	Franklin	Omaha	$14,500.00	100.00%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	066	Kennedy	Omaha	$11,500.00	100.00%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	011	King Primary	Omaha	$16,250.00	100.00%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	009	Indian Hill	Omaha	$31,500.00	93.92%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	057	Belvedere	Omaha	$19,635.00	93.73%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	017	Walnut Hill	Omaha	$21,250.00	93.48%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	076	Hartman	Omaha	$22,250.00	92.22%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	013	Miller Park	Omaha	$18,250.00	91.81%
280001	Omaha Public School	072	Fontenelle	Omaha	$29,000.00	91.29%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	014	Minne Lusa	Omaha	$15,500.00	90.39%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	005	Central Park	Omaha	$17,250.00	90.07%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	053	Norris Middle School	Omaha	$59,000.00	89.89%
280001	Omaha Public School	008	Highland	Bellevue	$21,500.00	89.39%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	084	Liberty	Omaha	$32,500.00	89.28%
280001	Omaha Public School	015	Skinner	Omaha	$18,250.00	89.19%
280001	Omaha Public School	060	Nathan Hale Magnet Middle School	Omaha	$32,895.00	88.95%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	016	Spring Lake Magnet	Omaha	$34,750.00	88.78%
280001	Omaha Public School	085	R.M. Marrs Magnet Middle School	Omaha	$62,250.00	87.82%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	047	Conestoga	Omaha	$15,000.00	87.78%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	067	Kellom	Omaha	$15,000.00	87.26%
280001	Omaha Public School	128	Gifford Park	Omaha	$14,535.00	87.16%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	002	Bancroft	Omaha	$35,700.00	86.92%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	063	Gomez Heritage	Omaha	$38,000.00	86.39%
280001	Omaha Public School	048	Bryan Middle School	Omaha	$42,330.00	86.01%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	006	Field Club	Omaha	$31,000.00	84.28%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	080	Gilder	Omaha	$17,750.00	83.92%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	003	Benson West	Omaha	$23,750.00	82.98%
280001	Omaha Public School	111	Gateway	Omaha	$43,750.00	82.24%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	069	Jefferson	Omaha	$23,750.00	81.99%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	010	Jackson	Omaha	$11,250.00	79.83%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	033	Pinewood	Omaha	$10,500.00	78.67%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	030	Beals	Omaha	$15,000.00	75.00%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	037	Western Hills	Omaha	$16,500.00	74.54%

280001	Omaha Public Schools	070	Laura Dodge Elementary	Omaha	$21,000.00	73.25%
280001	Omaha Public Schools	022	Lewis & Clark	Omaha	$43,750.00	71.97%
280001	Omaha Public School	062	Masters	Omaha	$15,045.00	70.07%
280054	Ralston Public Schools	003	Karen Western Elementary	Omaha	$10,550.00	75.63%
280054	Ralston Public Schools	005	Mockingbird Elementary	Omaha	$18,100.00	74.21%
280054	Ralston Public Schools	001	Blumfield Elementary	Omaha	$17,250.00	69.62%
280054	Ralston Public Schools	008	Seymour Elementary	Omaha	$12,000.00	60.39%
280054	Ralston Public Schools	004	Wildewood Elementary	Omaha	$14,600.00	55.44%
280722	Holy Name School	001	Holy Name School	Omaha	$11,750.00	76.20%
280759	St. Peter and Paul School	001	Sts. Peter and Paul Catholic School	Omaha	$13,770.00	84.93%
280775	Nelson Mandela Elementary	001	Nelson Mandela Elementary	Omaha	$11,550.00	92.12%
290017	Dundy County Stratton Schools	002	Benkelman Elementary	Benkelman	$6,987.00	61.53%
290117	Dundy County Stratton Schools	004	Stratton Elementary	Stratton	$1,275.00	58.62%
310506	Franklin Public Schools	001	Franklin Public School	Franklin	$7,900.00	60.83%
340015	Beatrice Public School	003	Beatrice Community Preschool	Beatrice	$9,945.00	69.44%
340015	Beatrice Public Schools	001	Lincoln Elementary	Beatrice	$10,710.00	65.61%
340015	Beatrice Public School	004	Paddock Lane	Beatrice	$17,748.00	62.98%
340015	Beatrice Public School	002	Stoddard Elementary	Beatrice	$9,741.00	59.09%
350001	Garden County Schools	002	Garden County Elementary	Oshkosh	$6,156.00	70.80%
400002	Grand Island Public School	002	Howard Elementary	Grand Island	$20,000.00	92.93%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	006	Knickrehm Elementary	Grand Island	$9,450.00	87.72%
400002	Grand Island Public School	003	Lincoln Elementary	Grand Island	$12,750.00	85.95%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	009	Jefferson Elementary	Grand Island	$15,200.00	83.86%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	029	Starr Elementary	Grand Island	$14,100.00	79.54%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	001	Dodge Elementary	Grand Island	$18,800.00	79.46%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	014	West Lawn Elementary	Grand Island	$13,350.00	76.65%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	013	Seedling Mile Elementary	Grand Island	$5,100.00	65.00%
400002	Grand Island Public Schools	021	C Ray Gates Elementary School	Grand Island	$15,650.00	59.67%
450007	O'Neill Public Schools	002	O'Neill Elementary School	O'Neill	$21,450.00	55.22%
450044	Stuart Public School	001	Stuart Public School	Stuart	$6,254.00	61.95%
480008	Fairbury Public School	002	Jefferson Intermediate	Fairbury	$11,600.00	56.40%
480008	Fairbury Public School	003	Central Elementary	Fairbury	$14,650.00	55.29%
490702	St. Andrew's School	001	St. Andrew's School	Tecumseh	$1,100.00	100.00%
540501	Niobrara Public School	001	Niobrara Public School	Niobrara	$6,837.00	77.63%

540505	Santee Community School	001	Santee School	Niobrara	$9,450.00	100.00%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	011	Clinton Elementary School	Lincoln	$20,900.00	93.77%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	002	McPhee Elementary	Lincoln	$15,650.00	93.50%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	015	Everett Elementary School	Lincoln	$20,700.00	88.91%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	020	West Lincoln Elementary	Lincoln	$24,300.00	87.47%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	083	Nuernberger Education Center	Lincoln	$2,500.00	86.88%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	008	Elliott Elementary School	Lincoln	$18,450.00	86.35%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	036	Huntington Elementary School	Lincoln	$19,400.00	85.83%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	055	Donald D. Sherrill Education Center	Lincoln	$3,600.00	84.50%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	001	Hartley Elementary School	Lincoln	$17,400.00	84.38%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	023	Saratoga Elementary School	Lincoln	$13,800.00	81.91%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	012	Belmont Elementary School	Lincoln	$40,950.00	81.64%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	040	Goodrich Middle School	Lincoln	$40,600.00	78.43%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	041	Culler Middle School	Lincoln	$35,751.00	76.42%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	034	Lakeview Elementary School	Lincoln	$19,800.00	74.55%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	028	Norwood Park Elementary School	Lincoln	$12,200.00	72.88%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	018	Park Middle School	Lincoln	$43,350.00	72.02%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	018	Campbell Elementary School	Lincoln	$32,640.00	71.85%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	026	Prescott Elementary School	Lincoln	$23,500.00	70.21%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	027	Pershing Elementary School	Lincoln	$21,700.00	69.75%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	044	Dawes Middle School	Lincoln	$22,100.00	68.97%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	037	Riley Elementary School	Lincoln	$16,900.00	66.66%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	014	Arnold Elementary School	Lincoln	$36,400.00	66.58%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	072	Brownell Elementary School	Lincoln	$14,850.00	63.47%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	024	Randolph Elementary School	Lincoln	$24,000.00	62.74%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	042	Lefler Middle School	Lincoln	$29,400.00	61.86%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	010	Calvert Elementary School	Lincoln	$17,850.00	60.26%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	035	Holmes Elementary School	Lincoln	$21,450.00	55.06%
550001	Lincoln Public Schools	004	Roper Elementary School	Lincoln	$42,850.00	54.87%
550720	Villa Marie Home & School for Exceptional Children	001	VILLA MARIE HOME & SCHOOL FOR EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN	Waverly	$1,000.00	57.89%
590001	Madison Public Schools	001	Madison Elementary School	Madison	$14,958.00	72.66%
590002	Norfolk Public Schools	006	Jefferson Elementary	Norfolk	$12,138.00	72.53%
670069	Lewiston Consolidated School	001	Lewiston Consolidated School	Lewiston	$6,000.00	57.06%

710001	Columbus Public Schools	011	Centennial Elementary	Columbus	$20,094.00	61.19%
710001	Columbus Public Schools	003	West Park Elementary	Columbus	$12,495.00	61.17%
710001	Columbus Public Schools	006	Emerson Elementary	Columbus	$12,036.00	60.75%
710001	Columbus Public Schools	004	North Park Elementary	Columbus	$16,422.00	56.21%
710001	Columbus Public Schools	002	Columbus Middle School	Columbus	$58,854.00	55.58%
740056	Falls City Public Schools	002	Falls City South Elementary School	Falls City	$8,517.00	63.38%
740056	Falls City Public Schools	001	Falls City Middle School	Falls City	$8,568.00	58.46%
740056	Falls City Public Schools	003	Falls City North Elementary School	Falls City	$12,750.00	57.97%
760002	Crete Public Schools	002	Crete Elementary School	Crete	$33,372.00	69.44%
760002	Crete Public Schools	006	Crete Intermediate School	Crete	$23,274.00	66.19%
760002	Crete Public Schools	003	Crete Middle School	Crete	$23,436.00	63.88%
770027	Papillion-La Vista School	010	La Vista West Elementary	La Vista	$16,700.00	60.00%
770027	Papillion La Vista School	012	Golden Hills Elementary	Bellevue	$12,200.00	55.13%
780107	Cedar Bluffs Public School	001	Cedar Bluffs Elementary School	Cedar Bluffs	$18,615.00	56.42%
790002	Minatare Public Schools	001	Minatare Elementary School	Minatare	$4,982.00	90.80%
790016	Gering Public Schools	003	Lincoln Elementary	Gering	$19,080.00	63.09%
790016	Gering Public Schools	004	Northfield Elementary School	Gering	$12,985.00	62.94%
790032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	001	Roosevelt Elementary	Scottsbluff	$13,750.00	95.74%
790032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	002	Lincoln Heights Elementary	Scottsbluff	$16,850.00	71.68%
790032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	003	Westmoor Elementary	Scottsbluff	$21,150.00	64.69%
790032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	012	Bear Cub Preschool	Scottsbluff	$6,750.00	57.14%
790032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	004	Longfellow Elementary	Scottsbluff	$18,450.00	55.97%
810010	Gordon/Rushville Public Schools	002	Gordon-Rushville Elementary at Gordon	Rushville	$9,936.00	75.55%
810010	Gordon/Rushville Public Schools	001	Gordon-Rushville Middle School	Rushville	$11,880.00	75.40%
870013	Walthill Public School	002	Walthill Public School	Walthill	$9,126.00	100.00%
870016	Umonhon Nation Public School	001	Umonhon Nation Public School	Macy	$18,252.00	100.00%
870017	Winnebago Public Schools District 17	001	Winnebago Public School	Winnebago	$17,982.00	100.00%
870701	St. Augustine Mission School	001	St. Augustine Mission School	Winnebago	$5,350.00	91.22%
900560	Wakefield Community Sc hool	001	Wakefield Community School	Wakefield	$16,600.00	57.48%
2800011	Omaha Public Schools	024	Chandler View	Omaha	$31,500.00	82.15%

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 19, 2021

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

FROM: Beth Wooster

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to approve McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grants for the 2021-22 school year.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: **RATIONAL**: The McKinney-Vento Act was designed to address the challenges homeless children and youth face in enrolling, attending, and succeeding in school. Under this Act, State educational agencies (SEAs) must ensure that each homeless child and youth has equal access to the same free, appropriate public education, including a public preschool education, as other children and youth. Homeless children and youth should have access to educational and other services that they need to enable them to meet the same challenging State academic standards to which all students are held. In addition, homeless students may not be separated from the mainstream school environment. States and districts are required to review and take steps to revise laws, regulations, practices, or policies that may act as a barrier to the enrollment, attendance, or success in school of homeless children and youth.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Assistance for homeless children and youth has been awarded, through competitive grants, to school districts in Nebraska for 30 years. Thirteen districts submitted applications this year. Assistance will be provided for homeless children and youth to enroll, attend and succeed in schools in the Nebraska districts that applied for, and were approved to receive funds.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $360,500

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Funds-- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grant
- New or Renewal: New

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 14, 2021

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

FROM: Katie Graham, Ph.D.
Administrator, Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve the 2021-2022 reVISION Action grants.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Since 2012, the NDE's reVISION process has been instrumental in improving and strengthening Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Nebraska. This process provides Nebraska schools with the opportunity to analyze and transform their current CTE systems in order educate a qualified workforce that meets industry needs within an ever-changing economy. As required under the Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act (Perkins V), each school district and community college took an in-depth depth look at their entire local and regional CTE system and identified areas where targeted improvements could lead to increased opportunities for student success through the reVISION comprehensive local needs assessment process.

The reVISION Action grant is intended to assist school districts and community colleges with implementing the action items that were identified though this needs assessment process. These activities align with high-skill, high-wage, and high-demand occupational preparation and Nebraska's CTE and economic development priorities.

A total of 36 reVISION Action grant applications were received for the 2021-2022 year, with a total funding request of $3,042,431. After selection teams comprised of internal and external reviewers scored applications, the following grants over $50,000 were recommended for funding. Amounts vary based on request and allowable uses of funds:

Local Education Agency	Grant Amount
Columbus Public Schools	$ 100,000
Doniphan-Trumbull Public School	$ 96,787
Educational Service Unit 6	$ 70,555
Freeman Public Schools	$ 78,871
Hershey Public Schools	$ 100,000
Louisville Public Schools	$ 87,154
Mid-Plains Community College	$ 89,689
Northwest Public Schools	$ 100,000

Ogallala Public Schools	$ 100,000
Stapleton Public Schools	$ 88,251
Tri County Public Schools	$ 93,649
Umonhon Nation Public School	$ 100,000
Western Nebraska Community College	$ 77,628
Yutan Public Schools	$ 100,000
TOTAL	***$1,282,584***

In addition to the grants over $50,000 listed above, three additional grants under $50,000 were recommended for reVISION Action grant funding.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August/2021

ESTIMATED COST: $1,282,584

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: (1) Federal – Perkins V: $886,891

  (2) Federal – ESSER: $395,693

- New or Renewal: N/A

- If renewal, date of first approval: N/A

State Board of Education Business Meeting
Friday, June 4, 2021
Holiday Inn & Convention Center, Ballroom I, 110 2nd Avenue, Kearney, NE 68847
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 OF EDUCATION MEETING, Friday, June 4, 2021, 9:00 AM.

1. **CALL TO ORDER –** President Maureen Nickels called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

1.1 Roll Call

Roll Call showed the following attendance:

Maureen Nickels	Patti Gubbels	Robin Stevens
Patsy Koch Johns	Lisa Fricke	Jacquelyn Morrison

Absent: Patricia Timm and Deborah Neary

Commissioner Blomstedt was also in attendance.

1.2 President Nickels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

1.3 President Nickels announced the placement of the Open Meetings Act.

1.4 COVID-19 Meeting Protocol

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

1.5. Commissioner's Report on Health Education Standards Process

Cory Epler and Lacey Peters, NDE Representatives, and Commissioner Blomstedt provided a report on the Health Education Standards Process.

1.6. AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee Discussion on Health Education Standards Process

Lisa Fricke, Chair of the AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee continues to monitor effort and progress, gather public input and provide guidance for the second draft of the proposed health standards to make sure key areas of concern are addressed in the second draft. Today, the whole Board will have the opportunity to be engaged in the next steps. The public is encouraged to continue input for the second draft and reach out to the Board if their concerns have not been addressed.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD**

2.1 Request for 10-Minute Special Appearance

2.1.A. Proposed Changes to NDE Accreditation and School Librarians

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Judy Henning, Ed.D., Assistant Professor-School Library Program, University of Nebraska at Kearney, spoke about the changes to NDE Accreditation and School Librarians

2.2 Public Comment (5 Minutes)

2.2.A. In accordance with Board Policy B9, potential action by the Board on public comment time limits.

Pursuant to Board Policy B9, I move to limit public comment to two minutes per person to include the six individuals speaking on topics other than the Health Standards and the first 75 individuals speaking on the Health Standards passed with a motion by Maureen Nickels, second by Robin Stevens.

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

The following individuals spoke on Critical Race Theory: Jeff Young, Amber Stephens and Ellianah Stephens.

Marian Holstein, Executive Director at the Nebraska Indian Education Association, discussed the National Indian Education Association's Annual Convention in Omaha October 13-16, 2021.

Jarres Clark addressed the Board about the NDE Performance, going before the Legislature, having the Health Standards banned and Board Members removed from their positions.

Gary Needham addressed the Board about the Approval, Accreditation and Accountability Rules.

The following individuals from the public spoke in support of the health standards: Jaylee Bonk, Jenny Bonta and Val Hyde

The following individuals from the public spoke in opposition of the health standards: Aaron Peterson, Alisa Criffield, Amanda Ristine, Amy Lowe, Amy Martinez, Angie Klein, Ashley Jarmin, Barbara Rosenthal on behalf of Jonathan Hastings, Bernie Gutschevr, Beth Vyvlecka, Bradd Richter, Cathy Larson, Chad Gillespie, Dale Greenwald, Darrell Karq, Dave Murman, Diane Kinnan, Dorothy Renter, Elissa Martin, Gerald Kershner, Greg Brown, Janeece VanWinkle, Jason Martinez, Jenna Rehr, Jennifer Heun, Jennifer Thomas, Jody Derr, John Lowe, Jordyn Martin, Judy Karmazin, Justin Thiel, Kami Riley, Karen Lind, Karman Keith, Kathy Adams, Kathy Hahn, Katie McClemens, Keith Tillotson, Kelli Brady, Kimberly Maddux, Kip VanWinkle, Marge Hershner, Mark Bonkiewicz, Mark Schanbacher, Mike Meyer, Nan Kienow, Natasha Johns, Neil Dutenhoffer, Nicolas Norton, Nicole Norton, Patrick Martin, Paul Fredricks, Paul Hazard, Peggy Fong, Rebecca Gronewold, Richard Turner, Riley Ross, Ronna Fredricks, Roxanne Tillotson, Ryan Bruna, Stephanie Norton, Stephen Friesell, Sue Greenwold, Sue Rikli, Suzanne McDonald, Teresa Carey, Teresa Cook, Tim Peterson, Tim Stratton, Tom Martin, Trent Delehant

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2.3. Written Public Comment

Submitted written public comments are linked through SPARQ in Board Agenda item number 2.3, document SBOE Written Public Comment June 2021 – Google Forms.

President Nickels called for a break at 1:25 p.m. The meeting resumed at 2:27 p.m.

3. COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

3.1. Agenda Overview and Consent Agenda Process

3.1.A. No agenda items were requested for removal.

3.2. Report on Rules

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 1 and Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 2 held a public hearing on proposed revisions June 1, 2021.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 28 and Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 29, (REPEAL) held a public hearing on proposed revisions and repeal June 22, 2021.

Title 92, Nebraska Administrative Code, Chapter 24 will hold a public hearing on proposed revisions July 7, 2021.

3.3. Board Operations Information

No Report

3.4. Statewide Assessment Information

Jeremy Heneger, NDE Representative, provided an update Nebraska-Student Centered Assessment System.

4. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS (NONE)

5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Maureen Nickels noted that the National Association of State Boards of Education (NASBE) has not announced if the Fall Meeting will be held in person or virtually. NASBE gives out several award recognitions and this year the Board has nominated Dr. Rachel Wise for the distinguished service award and nominated Senator Patty Pansing Brooks for the Policy Leader of the Year Award for all that she has done for education and students across the state and in the Legislature.

The NDE is in the process of revising the ESSA plan under the direction of Lane Carr, NDE representative, who is taking charge of building broad coalitions of support around the AQuESTT System of Classification and Designation. Lane is putting together a group of stakeholders and requested a Board Member representative. Lisa Fricke has agreed to be a part of the stakeholders group.

President Nickels discussed how the NDE, and the Board are working through transitions with the pandemic, new state Health Standards, English Language Arts Standards review and the Approval, Accountability and Accreditation Rules.

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6. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Patti Gubbels.

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

7. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

7.1. **Policy Committee** –Patti Gubbels on behalf Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee continues discussion of the reorganization of the State Board Policy Reference Manual; State Board Bylaw B12, Policy Development; State Board Bylaw B10, Hearing Officers; State Board Bylaw B8, Parliamentary Procedures/Rules of Order; and State Board Bylaw B15, Board Minutes.

At this time the Policy Committee will schedule subsequent meeting(s) before the August State Board business meeting to discuss the restructuring of the Policy Reference Manual and prepare Bylaws B10, B8 and B15 for action items at the August State Board business meeting.

7.1.A. Discussion Item: Restructuring of State Board Policy Manual

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.1.B. Discussion Item: State Board Bylaw B12, *Policy Development*

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.1.C. Discussion Item: State Board Bylaw B10, *Hearing Officers*

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.1.D. Discussion Item: State Board Bylaw B8, *Parliamentary Procedures/Rules of Order*

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.1.E. Discussion Item: State Board Bylaw B15, *Board Minutes*

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.2. **Legislative Committee** – Robin Stevens, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee met on May 27 and reviewed the status of bills which is attached in SPARQ. The Committee then reviewed the State Board Legislative and Regulatory Priorities document. The Committee was comfortable with the current legislative priorities but did believe some changes were needed in language for the first regulatory priority to be Approval, Accreditation, and Accountability so

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that it matches the work under way on those draft rules. The Committee also believed the College, Career and Civic Ready heading was no longer needed in the Committee's Regulatory Priorities.

A draft of proposed changes in the Regulatory Priorities is attached in SPARQ and the Committee would like input from any Board Member about changes to the document prior to the August State Board Meeting so that the Board could adopt changes at that meeting.

7.3. **Commissioner's Appraisal Committee** – Maureen Nickels, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Appraisal Committee reports that the Commissioner has proposed the following goals for 2021-2022:

- Lead/conduct/complete the strategic plan review.
- Create a NDE Policy Office and engage with appropriate policy leaders, partners, and stakeholders.

The Appraisal Committee recommends that the Board renew and approve the Commissioner's contract of employment with the following as the major revised terms:

- Extend the contract period by one year,
- Increase the annual salary by 2% on 7/1/21 and 7/1/22, and
- Provide 40 hours of vacation leave to use or lose by June 30, 2022.

7.3.A. Approve the Employment Agreement between the State Board of Education and Matthew L. Blomstedt passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Lisa Fricke.

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

7.4. **AQuESTT Teaching, Learning and Serving Domain Committee** – Lisa Fricke, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee reviewed consent agenda items. Additionally, the Committee received information from Jeremy Heneger, NDE Representative, on the statewide assessment contracts and the Committee recommends approval of the three contracts. The Committee had a discussion on the English Language Arts standards process as well as the Health Education standards process.

7.4.A. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with NWEA for statewide assessment services in 2021-2022 passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patti Gubbels.

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

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Patricia Timm:	Absent
Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Yea

7.4.B. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with DRC for statewide assessment services in 2021-2022 passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

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

7.4.C. Authorize the Commissioner to contract with ACT for statewide assessment services in 2021-2022 passed with a motion by Lisa Fricke, second by Patti Gubbels.

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

7.4.D. Nebraska's College & Career Ready Standards for English Language Arts

No additional discussion by the Board.

7.4.E. Nebraska Health Education Standards Process

Board Members thanked the individuals from the public who were present and for the informational public comments. Board Members continued discussion on the standards process.

7.5. **AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support Domain Committee** – Patsy Koch Johns, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting.

The Committee on AQuESTT Student Success, Access and Support domain met on June 3, 2021 and had one action item: approve the renewal of the Rule 11 waiver request from ESU #13. The Committee recommends approval.

The Committee had one discussion item: Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP) State Policy Network. The Committee was reminded to provide feedback on the NDE Position Statement on nondiscrimination and equitable educational opportunities in schools.

The Committee had two update items: the first item was about conducting an initial analysis of NDE's Equity Scorecards and unearth key areas of focus and success from the data. Dr. Vargas and Mr. Carr, NDE Representatives, introduced the NDE Equity Scorecard and Data Dashboard that visualizes and

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explains proportionality and disproportionality across multiple data points. The Committee was assigned to review the Equity Data Workbook and come back in August for more discussion.

The Committee discussed the importance of creating a culture of inclusion and continuing the conversation on issues of racial equity and diversity. The Committee would like to further professional development on topics such as inclusion, racial equity and implicit bias. The Committee recommends scheduling a workshop in Fall 2021 to facilitate the discussion on these topics.

7.5.A. Leading for Equity and Excellence Program (LEEP)

The Board discussed equity and what the Committee's perspective is on equity.

7.6. **Budget and Finance Committee** – Patti Gubbels on behalf of Patricia Timm, Chair, reported on the Committee meeting. The Committee discussed and sought further information on each of the consent agenda items including the costs and benefits of memberships in National organizations.

The Committee consent agenda items and was in support of all items.

Bryce Wilson, NDE Representative, discussed proposed changes in Rule 1. Mr. Wilson discussed that the proposed changes were the result of discussion with auditing firms. Mr. Wilson stated that no public comments were received at the public hearing held June 1.

Bryce Wilson, NDE Representative, discussed proposed changes in Rule 2, noting all changes were technical in nature and no public comments were received at the public hearing held June 1.

The Committee discussed proposed changes and timing of moving forward with approving these Rules. Members of the Committee discussed postponing approval until the August Board Meeting but ultimately decided to move forward with the vote during the June Board Business Meeting.

The Committee reviewed the Monthly Board travel expenses and had no concerns.
The Committee reviewed in-state travel authorization with no issues or concerns being voiced.

7.6.A. Monthly Board Travel Expense Report

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.6.B. In-State Travel Authorization Reports

There was no further discussion on this item.

7.6.C. Adopt the proposed revised Rule 1, *Rules and Regulations Governing the Audit of Nebraska Public School Districts* passed with a motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

The Board had further discussion on how often rules are revised, the process of rule revision and how to proceed with the process.

Lisa Fricke:	Yea
Patsy Koch Johns:	Yea
Deborah Neary:	Absent
Maureen Nickels:	Yea
Robin Stevens:	Yea
Patricia Timm:	Absent

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Patti Gubbels:	Yea
Jacquelyn Morrison:	Nay

7.6.D. Adopt the proposed revised Rule 2, *Uniform System of Accounting for Nebraska Public School Districts* passed with a motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

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

7.7. **Strategic Planning, Performance and Improvement Committee** – Commissioner Blomstedt reported that the Committee reviewed Priority School progress with Schuyler Central High School and Santee Elementary, Middle, and High School and will come back to the full Board with a progress report. Due to the challenges from the pandemic, the Board voted May 2021 to exempt the 2019-202 Priority School Year. The Board will hear more on the Priority Schools later this calendar year.

8. ADDITIONAL BUSINESS

8.1. Consider the Hearing Officer's Recommended Decision in Enrollment Option Case No. 21-05, *Reinders v. Papillion LaVista Community Schools*.

Lisa Fricke made the motion and Patti Gubbels seconded to adopt the Hearing Officer's Recommended Findings of Facts, Proposed Conclusions of Law and Recommended Decision in Enrollment Option Case No. 21-05, Reinders v. Papillion LaVista Community Schools, and to Adopt the Order Prepared by Legal Counsel.

Discussion: President Nickels asked if the Board wanted to go into Executive Session.

8.1.A. Potential Executive Session

Motion to move into Executive Session at 4:07 p.m. to deliberate and receive advice of Legal Counsel concerning item 8.1, consideration of Hearing Officer's Recommended Findings and Decision in NDE Case No. 21-05, Reinders v. Papillion-LaVista Community Schools passed with a motion by Patti Gubbels, second by Patsy Koch Johns.

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

At 4:07 p.m., the Board moved into Executive Session to receive legal advice from Legal Counsel on the Enrollment Option Case.

DRAFT

Motion to adjourn Executive Session at 4:49 p.m. passed with a motion by Patsy Koch Johns, second by Lisa Fricke.

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

President Nickels restated the main motion to Adopt the Hearing Officer's Recommended Findings of Facts, Proposed Conclusions of Law and Recommended Decision in Enrollment Option Case No. 21-05, Reinders v. Papillion LaVista Community Schools, and to Adopt the Order Prepared by Legal Counsel so stating.

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

9. INFORMATION ITEMS AND REPORTS

9.1. President Nickels referred Board Members to review information items and reports.

10. GOOD OF THE ORDER

Maureen Nickels provided that NSEA Annual Professional Leadership Day is July 14, 2021 and six Board Members have agreed to be part of a panel session.

11. ADJOURNMENT

President Nickels adjourned the meeting at 4:55 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled business meeting of the State Board of Education will be held on Friday, August 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. at a location to be determined.

DRAFT

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 21, 2021**

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

FROM: Bryce Wilson, Administrator, Office of Financial & Administrative Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve school districts' requests for exclusions to the budget limitation in accordance with the provisions of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

1. **Distance Education Courses**

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for Distance Education Courses for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received from educational entities for providing distance education courses through the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council to such educational entities. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

2. **Early Childhood Education Grants**

Proposed Board Action: Approve the amount for the 2019/20 Early Childhood Education Grants Expenditure Exclusion for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(2)(c) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for the amount received by the district for 2021/22 Early Childhood Education Grants if 2021/22 is the first year early childhood membership is included in the district's formula students. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

3. Insurance Settlement

Proposed Board Action: Approve the Insurance Settlement listed on the attachment as a Special Grant Fund.

Rationale/Background information: The State Board, pursuant to provisions of State Statute Section 79-1003(39), has designated Insurance Settlements as a special grant fund for budget limitation purposes. The Insurance Settlement listed on the attachment has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special grant fund. If approved, the school districts may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

4. Interfund Loan

Proposed Board Action: Approve the Interfund Loan listed on the attachment as a Special Grant Fund.

Rationale/Background information: The State Board, pursuant to provisions of State Statute Section 79-1003(39), has designated Interfund Loans as a special grant fund for budget limitation purposes. The Interfund Loans listed on the attachment has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special grant fund. If approved, the school districts may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

5. Native American Impact Aid

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for Native American Impact Aid Exclusion for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(n) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for Federal Impact Aid received by the district. Districts that have land within its boundaries that is federal property classified as Indian lands under and have children in attendance who reside on Indian lands in accordance with 20 U.S.C. 7703(7) and have received funds in accordance with 20 U.S.C. 7703(a)(1)(c) are eligible for this exclusion. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority.

6. Reimbursement for Wards of the Court

Proposed Board Action: Approve the Reimbursement for Wards of the Court listed on the attachment as a Special Grant Fund.

Rationale/Background Information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received for Reimbursement for Wards of the Court as a special grant fund for budget limitation purposes. The Reimbursement for Wards of the Court listed on the attachments has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special grant fund per State Statute Section 79-1003(39). If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget

7. Retirement Contribution Increase

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for a Retirement Contribution Increase for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for a retirement contribution increase. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

8. Short-Term Borrowings

Proposed Board Action: Approve the Short-Term Borrowing listed on the attachment as a Special Grant Fund.

Rationale/Background Information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received for Short-Term Borrowings as a special grant fund for budget limitation purposes. The Short-Term Borrowing listed on the attachment has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special grant fund per State Statute Section 79-1003(39). If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

9. Special Supplementary Grant

Proposed Board Action: Approve the grant listed on the attachment as a Special Supplementary Grant.

Rationale/Background Information: Section 79-1028.01(1)(d) provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for amounts received for Special Supplementary Grants from Corporations, Foundations, or Other Private Interests as special grant funds for budget limitations purposes. The individual grant listed on the attachment has been reviewed by Department Staff and appears to qualify as a special supplementary grant per State Statute Section 79-1003(39). If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

10. Voluntary Termination Agreements

Proposed Board Action: Approve the exclusion amount for Voluntary Termination Agreements for the district shown on the attachment.

Rationale/Background information: Section 79-1028.01(1) (g), (i), (j), (k), provides for the State Board to permit a district to exceed its budget authority for the general fund budget of expenditures for expenditures for voluntary termination agreements. Department Staff have reviewed the request listed on the attachment and recommend approval. If approved, the school district may access additional budget authority. This request is applicable to the 2021/22 school district budget.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): June 2021

ESTIMATED COST: None.

Requests Relative to the Budgeting Provisions of the Tax Equity & Educational Opportunities Support Act For the 2021/22 School Year August 6, 2021

Recommendation 1
Distance Education Courses [Section 79-1028.01(1)(d)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
04-0001	Banner County Public Schools	$7,384.00

Recommendation 2
Early Childhood Education Grants [Section 79-1028.01(2)(c)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
01-0090	Adams Central Public Schools	$162,360.00

Recommendation 3
Insurance Settlement [Section 79-1003(40)

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
41-0504	Aurora Public Schools	$200,000.00

Recommendation 4
Interfund Loan [Section 79-1003(40)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
16-0030	Cody-Kilgore Unified Schools	$100,000.00

Recommendation 5
Native American Impact Aid [Section 79-1028.01(1)(n)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved	School Year
87-0017	Winnebago Public Schools	$3,100,000.00	2021/22
54-0505	Isanti (Santee) Community Schools	$4,100,000.00	2021/22

Recommendation 6
Reimbursement for Wards of the Court [Section 79-1003(40)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
41-0504	Aurora Public Schools	$25,000.00
30-0025	Fillmore Central School District	$650,000.00

Recommendation 7
Retirement Contribution Increase [Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
01-0018	Hastings Public Schools	$743,828.00
01-0090	Adams Central Public Schools	$272,339.00
02-0018	Elgin Public Schools	$47,219.00
02-0115	Summerland Public Schools	$96,393.00
04-0001	Banner County School District	$54,573.00
06-2001	Boone Central Schools	$133,895.00
09-0010	Ainsworth Community Schools	$99,113.00

Recommendation 7 (Continued)
Retirement Contribution Increase [Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
10-0069	Ravenna Public Schools	$114,628.00
11-0020	Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools	$70,587.00
12-0056	David City Public Schools	$173,872.00
12-0502	East Butler Public Schools	$93,935.00
13-0001	Plattsmouth Community Schools	$328,900.00
13-0032	Louisville Public Schools	$130,674.00
14-0008	Hartington-Newcastle Public Schls	$81,615.00
14-0054	Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Schools	$107,737.00
19-0039	Leigh Community Schools	$54,006.00
19-0058	Clarkson Public Schools	$53,510.00
19-0123	Schuyler Community Schools	$331,799.00
23-0071	Crawford Public Schools	$48,150.00
24-0004	Overton Public Schools	$70,662.00
26-0001	Ponca Public Schools	$94,180.00
26-0070	Allen Consolidated Schools	$50,705.00
27-0001	Fremont Public Schools	$975,451.00
27-0062	Scribner-Snyder Community Schls	$56,637.00
27-0594	Logan View Public Schools	$118,935.00
27-0595	North Bend Central Public Schools	$122,675.00
28-0001	Omaha Public Schools	$8,893,601.00
28-0010	Elkhorn Public Schools	$1,525,083.00
28-0017	Millard Public Schools	$3,653,453.00
28-0054	Ralston Public Schools	$588,327.00
28-0059	Bennington Public Schools	$523,533.00
30-0001	Exeter-Milligan Public Schools	$70,397.00
30-0025	Fillmore Central Public Schools	$114,151.00
36-0100	Burwell Public Schools	$66,350.00
37-0030	Elwood Public Schools	$50,240.00
39-0060	Central Valley Public Schools	$86,453.00
40-0002	Grand Island Public Schools	$2,024,000.00
41-0504	Aurora Public Schools	$275,770.00
45-0007	O'Neill Public Schools	$169,312.00
45-0239	West Holt Public Schools	$152,086.00
50-0001	Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools	$61,520.00
54-0576	Wausa Public Schools	$53,089.00
55-0001	Lincoln Public Schools	$7,562,146.00
55-0145	Waverly Public Schools	$360,386.00
56-0001	North Platte Public Schools	$722,508.00
59-0001	Madison Public Schools	$108,916.00
59-0005	Battle Creek Public Schools	$96,188.00
61-0004	Central City Schools	$163,509.00
63-0001	Fullerton Public Schools	$72,673.00
66-0027	Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schls	$133,279.00
71-0001	Columbus Public Schools	$736,224.00

Recommendation 7 (Continued)
Retirement Contribution Increase [Section 79-1028.01(1)(e)&(f)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
72-0032	Shelby-Rising City Public Schools	$85,845.00
73-0179	Southwest Public Schools	$80,691.00
76-0068	Friend Public Schools	$56,803.00
77-0027	Papillion La Vista Community Schools	$2,164,059.00
78-0072	Mead Public Schools	$60,271.00
78-0107	Cedar Bluffs Public Schools	$83,186.00
79-0032	Scottsbluff Public Schools	$735,455.00
80-0005	Milford Public Schools	$158,000.00
84-0003	Stanton Community Schools	$86,002.00
88-0005	Ord Public Schools	$117,044.00
88-0021	Arcadia Public Schools	$40,892.00
89-0024	Arlington Public Schools	$141,864.00

Recommendation 8
Short-Term Borrowings [Section 79-1003(40)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
28-0054	Ralston Public Schools	$5,000,000.00
36-0100	Burwell Public Schools	$500,000.00
54-0583	Verdigre Public Schools	$1,000,000.00
41-0504	Aurora Public Schools	$1,500,000.00

Recommendation 9
Special Supplementary Grant [Section 79-1003(40)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved	Source
28-0017	Millard Public Schools	$10,000.00	Walmart Foundation
		$2,500.00	Midwest Dairy Council
		$15,000.00	Fuel Up To Play 60
		$18,500.00	Pacific Life Foundation
		$4,000.00	Project Wee Care
		$2,500.00	Cox Communications
		$10,000.00	United Way
		$5,000.00	Target Foundation
54-0505	Isanti (Santee) Community Schools	$25,000.00	Grow Santee
		$25,000.00	Beyond School Bells

Recommendation 10
Voluntary Termination Agreements [Section 79-1028.01(1)(g), (i), (j), (k)]

County-District Number	School District Name	Amount to be Approved
19-0123	Schuyler Community Schools	$83,732.00
23-0071	Crawford Public Schools	$28,778.00
27-0001	Fremont Public Schools	$431,230.00
27-0594	Logan View Public Schools	$23,190.00
27-0595	North Bend Central Public Schools	$12,500.00
28-0001	Omaha Public Schools	$538,738.00
28-0017	Millard Public Schools	$1,397,908.00
28-0054	Ralston Public Schools	$129,961.00
30-0025	Fillmore Central Schools	$64,276.00
37-0030	Elwood Public School	$9,000.00
56-0001	North Platte Public Schools	$77,529.00
66-0027	Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Public Schools	$112,456.00
69-0044	Holdrege Public Schools	$197,500.00
71-0001	Columbus Public Schools	$167,735.00
77-0027	Papillion La Vista Community Schools	$280,000.00

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 23, 2021**

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

FROM: Kevin Lyons, Director of School Finance & Bryce Wilson, Administrator, Office of Financial and Administrative Services

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Approve Request from School Districts for Payment of Half Their Total 2021/22 State Aid.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

It is recommended that the State Board of Education grant payment of the following amounts to the school districts listed below, pursuant to the provisions of State Statute Section 79-1033:

Agency ID Name 2021/22 Early Payment Amount

87-0013-000	Walthill Public Schools	$1,830,702.00
87-0016-000	Umo N Ho N Nation Public School	$3,398,233.00
87-0017-000	Winnebago Public Schools	$3,393,152.00

These amounts represent 50% of the total State Aid for the 2021/22 school year calculated pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA).

Pursuant to State Statute Section 79-1033, a district that receives federal funds in excess of twenty-five percent of its general fund budget of expenditures may apply for early payment of State Aid paid pursuant to the TEEOSA when such federal funds are not received in a timely manner. Such application may be made at any time by a district suffering such financial hardship and may be for any amount up to fifty percent of the remaining amount to which the district is entitled during the current fiscal year. The State Board may grant the entire amount applied for or any portion of such amount if the State Board finds that a financial hardship exists in the district.

The districts listed above have documented financial hardship when federal funds have not been received in a timely manner. If approved by the State Board, payment will be made to the districts listed above on the last working day of September 2021.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR):

August 2021

ESTIMATED COST:

None.

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: August 6, 2021

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

FROM: Don Loseke, Accreditation Director, Office of Accountability, Accreditation & Program Approval

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Grant approval under Rule 10, (92 NAC 10), *Regulations and Procedures for the Accreditation of Schools*, for the following accredited, nonpublic school to add Kindergarten for the 2021-2022 school year:

- Howells Community Catholic School, Howells, NE
  (Currently Accredited Under Rule 10 for grades 1-6)

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Representatives of the school submitted a letter of intent to add Kindergarten according to Rule 10. Staff members of the Accountability, Accreditation, and Program Approval Office have reviewed the compliance requirements of the Rule with school representatives. On the basis of these discussions, NDE representatives have determined that the school is prepared to meet Rule 10 requirements for adding Kindergarten in the 2021-2022 school year.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: None

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

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

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 21, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Rhone, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Board of Regents, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Nebraska Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) Implementation Support Team (IST).

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: This cooperative agreement is to continue to fund ongoing professional learning and research needed to assist Nebraska schools in effective implementation of a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS), high quality instruction and interventions, and data-based decision making to advance academic outcomes for all students, including those at risk. Data for students in Nebraska, current levels of implementation of MTSS for academics, and research on the importance of schools receiving professional development support when building and implementing MTSS, and new Nebraska legislation point to a need for continued support for districts/buildings.

During the 2021-2022 project period, the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Center for Research on Children, Youth, Families, and Schools will provide support to the NeMTSS State Team in direct regional MTSS and SEL Supports, Research Expertise, Program Monitoring, Consultant Support, and Communication and Materials Development Support. The CYFS Communications Service Center will provide the NeMTSS team with assistance in communications and technology. They will provide support for materials development, promotion of events, coordination of distance-learning efforts (e.g., webinars), and expertise in knowledge dissemination. In addition, they will provide development and ongoing additions and revisions to the NeMTSS website, including the web-based Program Comparison Tool and other tools to be developed. They will also coordinate all social media efforts including regular Twitter and Facebook postings to spread NeMTSS information and brand awareness. They will work with The Pyramid Team to script, film and edit a series of explainer videos. The communications team will assist in planning and managing the annual NeMTSS summit, monitoring online registration systems and hosting Zoom sessions for summit presentations.

This project will support all NeMTSS team efforts as needed. They will provide coordination support for efforts such as purchasing goods and services, organizing the NeMTSS summit, promoting the summit and other

events, and providing coordination among the larger NeMTSS team (e.g., calendar updates, scheduling meetings, file organization). They will also support the development and refinement of training materials. This project will also help support NeMTSS team learning efforts including the annual NeMTSS retreat. This all-staff training event aims to make efficient use of team time.

The CYFS team will also continue to provide research services through Graduate Assistantships to support the overall efforts of the NeMTSS team. They will provide research briefs upon request, will continue to update the program comparison chart, and will continue the development of the social emotional screeners chart. The team will also provide statistical and methodological advice as needed.

The Principal Investigator, Amanda Witte, will work closely with the Director of the Office of Special Education, Nebraska Department of Education, and NeMTSS statewide coordinators to provide expertise and leadership to support the overall NeMTSS efforts. She will lead evidence-based practices research, participate in regional and state planning and leadership meetings and activities, lead knowledge dissemination efforts, support grant writing, and provide expertise as needed. She will also serve as liaison between UNL, NDE, and NeMTSS as well as develop and coordinate the monitoring of NeMTSS implementation and outcomes.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $801,224

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2018

MATTHEW L. BLOMSTEDT, PH.D., COMMISSIONER
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
education.ne.gov

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 20, 2021

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

FROM: Melody Hobson

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Approve public school districts and Educational Service Units that have established early childhood education programs in accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 (92 NAC11), Regulations for the approval of Prekindergarten Programs established by School Boards or Educational Service Units and for the Issuance of Early Childhood Education Grants.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The public school districts and Educational Service Units (ESUs) included for approval submitted the required reports and Statement of Assurance indicating compliance with Rule 11 for the school year 2020-21. The Nebraska Department of Education Office of Early Childhood Education staff verified compliance based on a review of information and follow-up with programs, as needed. Included in the attachment for this item are two lists. One list is for approval of all requirements, the other is for districts that submitted affidavits for not meeting the required number of hours due to the pandemic.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August, 2021

ESTIMATED COST: N/A

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

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

Rule 11 Program Approval
Districts that met the Rule 11 hour Requirement for operation in 2020-2021

Adams Central Public Schools
Allen Consolidated Schools
Alliance Public Schools
Amherst Public Schools
Anselmo-Merna Public Schools
Ansley Public Schools
Arapahoe Public Schools
Arcadia Public Schools
Arlington Public Schools
Arnold Public Schools
Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools
Auburn Public Schools
Aurora Public Schools
Axtell Community Schools
Bancroft-Rosalie Community Schools
Banner County Public Schools
Battle Creek Public Schools
Bayard Public Schools
Beatrice Public Schools
Bellevue Public School
Bennington Public Schools
Bertrand Public Schools
Blair Community Schools
Bloomfield Community Schools
Blue Hill Public Schools
Boone Central Schools
Boyd County School District #51
Broken Bow Public Schools
Bruning-Davenport Unified System
Burwell Public Schools
Callaway Public Schools
Cambridge Public Schools
Cedar Bluffs Public Schools
Centennial Public Schools
Central City Public Schools
Central Valley Public Schools
Centura Public Schools
Chadron Public Schools
Clarkson Public Schools
Cody-Kilgore Public Schools
Conestoga Public Schools
Cozad Community Schools
Crawford Public Schools
Creighton Public Schools
Crete Public Schools
Cross County Community Schools
Diller-Odell Public Schools
Doniphan-Trumbull Public Schools
Dorchester Public Schools
Douglas County West Community Schools
Dundy County Public Schools
East Butler Public Schools
Educational Service Unit 03
Educational Service Unit 13
Elba Public Schools
Elgin Public Schools
Elkhorn Public Schools
Elkhorn Valley Schools
Elm Creek Public Schools
Elmwood-Murdock Public Schools
Elwood Public Schools
Emerson-Hubbard Public Schools
Exeter-Milligan Public Schools
Fairbury Public Schools
Falls City Public Schools
Fillmore Central Public Schools
Franklin Public Schools
Freeman Public Schools
Fremont Public Schools
Friend Public Schools
Garden County Schools
Gering Public Schools
Gibbon Public Schools
Giltner Public Schools
Gordon-Rushville Public Schools
Gothenburg Public Schools
Grand Island Public Schools
Hampton Public Schools
Hartington-Newcastle Public Schools
Harvard Public Schools
Hastings Public Schools
Hay Springs Public Schools
Hayes Center Public Schools
Heartland Community Schools
Hemingford Public Schools
Hershey Public Schools
High Plains Community Schools
Hitchcock Co School System
Holdrege Public Schools
Homer Community Schools

Howells-Dodge Consolidated Schools
Humboldt Table Rock Steinauer Schools
Humphrey Public Schools
Johnson County Central Public Schools
Johnson-Brock Public Schools
Kearney Public Schools
Kenesaw Public Schools
Kimball Public Schools
Lakeview Community Schools
Laurel-Concord-Coleridge Public Schools
Leigh Community Schools
Lewiston Consolidated Schools
Lexington Public Schools
Lincoln Public Schools
Litchfield Public Schools
Loomis Public Schools
Louisville Public Schools
Loup City Public Schools
Loup County Public Schools
Lyons-Decatur Northeast Schools
Madison Public Schools
Malcolm Public Schools
Maywood Public Schools
Mc Cook Public Schools
Mc Cool Junction Public Schools
Mead Public Schools
Medicine Valley Public Schools
Meridian Public Schools
Milford Public Schools
Millard Public Schools
Minatare Public Schools
Minden Public Schools
Mitchell Public Schools
Morrill Public Schools
Nebraska City Public Schools
Neligh-Oakdale Schools
Newman Grove Public Schools
Niobrara Public Schools
Norfolk Public Schools
Norris School District 160
North Bend Central Public Schools
North Platte Public Schools
Northwest Public Schools
Oakland Craig Public Schools
Ogallala Public Schools
Omaha Public Schools
O'Neill Public Schools
Ord Public Schools
Osceola Public Schools
Overton Public Schools
Palmer Public Schools
Palmyra District O R 1
Papillion-La Vista Public Schools
Pawnee City Public Schools
Paxton Consolidated Schools
Pender Public Schools
Perkins County Schools
Pierce Public Schools
Plainview Public Schools
Plattsmouth Community Schools
Pleasanton Public Schools
Ponca Public Schools
Ralston Public Schools
Randolph Public Schools
Ravenna Public Schools
Raymond Central Public Schools
Red Cloud Community Schools
Riverside Public Schools
Rock County Public Schools
Santee Community Schools
Sargent Public Schools
Schuyler Community Schools
Scottsbluff Public Schools
Scribner-Snyder Community Schools
Seward Public Schools
Shelby - Rising City Public Schools
Shelton Public Schools
Shickley Public Schools
Sidney Public Schools
Silver Lake Public Schools
Sioux County Public Schools
South Central NE Unified System 5
South Sioux City Community Schools
Southern School Dist 1
Southern Valley Schools
Southwest Public Schools
Springfield Platteview Community Schools
St Edward Public Schools
St Paul Public Schools
Stanton Community Schools
Stapleton Public Schools
Sterling Public Schools
Stuart Public Schools
Summerland Public Schools
Sumner-Eddyville-Miller Schools
Superior Public Schools

Sutherland Public Schools
Sutton Public Schools
Syracuse-Dunbar-Avoca Schools
Tekamah-Herman Community Schools
Thayer Central Community Schools
Thedford Public Schools
Tri County Public Schools
Twin River Public Schools
Umo ho Nation Public Schools
Valentine Community Schools
Verdigre Public Schools
Wahoo Public Schools
Wakefield Community Schools
Wallace Public School Dist 65 R
Walthill Public Schools
Wauneta-Palisade Public Schools
Wausa Public Schools
Waverly School District 145
Wayne Community Schools
Weeping Water Public Schools
West Holt Public Schools
West Point Public Schools
Westside Community Schools
Wheeler Central Schools
Wilber-Clatonia Public Schools
Wilcox-Hildreth Public Schools
Winnebago Public Schools
Winside Public Schools
Wisner-Pilger Public Schools
Wood River Rural Schools
Wynot Public Schools
York Public Schools
Yutan Public Schools

Districts that did not meet the hour requirement due to the pandemic

The following districts submitted the required affidavit for documentation

Columbus Public Schools
David City Public Schools
Fort Calhoun Community Schools
Gretna Public Schools

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

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FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 20, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Rhone, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the NeMTSS Regional Facilitator for Educational Service Units #3, #6, #10 and #13

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: NeMTSS is a framework that promotes an integrated system connecting general education and special education, along with all components of teaching and learning, into a high quality, standards-based instruction and intervention system that is matched to a student's academic, social-emotional and behavior needs. The goal of the NeMTSS State Plan is to provide an overview for MTSS practices in Nebraska and provide supports to Nebraska Schools in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. As such, it will chart the course for school-wide implementation from Pre-Kindergarten through graduation. The supports are devoted to explaining the essential elements of MTSS and the systematic implementation in schools. It is intended to help Nebraska Districts increase understanding of the various aspects of the system and to identify areas that warrant future professional development within a school setting. NeMTSS has been working to provide supports to school systems for over 12 years now. What began as a small grant within the University of Nebraska - Lincoln from the Department of Education has begun to build out a tiered system of support that now includes the grant with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as well as NDE Consultants, a State Team, and Stakeholders informing decisions to build out Nebraska MTSS Support for schools.

The NeMTSS Regional Facilitator will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and support to Nebraska Schools and ESUs through a regional support, dividing the state into three sections. The Facilitator will serve on the NeMTSS State Team (PLC) and build out the trainings and technical assistance needed throughout the region and state that is identified as needed. The coordination, technical assistance, training, and support will be provided through on-site training, building meetings, module development, webinars, etc. to Nebraska's School District and ESU personnel.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $162,000 each

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA-Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: December 2019

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P.O. Box 94987
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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 28, 2021

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

FROM: Zainab Rida, Ph.D.

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:

Authorize the Commissioner to enter into an Interagency Agreement between the Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services/ServeNebraska.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) proposes to develop an AmeriCorps planning grant program serving in the State of Nebraska that will focus on the education alignment to the Nebraska's Framework for School Renewal and Acceleration due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NDE seeks to contract with ServeNebraska to provide financial support to initiate the development of an application to apply for an AmeriCorps grant. This will allow the NDE to assess and assist the needs of Nebraska school districts, communities, and students to refocus and accelerate student learning, particularly for historically underserved student groups.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: Not to exceed $74,571

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Nebraska-Department of Health and Human Services-ServeNebraska
- New or Renewal: New
- If renewal, date of first approval:

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 7, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Rhone and Teresa Coonts, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the Nebraska Center for the Education of Children who are Blind/Visually Impaired (NCECBVI) Project specific to Outreach services.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The Nebraska Department of Education approved the state plan for Statewide Vision Services in 2004. This plan offers the following supports and services: instructional materials and technology support, assessments and evaluation services, consultation services, professional development, center-based program and residential services, and student and family support services. Historically, this Project has helped fund parts of these programs outlined in the state plan. This project will fund the outreach services such as teacher mentoring, family and student supports/trainings including summer camp, management, and oversight of the instructional materials for all students who are blind/visually impaired statewide, and statewide professional development for teachers, administrators, orientation and mobility specialists, and families

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2020

ESTIMATED COST: $200,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2004

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: **July 16, 2021**

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

FROM: Amy Bunnell

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to fund the ESU #10 Pyramid Model/EC MTSS Facilitator

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: To meet requirements related to qualified early intervention personnel and comprehensive system of personnel development. The Pyramid Model is an evidence-based practice that supports the social-emotional and behavioral component within the MTSS framework for early childhood. The Pyramid Model provides a layered continuum of supports matched to the child's needs, but in order to fully implement and sustain the practices learned, personnel need training and coaching. Through NeMTSS, our state is organizationally structured into 5 regions to support Nebraska schools and programs in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. The Pyramid Model fits within the MTSS Framework as an evidence-based practice to support the social-emotional competence in young children and prevent and address challenging behaviors.
The Early Childhood MTSS Facilitator will be aligned to the NeMTSS region with a teaming approach including the NeMTSS Regional Facilitator, Early Childhood Coach Consultant, and Early Learning Coordinator. The Early Childhood MTSS Facilitator will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and support around the implementation of the Pyramid Model to Nebraska Schools, ESUs, and Community-Based early childhood programs through a regional support model.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $110,000

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part-B/619
- New or Renewal: New

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 16, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Bunnell

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue funding the Early Childhood MTSS and Early Learning Coach Consultants.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: To meet requirements related to qualified early intervention personnel and comprehensive system of personnel development. The Pyramid Model and Early Learning coaching supports are evidence-based practices that support the social-emotional and behavioral component within the MTSS framework for early childhood. The Pyramid Model provides a layered continuum of supports matched to the child need but in order to fully implement and sustain the practices learned personnel need training and coaching. Through NeMTSS, our state is organizationally structured into 5 regions to support Nebraska schools and programs in the development of their MTSS Framework and Systems. The Pyramid Model and Early Learning Coach Consultant fits within the MTSS Framework as evidence-based practices to support the social-emotional competence in young children and prevent and address challenging behaviors.

The Early Childhood Pyramid Implementation Facilitator/Early Learning Coach Consultant will be aligned to the NeMTSS region with a teaming approach including the NeMTSS Regional Facilitator, and Early Learning Coordinator. The Early Childhood Pyramid Implementation Facilitator/Coach Consultant will provide coordination, technical assistance, training, and coaching support around the implementation of the Pyramid Model and other evidence-based practices to Nebraska Schools, ESUs, and Community-Based early childhood programs through regional support.

Coaching is a research-based strategy to strengthen teaching and improve program quality in early childhood education and care programs. A number of initiatives in Nebraska provide coaches to improve early childhood education and care programs. These include Step Up to Quality, Sixpence and Head Start child care partnerships, Rooted in Relationships, NDE Pyramid model, and the Infant and Toddler Quality Initiative. Research indicates that coaches need support and mentoring to improve their own practice. At this time, few coaching initiatives have the resources to provide an infrastructure that includes support for coaches. Additionally, some coaching initiatives have overlapping boundaries and eligibility. To ensure that

public and private money is used efficiently, and scarce coaching dollars are stretched to meet the most need, collaboration and support are needed. This pilot project is intended to determine the feasibility of building a system of coach mentoring and collaboration among initiatives. This Pyramid facilitator/Coach Consultant position will build the state infrastructure to better meet the needs of early childhood practitioners and ultimately children and families.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

Grantee: ESU #3 – Early Childhood MTSS Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: $110,000

Grantee: ESU #6 – Early Childhood MTSS Implementation Facilitator
Project Amount: $110,000

Grantee: ESU #1 – EC MTSS Implementation Facilitator and Early Learning Coach Consultant
Project Amount: $110,000

Grantee: ESU #13 – EC MTSS Implementation Facilitator and Early Learning Coach Consultant
Project Amount: $115,000

All projects run from 9/1/21 to 8/31/21

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source:
    - ESU #3 and ESU #6 – Federal IDEA Part-B/619
    - ESU #1 and ESU #13 – Federal IDEA Part-B/619 and Federal Preschool Development Grant

- New or Renewal: Renewal
- First approval: ESU 3 and 6 – 2020; ESU 1 – Jan to August 2021; ESU 13 – April to August 2021

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

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PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 16, 2021

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

FROM: Amy Rhone and Theresa Hayes, Office of Special Education

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Authorize the Commissioner to continue to fund the "NDE Transition System Support Project" with ESU #10.

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: ESU 10 has successfully provided these supports for the 2018-19, 2019-20, and 2020-21 school years. Dr. Jean Anderson, Special Education Director, provides oversight of the project activities and fiscal management of resources. Dr. Anderson also supervises Denise Neill, Administrative Assistant. NDE Office of Special Education currently does not have the capacity to provide these services without the cooperation of ESU 10.

Dr. Anderson's credentials and experience with special education administration provides NDE with the expertise needed to meet the grant goal and objectives. Dr. Anderson has previously provided this service and has served in an advisory capacity in building state capacity for Secondary Transition.

The overall budget is reasonable for the nature of the work and volume of activities. The administrative assistant's salary and benefits are aligned with ESU 10 policy. The indirect cost has been reviewed by NDE accounting staff.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021

ESTIMATED COST: $252,402

FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal IDEA Part B
- New or Renewal: Renewal
- If renewal, date of first approval: 2018

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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.

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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 *

Corey

Last name *

McConnaughy

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.)

Hello NEDoE,

Since Trump's presidency, misinformation and propaganda have been rampant in media, but not only the traditional (i.e., TV, radio, newspapers, and magazines). And they have only festered more in the wake of the 2020 Presidential election results and the 2021 U.S. Capitol attack. As of today, disseminated propaganda ranges from vaccine hesitancy to critical race theory (which is taught at the tertiary level, not K-12) That is why I believe Nebraska must (1) institute a compulsory media literacy course to help students identify and combat misinformation and propaganda, and (2) preserve and enrich the instruction of US history and civil rights history. Students would be more aware of the media and information they consume in and outside of school, as well as learn not to repeat America's past mistakes and emulate past achievements to improve societal issues.

Are similar initiatives already in place? Would your Board be willing to speak on the topics I presented?

Thank you,
Corey McConnaughy

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Corey

Last name *

McConnaughy

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Debra

Last name *

Phillips

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.)

To the Nebraska State School Board members and Commissioner Blomstedt:

I am not able to attend the meeting in Lincoln on Friday, August 6 so I would like to voice my opposition against CSE. I would like it clearly understood that I am not in favor of rewritten standards, I want the CSE standards scrapped! This is not education. It is indoctrination for pro abortion, transgender, LGBTQ activists.

The original CSE standards were created by several activists groups—Advocates for Youth, SIECUS, Answer, Planned Parenthood, Gender Spectrum, GLSEN and Southern Poverty Law Center.

There was no consultation from conservative groups like Nebraska Family Council, Protect Nebraska Coalition and Nebraska Catholic Conference or Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, both parochial schools.

I happen to know for a fact that Sex Ed standards are NOT mandated by the Nebraska legislature.

Listen to what the MAJORITY of Nebraskans are telling all of you: the CSE standards must be scrapped.

Debra Phillips
Grand Island 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 *

Debra

Last name *

Phillips

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Andrea

Last name *

Schmidt

City *

Fairbury

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 have watched the last two board meetings and read your standards and followed closely since March. Never have I been so ashamed of the state I live in as now. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for suggesting ANY of this be taught in our schools. How can any of you honestly look at ANY child and think they would be better off with this information? Draft #1 was beyond disturbing and anyone who came up with that and thought it was a great idea should have nothing to do at all with any standards written for children. With that being said, the entire NDE board whether you agreed with these standards or sat by and did nothing to object, you are all guilty of not protecting the children of our state and you should be ashamed. The trust is completely lost in the NDE and the standards should be scrapped and left to the districts, schools boards and parents. After the complete failure of your organization, please prepare yourselves for the next election to be replaced!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Andrea

Last name *

Schmidt

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

John & Cara

Last name *

Wieduwilt

City *

Elm Creek

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.)

NE State Board members,
We would like to be at this meeting but could not due to work schedules.
We want it to be known that we believe our schools should be teaching math, science, history, reading and writing, NOT sexual and controversial information! We know that some children do not have good parents to teach about the basic physical needs but these standards go beyond that. In our school years, we were taught plenty of information about physical health and in that time there was not much talk about it between parents and children. Times have changed and most parents do an excellent job of informing their children. Please do not disrespect us parents by claiming we do not do a good job of teaching personal health to our children ourselves. We stand with a very large number of friends willing to fight this agenda to the end, including voting out any members of the board who go against our will!
Thank you,
Johm & Cara Wieduwilt

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cara

Last name *

Wieduwilt

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Bill

Last name *

Christensen

City *

Ogallala

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.)

Scrap the Standards!!! Schools should not teach sex education. Parents have this responsibility! Scrap the 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 *

Bill

Last name *

Christensen

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Lori

Last name *

Woosley

City *

Platte Center

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 still strongly disagree with the standards. I strongly disagree with having people from OutNebraska, Planned Parenthood former employees and strong LGBTQ supports and Critical Race Supporters dominating the group that wrote these. You have no balance. You have no people of faith when 10% of Nebraska kids are taught in parochial schools. You have failed to hear Nebraskans. You have failed to remember this is a Republic and majority rules. You are all depraved individuals for even entertaining these proposed standards. Kids should not be part of a continued indoctrination experiment regarding the topics of race or sexuality and frankly I am appalled. Scrap the 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 *

Lori

Last name *

Woosley

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Melissa

Last name *

McClanahan

City *

Nebraska 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.)

The second draft is a generalization of the first. It is too vague, and still leaves too much room for questions. None of the drafts will ever sit well with me or thousands of other Nebraskans. Scrap the standards. Let kids be kids. Education, not indoctrination.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Melissa

Last name *

McClanahan

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

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.)

As an extremely concerned great aunt of nine grand nieces and nephews, I am reaching out to you regarding a couple of issues involving the education of our children. First, the “sex education” you are wanting to impose on the very young and impressionable children attending the public schools in Nebraska is appalling. Young children need not be informed of gender identity. By doing so, you are aiming to confuse and mentally and emotionally harm these children. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven’t even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their innocent and fragile minds with horrendous unnecessary sexual information that will only result in further negative outcomes as they grow and change through puberty and into adulthood.

It saddens me and deeply concerns me that you would consider harming thousands of children simply to conform to the “wokeness” that most of you seem to cater to. Your push to damage the children of Nebraska with radical sexual teachings only proves that your goal is not to properly teach and protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it’s followers. It shows a weakness on your part that you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture of progressive ideology.

As for critical race theory, it is counterproductive in and of itself due to the fact that you would be teaching our impressionable children that they will be ostracized if they disagree with your backwards ideology. By pushing this into the curriculum, are striving to teach our children to hate themselves as well as others. You are actually aiming to train them to be racist. You will not be teaching them acceptance of others nor would you be teaching them acceptance of themselves. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing; it’s is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of your precious CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. You will be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults.

In conclusion, I urge you to throw out the sex education standards you have on the table as well as the critical race theory garbage that you and so many other school boards are trying to force upon us. I ask you to dig down deep and realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be force fed to our children. I implore you to continue to protect our children, and to teach them the true history of this country because that is the only way to learn and move forward in bettering ourselves as a country, together regardless of race or religion or gender. Get back to basics in teaching our precious children, and forget about the progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division, hatred and racial violence.

SCRAP THE 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 *

Lynn

Last name *

Olson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Headid

City *

Bellevue

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 NDE I want to say thank you for your work , it's not an easy job. Secondly, I want to encourage you to scrap the standards for sex education cirriculum. This document is not upholding the values of the majority of Nebraska parents. Introducing complex sexual concepts to younger and younger ages is confusing and damaging them. Please just let them be kids. Parents are the ones who need to be teaching their children the values surrounding human sexuality, not the school system. Thank you for taking the time to read my comments. Sincerely, Elizabeth Headid

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

Last name *

Headid

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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 *

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.)

I respectfully submit strong objection to certain parts in NDE's Draft#2 Health Standards [standards]. With only 750 words allowed I'll focus on the intro which refers to the standards as affirming and protective in order to provide inclusive and equitable for every student. This leaves doors WIDE OPEN for districts to teach/push our children to believe it's normal [affirming] to choose their own gender identity: a boy, if the child is born with female organs, girl if born with male organs, transgender, gay, no gender and many other so called choices. Draft#2 must be SCRAPPED. Medically accurate teaching is male genitals/organs = boy; female genitals/organs = girl. There is no need to confuse children about who they are and create horrible outcomes if they decide to have irreversible sex change surgery before they're able to make responsible adult decisions. Kids have enough confusion as they grow and mature. Don't guide them this way! Please SCRAP these irresponsible and harmful 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

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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 *

Kenneth

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.)

A hallmark of this country has been "equality" and opportunity thus giving all her people a chance to move upward, move about and move their reputation. All should have the same doors available and given their choice whether they use them or not. In addition to their will being a determining factor, they might chose one over another based on their abilities and location.
in this proposal, "equality" has been replaced by "equity" which moves the needle from the front end (your choice) to the backend (their choice). It is no longer free will but this will be your outcome - our will. It is no longer the same opportunities but the same out-come. Thus, no child will be allowed to excel in their area and every child will be handled as being exactly the same - denying their individuality.
"Equity" is state control and loss of freedom - that of parent and child.
Therefore, I strongly oppose this proposal.
Thank you, Kenneth Buttermore

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 *

Sasha

Last name *

Nelson

City *

Dixon

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.)

Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Sasha

Last name *

Nelson

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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 *

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

City *

Doniphan

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.)

Health Education Standards do not represent we the people so they need to be eliminated, tossed out and not drafted again. The biggest complaint when I was on our local school board was where is the public involvement. Now you are seeing the public getting involved. This is just a little wave of we the people and it's building. Change is coming.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Mlinar

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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 *

Rita

Last name *

Black

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 purpose of your organization really baffles me. Why in the world are you trying to divide people?? CRT divides people -- full stop. You are telling kids why they CAN'T instead of why they CAN. Why are you handicapping them by making them feel 'lesser', especially the kids of color??? These standards that you have set are totally off base. You need to START OVER!!! The sex ed stuff is WAY out of line -- teaching about vulvas to Kindergarteners??? Are you kidding me??? Here's an idea. Schools should teach reading, writing, and arithmetic. And to that I would had REAL history and ACCURATE civics. Other than that, stay out of the way of parents and families in teaching morals and values. That is none of your business.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Rita

Last name *

Black, PhD

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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 *

Sheila

Last name *

Backes

City *

Columbus

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.)

This idea to teach our your children sex education is next to porn. If you told my 3rd grader how to masturbate I would try to. put you in jail for sex abuse. Its totally sick and disturbing that a grown individual would put it on the agenda. The world has gone mad

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Sheila

Last name *

Backes

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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 *

Celeste

Last name *

Harris

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.)

Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.
SCRAP THE 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 *

Celeste

Last name *

Harris

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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 *

Kristin

Last name *

Carlston

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 a public school teacher with a college background in the subjects I taught, as opposed to an education degree, I discovered that many teachers are poorly educated in the fields they teach. I've seen this particularly in science and was often horrified at the ignorant statements made by biology and anatomy teachers. Even though I decided not to continue on into the medical field, my husband did and as a doctor he is also concerned by what is taught in the schools. If I can't trust teachers to accurately teach topics in their current curriculum, I can't trust them to properly teach sex education. There should be no place in sexual education for the topic of gender identity. No matter a person's views on the subject, there is no science behind a person's feelings regarding their sex. Constant intrusions by government, advocacy groups, and teachers unions are compelling me to consider home schooling my children. State Sen. Megan Hunt's statement regarding parents inability to "teach kids math or geography or physical education" may be reflective of her own situation but parents have the same access to information as teachers without the unnecessary requirements replaced on them by schools, such as seat time, an inadequate grading system, pacing guides, and an inability to provide individual instruction. Some parents remain well-educated due to their own love of learning and have a natural gift for teaching. Neither my husband nor myself particularly enjoyed school. The pacing was slow, teachers weren't engaging, activities and lessons were often poorly designed/implemented or didn't line up properly with assessments, and overall didn't end up reflecting the knowledge required for everyday living. I'm grateful to have left education and look forward to seeing the system rebuilt with an actual focus on providing children with the tools necessary to be successful in life as opposed to college-readiness or perpetuating a particular political 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 *

Kristin

Last name *

Carlston

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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 *

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.)

I am still very strongly against the watered down 2nd draft! The 2nd draft needs to be scraped also!

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 jr

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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 *

Brooke

Last name *

Morris

City *

O'Neill

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.)

Draft 1 was evidence and proof that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medical/biologically INACCURATE information is the primary goal of the NDE. Parents have lost their trust in the NDE. Draft 2 is simply a watered down version of draft 1 meant to trick parents into thinking it's okay to push sex and fake science on young children. It is not okay. The proposed standards are wildly age inappropriate. Parents are the primary educators of their children, and you've failed to acknowledge that.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Brooke

Last name *

Morris

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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 *

Giorgi

City *

Hemingford

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 retired health educator and am very concerned with the proposed health standards. I suggest that the standards be scrapped.
These standards do not represent the people of Nebraska and were proposed without our input.

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 *

Giorgi

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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.)

I am against the 2nd draft! The second draft needs to be scraped!!

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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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 *

Marlys

Last name *

Meyer

City *

Scribner

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.)

Genesis 1:27-28a
"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female, he created them. And God blessed them, and God said to them, 'Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it;'"

This is the Word of the Lord. Why not promote truth instead of the lies of Satan such as are included in the following pages of Draft #2 of the health education standards put forth by such as you:

“Sex and gender identity are often confused or just lumped together, but they are actually separate parts of one’s identity. Your biological sex, or sex assigned at birth, is typically determined medically by your body parts, hormones, and DNA.” (p. 80) “Gender identity is different that [sic] biological sex. Gender is how someone feels inside.” (p. 81) “Cisgender: If someone is cisgender, that means that their sex assigned at birth matches their gender identity, or how they feel inside. For example, if someone is born with female body parts, hormones, and DNA and they also identify as a woman.” (p. 82) “Transgender: If someone's sex assigned at birth does not match with their gender identity, or how they feel inside, they might identify as ‘transgender.’ For example: if someone is born with female body parts, hormones, and DNA, and inside they feel like a man. There are many different ways that people understand their trans identity.” (p. 82) “Non-binary is an umbrella term that includes many different identities; and refers to people who do not identify inside the ‘man-woman’ binary. Examples of different identities that fall under this umbrella are: gender fluid, gender queer, agender, and gender neutral.” (p. 82) “Expression: How someone communicates their gender to the outside world. This is separate from gender identity.” (p. 83)

Such teaching promotes lies and removes all possibility of restoration of relationship with the God of creation, the only relationship which can result in eternal life with Him.

It would be wise, therefore, if Matthew 18:6 were taken seriously by those considering such teaching goals: "But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea."

Please take note,
seriously consider YOUR relationship with God, Almighty
and remember:

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." -- Hebrews 13:8

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Marlys

Last name *

Meyer

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Alicia

Last name *

Mick

City *

Hastings

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 you today to tell you I don't agree with any of the CRT and CSE in our schools.
I have an 11 year old that was asked a sexual question by her doctor and she told me she felt very uncomfortable. It is the PARENTS job to decide WHEN and how much they want to talk with with their kids.
I am against CRT and CSE
ABOLISH IT ALL!!!
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 *

Alicia

Last name *

Mick

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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 *

Charissa

Last name *

Busch

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.)

Whoever is reading these, think about your school life when you were little. Imagine being told all these sexual things that are way over your head, and should not be put into your brain. These children will learn about it these things at the right time, when they are mature enough to understand. Even outside of the classroom of Junior High, kids know more about Sex Ed than their parents knew at their age. Why push little kids to grow up so quickly, that they don't have a childhood to enjoy and not stress about things that they shouldn't even know. Let the children be kids, let them be who GOD created the to be, and not push them to question their gender and such a young age. Please take into consideration the things being said in the comments, we all genuinely care about the mental health of our 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 *

Charissa

Last name *

Busch

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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 *

Tonna

Last name *

Heinemann

City *

Bennington

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Also it removes the right of parents to educate their own children on such delicate yet powerful subjects. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.
This is not the Nebraska I have known and loved. Scrap 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 *

Tonna

Last name *

Heinemann

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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 *

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.)

This plan is something that never have a place in our school system. It will cause more confusion to our children than it will enlighten them. Personally I have 5 great grandchildren that will be inthe Ne. school system and feel this plan should definitely be totally scraped and the kids being taught the basic three R's. Thanks for listening to my theory about 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 *

Ferm

Last name *

Place

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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 *

Genny

Last name *

Wolf

City *

Kearney

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.)

After reading the second draft of the standards, I still feel they need to be scraped. It is up to parents to educate their children when it comes to health and sex education. Health standard are not mandated by the legislature so the NDE doesn't need to try to cram them down school districts. The people of Nebraska have lost trust in the State Department~

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Genny

Last name *

Wolf

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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 *

Camyla

Last name *

Anderson

City *

Gering

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.)

After reviewing both drafts of the new proposed health standards I still strongly oppose them! Parents, grandparents, school boards and community members have spoken and it is time for you to listen! These need thrown out. The health Ed they teach to prepare youth for bodily and sexual changes are fine as they stand! You are trying to add theories that do not match the Christian values of this state! Our school boards and schools will not support this!
Listen to the voices and get rid of these proposed standards all together!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Camyla

Last name *

Anderson

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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 *

Bob

Last name *

Beck

City *

Hickman

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.)

Concerns related to Draft #2
1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who
played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
2. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education?
3. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
4. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.
5. Trust was not re-built by the NDE or the SBOE by taking four months between the SBOE meeting held on April 2, 2021 and their delivery of a watered down Draft #2 on July 29, 2021. They had discussed changing the process and adding stakeholders, but we were told directly by Robin Stevens that the process didn't change and that less people wanted to be involved for Draft #2. It is difficult for parents to trust an organization that takes so long to respond to their recommendations, which were to #scrapthestandards!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Bob

Last name *

Beck

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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 *

Marilyn

Last name *

Zarkowski

City *

Benkelman

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 a Public Educator and Parent, I find Draft #1 and Draft #2 terrible disturbing and unnecessary for the children of Nebraska. You are taking responsibility away from the parents of Nebraska's children. I can't say it loud enough, SCRAP THESE STANDARDS and get back to realty!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Marilyn

Last name *

Zarkowski

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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 *

Mary

Last name *

Smith

City *

Broken Bow

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.)

Asinine what people want to happen. Please don't let it pass

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 *

Smith

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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 *

Elicia

Last name *

Cox

City *

Springfield

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.)

Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Elicia

Last name *

Cox

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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 *

Jana

Last name *

Schlender

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.)

Scrap the standards. I do not support proposed 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 *

Jana

Last name *

Schlender

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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 *

carleen

Last name *

barger

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.)

The delicate topic of human sexuality should not be exploited. Indoctrination is not education. As a parent, I want to be able to discuss these sensitive topics with my child. What is proposed robs children of their innocence.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Carleen

Last name *

Barger

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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 *

Arickx

City *

Wayne

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.)

Schools are for education not sexual identification. Our children have the right to learn READING WRITTING AND ARiTHMATIC PLEASE dont drop them in the seaspool of cultual identification our culture is lacking in Morals, Discapline and INTRGRITY PLEASE WATCH WHAT YOU DO FOR OUR KIDS. DEB ARICKX

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 *

Arickx

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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 *

Greg

Last name *

Brown

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.)

Dear Members of the Nebraska Board of Education,

I am writing about the second draft of the proposed Health Education Standards. I want to thank you for listening to the concerns previously expressed by many people about the first draft of the proposed Health Education Standards. Unfortunately, I think the second draft still contains many problems.

Evaluating the Mayo Clinic information about mental illness in youth, gender dysphoria is not listed as a top mental health concern. Similarly, the CDC listing of mental health issues in youth does not list gender dysphoria as one of the most prevalent mental health issues. Yet the revised standards still specifically include gender identity and gender roles. However, the revised standards do not specifically include other more common mental health challenges in youth of Oppositional Defiant Disorder (ODD), Conduct Disorder (CD), Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), Tourette Syndrome, Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD), or Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). It is therefore my opinion that these proposed standards regarding gender are still trying to advance a political and sociological ideology and are not relevant for a health education curriculum.

Furthermore, if you look at the glossary of terms, the definitions of aerobic, anaerobic, and calorie are not correct.

- In the glossary of terms, Aerobic is defined as “Using Oxygen to break down energy for use in muscles.”

There are several errors in the definition of aerobic n the glossary of terms.
1. The first law of thermodynamics tells us that energy is neither created nor destroyed, it just changes forms (i.e. light energy to chemical energy during photosynthesis).
2. The dictionary definition of aerobic is “relating to, involving, or requiring free oxygen.”
3. Aerobic metabolism is the way the body creates useful energy through the combustion of carbohydrates, amino acids, and fats in the presence of oxygen.

- In the glossary of terms, Anaerobic is defined as “Activities so intense that your body cannot supply adequate oxygen to sustain it for a long period of time.”

The dictionary definition of anaerobic is “relating to, involving, or requiring an absence of free oxygen.” Anaerobic metabolism is the creation of useful energy through the combustion of carbohydrates in the absence of oxygen. Furthermore, the muscle can undergo anaerobic metabolism even if the muscle cell is fully saturated with oxygen. While the intention of the definition in the glossary of term is to explain high intensity short duration activities that rely primarily on anaerobic metabolism, the definition is not correct and will mislead students.

- In the Glossary of terms, Calorie is defined as “A unit for measuring energy produced by food when it’s metabolized by the body.”

A calorie is not limited to food metabolism by the human body; a calorie can be used as measure of energy in any system. The dictionary definition of calorie is “the energy needed to raise the temperature of 1 gram of water through 1 °C”. Calorie is thus used as a unit of measure of the energy contained in food, or the

energy used to perform an activity. For example, a person running one mile might expend 100 calories, or a can of soda might contain 140 calories.

If the writers of the revised standards cannot get definitions correct, how can we trust that any of the information is correct?

I therefore request that the proposed draft 2 of the Health Education Standards be rejected.

Gregory A. Brown PhD, FACSM
Professor, KSS Dept.
University of Nebraska Kearney

These are my own opinions, and do not represent any official statement from UNK.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Greg

Last name *

Brown

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Annette

Last name *

Vasquez

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.)

Scrap the standards.
Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters of Nebraska.
I am not in agree at all!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Annette

Last name *

Vasquez

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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 *

Savannah

Last name *

Masten

City *

Loomis

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.)

This second set of standards is NO better! My children do not need to learn anything sex related in elementary! All of this needs a trash can and for these guidelines to stay away from our children! Leave our children alone!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Savannah

Last name *

Masten

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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 *

Sid

Last name *

Mignery

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.)

Strongly disagree with the direction of the Public School Systems. We need to Ban CRT as well as any new proposed sexual education classes.
These issues is a clear indication that the Neb. State Board of Education needs replaced and start over.
The move to socialism in our Public School systems must be 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 *

Sid

Last name *

Mignery

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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 *

Richard

Last name *

Wolgemuth

City *

Atkinson

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education? Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Richard

Last name *

Wolgemuth

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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 *

Jason

Last name *

Bonnes

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.)

SCRAP THE (proposed) STANDARDS! We need wholesome, factual, functional, historically accurate, age appropriate, intelligent education. The recent proposals are ABSURD! There are sensitive topics that are reserved for family discretion...not at Department of Ed not their place to talk to our children about.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jason

Last name *

Bonnes

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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 *

Terry

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'm disturbed to see how much time, resources, and effort is being spent on health standards and CRT when Nebraska's students are suffering from a serious lack of education in key areas: reading, writing, mathematics, science, and history.

Parents are in the best position to teach children how to keep their bodies healthy and clean and how to be kind and get along in society. Parents send their children to school to learn algebra and geometry, reading comprehension, and the scientific method. Please stay within the lines, and don't commandeer areas of life where you have no business meddling.

Our children do not belong to you. We simply outsource their academic learning to you. If you're unwilling to stay within the lines, our legislature needs to enact school choice so we can send them to schools that respect us as their primary caregivers and teachers.

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 *

Terry

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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 *

Laura

Last name *

Ninegar

City *

Elm Creek

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 scrap 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 *

Laura

Last name *

Ninegar

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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 *

Alice

Last name *

Bolin

City *

Norfolk

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.)

There are problems in the first and the second draft of this gender education . Once implemented this would just open the door for more of this type of sexual ideology in our schools. It doesn't stop here!
PLEASE SCAP 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 *

Alice

Last name *

Bolin

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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 *

Jason

Last name *

Schiebel

City *

Springfield

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 have legitimate concerns that our board of education thinks this is what is best for our kids. Scrap the 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 *

Jason

Last name *

Schiebel

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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 *

Suzanne

Last name *

McDonald

City *

Riverdale

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 begging you to scrap the standards. As a mother of 2 non-verbal sons with Down syndrome. These standards would make them more likely to be victims of sexual abuse. They are the perfect children for their peers to “practice what they learned “ on. (isn’t that what we are supposed to do when we learn something new in school? They make perfect targets because they can’t say “NO” and they can’t tell anyone what happened.
After reading Draft #2, my impression was that trigger words were removed in some parts and replaced with vague terminology. As a parent, it felt as if you were trying to “trick” us into believing that they had been changed, when, in fact, they left more room for interpretation, making it even more dangerous.
It saddens me deeply that those who are in a position to protect our children are doing the very opposite. An environment is being created where our children are being brainwashed into following the ways of our depraved society and setting them up to be victims, while removing an authority of the parents.
Please, for the safety and well-being of our children, SCRAP THE 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 *

Suzanne

Last name *

McDonald

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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 *

Kenneth

Last name *

Wombacher

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.)

With Draft # 2 of the NDE Health Standards, it seems that the only thing that has happened is you have watered down Draft #1. You can dilute poison but it still remains poison. My kids are not going to drink this! Remember that, as a parent, I am your customer. Why are you stocking something on your shelf that your Nebraska customers as a whole do not want – and, frankly, I won't pay for? In fact, this type of education is NOT what has been mandated by Nebraska law. Scrap it! Reading, writing, arithmetic - those are standard subjects. What you are proposing is education that belongs IN THE HOME. I'd love to have you visit with any of my teenage boys as you will find they have been very well instructed on how anatomy and sex works. Oh, and they have been taught from a scientific and physiological perspective… not your made-up emotional well-being drivel.

When the history books are written a hundred years from now about this moment, many will be astonished at the emotional and mental destruction that your type of education package has caused. When you fail to teach people truth they are often harmed by a lie.

I hope that they'll still be teaching history in a hundred years. Or will you have replaced it by even more health standards teaching?

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 *

Wombacher

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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 *

Pennelope

Last name *

Emblin

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 DO NOT agree with the changes that are being proposed for our children's health programs.
I feel that they are morally wrong and are sending a horrible message to our kids. I believe that the health program should be basic anatomy, and education on drinking and drug use. All other matters are private and should be discussed only with a parent AT HOME.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Pennelope

Last name *

Emblin

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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 *

Deborah

Last name *

Watson

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.)

Tuesday, 8/3/21
Dear Nebraska Dept. of Education,
1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
Draft #2 still includes CSE, anything from Draft #1 can still be included if schools choose to adopt Draft #2. Draft #2 does NOT PROTECT from the inclusion of CSE.
-The statement from Draft #2 introduction: “Locally determined content in sex education should be developmentally appropriate and medically accurate. The content should be affirming and protective to provide inclusive, equitable, and safe learning environments for every student. ***THIS IS CSE***

Thank you,
Deborah Watson

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 *

Watson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Pitts

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.)

It is absolutely disgusting that boys are allowed in girls spaces including private dressing areas. That their allowed on girls teams. This is absolutely ridiculous. This will be met with force if one of my 6 daughters EVER encounters this in their school careers. While teachers rating tank we see the pervasive activists indoctrinate young minds. Telling black kids they are victims of history and todays society, targeted by police. Telling white kids they are privileged, inherently racist, etc. Taking Sex Ed. to the next level inventing genders, orientations. What else? showing PORN to children. Planned Parenthood backed material. That isn't health. They donated 45 million in 2019 to democrats. The NE Teachers union angrily replied that 'they are here for the TEACHERS!!' When I asked for data that supported forced masks. Masks they endorsed without data and against CDC info I shared with our school board that states masks "do not provide respiratory protection" I digress. Listen, do WHATEVER you want. I know you will. But just know. All school funding, donating, etc. has indefinitely ended for the total disregard for our individuality and freedom. Malfeasance. Thats how I'd describe school boards bending to the idiotic left. We see you. We won't ignore the damage you have done and are doing. ITS a mask cult. The board can't see that. People with penises are male. For some reason you can't get that either. A LOST CAUSE? Is that what you are? No hope for seeing the error of your ways and correcting it? watch gynophobia spread and girls get sidelined. do nothing. we see you.

It will be better people that replace you. Of that I am sure.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Lisa

Last name *

Pitts

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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 *

Meredith

Last name *

Jones

City *

Sutton

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.)

Draft #2 of the Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. You have now completely opened them up to insert any sex ed teaching/curriculum that anyone wants. All you did was remove the contentious language to completely open it up for interpretation which can and will be so detrimental. Stick to academics and leave the rest to parents/guardians! The references to Critical Race Theory are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Meredith

Last name *

Jones

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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 *

Desiree

Last name *

Guthrie

City *

Callaway

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.)

Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters 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 *

Desiree

Last name *

Guthrie

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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 *

Lin

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.)

I am opposed to ANY teaching of CRT and sex ed which includes normalizing transgender lifestyles, sex acts and deviant behaviors between adults and children.
Our children are scoring dismally in classes such as reading, writing, math etc. Schools want to focus on social engineering rather than learning. NO ONE should be ashamed of their skin color or discriminate against anyone for theirs. Re-writing history to perpetuate these lies is disgusting.
Many families will remove their kids from public schools if this passes. Our tax dollars fund public schools. If you ignore the wishes of parents by passing these abhorrent classes, you will face empty classrooms and lost funding.

Lin 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 *

Lin

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 *

Laura

Last name *

Roberts

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 am putting my notice in that I want the entire Health Curriculum 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 *

Laura

Last name *

Roberts

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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 *

David

Last name *

Poore

City *

Cozad

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 turned 68 years old and I can't believe we're even having these discussions concerning these issues...We have fought world wars to be where we're at, the land of the free and the home of the brave...If we have legislators that agree with these terrible issues, we need to replace them even though I believe in total free speech...Our legislature needs to be a reflection of our communities and country...I know this is not where we're at in Nebraska and the USA...I pray never in our lifetime...A few left-wing people are trying to push the through their agenda and not caring about our country...We need to no longer become the silent majority...DP

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

David

Last name *

Poore

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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 *

Sheri

Last name *

Robertson

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 stay in your lane. The State does not mandate that you go down the road of sex ed. Knowing that education is always looking for more money, I have to wonder why you are teaching something that is not mandated. Teaching non-mandated sex ed costs time and money. Taxpayers, time and money. The taxpayers don't want public schools teaching things that are the duty of the parent. I know that you are receiving funding from extremist groups. These groups do not represent NE values. I encourage you to stay in the education lane of math, science, etc; and abandon your "sex ed" efforts.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Sheri

Last name *

Robertson

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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 *

Wickard

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS: 1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism.
2. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
3. Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CS and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.
4. Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters 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 *

Karen

Last name *

Wickard

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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 *

Jill

Last name *

Erickson

City *

Columbus

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 try to teach my children to respect themselves and others. We are all created equal in God's eyes. We can find true JOY in life by putting Jesus first, Others second, and yourself last. We can't just do what we want because if feels good in the moment. We need to think about the long term future and the main goal of getting to Heaven to live in eternal happiness. In order to do that we will have to make sacrifices in this life. One thing I am trying to teach my children is CHASTITY which will lead to better and healthier relationships. Therefore SCRAPE the HEALTH STANDARDS because some of the standards do not teach us how to respect our bodies and the bodies/lives of others (unborn babies).

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 *

Erickson

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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 *

Lori

Last name *

Woosley

City *

Platte Center

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.)

Looking at draft 2, if you look at the glossary of terms, the definitions of aerobic, anaerobic, and calorie are not correct.
• In the glossary of terms, Aerobic is defined as “Using Oxygen to break down energy for use in muscles.”
There are several errors in the definition of aerobic n the glossary of terms.
1. The first law of thermodynamics tells us that energy is neither created nor destroyed, it just changes forms (i.e. light energy to chemical energy during photosynthesis).
2. The dictionary definition of aerobic is “relating to, involving, or requiring free oxygen.”
3. Aerobic metabolism is the way the body creates useful energy through the combustion of carbohydrates, amino acids, and fats in the presence of oxygen.
• In the glossary of terms, Anaerobic is defined as “Activities so intense that your body cannot supply adequate oxygen to sustain it for a long period of time.”
The dictionary definition of anaerobic is “relating to, involving, or requiring an absence of free oxygen.”
Anaerobic metabolism is the creation of useful energy through the combustion of carbohydrates in the absence of oxygen. Furthermore, the muscles can undergo anaerobic metabolism even if the muscle cell is fully saturated with oxygen. While the intention of the definition in the glossary of term is to explain high intensity short duration activities that rely primarily on anaerobic metabolism, the definition is not correct and will mislead students.
• In the Glossary of terms, Calorie is defined as “A unit for measuring energy produced by food when it’s metabolized by the body.”
A calorie is not limited to food metabolism by the human body; a calorie can be used as measure of energy in any system. The dictionary definition of calorie is “the energy needed to raise the temperature of 1 gram of water through 1 °C”. Calorie is thus used as a unit of measure of the energy contained in food, or the energy used to perform an activity. For example, a person running one mile might expend 100 calories, or a can of soda might contain 140 calories.
If the writers of these standards cannot correctly define terms, how can we believe that anything else in the standards are correct?

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Lori

Last name *

Woosley

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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 *

Lori

Last name *

Hedstrom

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 urge the Board and Governor Ricketts NOT to eliminate or fail to uphold certification for school librarians. As a former law librarian, I know from personal experience that school librarians are a crucial part of the education of an informed populace. With the explosion of social media and electronic resources, information literacy is a necessary part of any student's education, and the school library is where this happens. Librarians teach a multi-faceted approach to accessing and interpreting information, especially with respect to authentication of sources and differentiating between fact and opinion.

Information literacy skills are the bedrock of education, in the classroom and out in the world. Students need to know where to look for credible information, how to find it, and how to evaluate it. Since the founding of the United States Thomas Jefferson and others have insisted that "a well-informed electorate is a prerequisite for democracy." School librarians encourage and instruct students to prepare them for lifelong learning, which is especially important for participation in civic matters.

To eliminate or fail to uphold certification of school librarians is to rob students (future voters) of the tools they need to function in today's 24/7 information-intense society. School librarians' roles have evolved such that they are now key technology partners for teachers and administrators, testing and recommending appropriate resources to complement more traditional learning tools. As curricula expand to include collaborative inquiry (now widely incorporated into workplaces and sure to continue to grow), students - and teachers! - need school librarians to guide, instruct, and steer them through the growing number of ways to get information and, most importantly, to be capable of evaluating the value and veracity of the source and content.

Removing a key human resource from schools is short-sighted to say the least – nothing is more important than the education of our children, and having professional, certified instructors is paramount. Please consider not only the current climate but the future of education and society if school librarians are removed, demoted, or standards are eliminated or weakened. They really are that important!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Lori

Last name *

Hedstrom

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Foley

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.)

Hello,
As a parent and educator in the State of Nebraska, I would like to share a couple of thoughts.

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children.
This is not the educational community's job, this is absolutely the role of the parents and family to teach and educate their own children the way they believe is fit and right for their own family.
Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained Critical Race Theory (CRT) components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

While we are glad that some changes were made, there are still glaring problems that cannot be fixed. We need to scrap the Standards!

Thank you,
Jennifer Foley

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Foley

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Caleb

Last name *

Poore

City *

Callaway

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 sad state to see our country in. We wonder why our country is crumbling from the inside out, but yet we vote on legislation that endorses terrible/evil behavior. I just read the other day that there are now 72 different genders people can identify with. How did we even get here? This promise I can make, that if this legislation passes, I will absolutely be pulling my children from any school that teaches these concepts. If it means a private/home school, so be it. I guarantee I am not the only one based on conversations with people around the state. How is that going to bode with Nebraska jobs? How about Nebraska economy? As of 2013 there were 22,103 teachers in Nebraska. What is the state's plan when those teachers lose jobs due to a knee jerk decision based upon the opinions of a slim majority?

On one hand, one proposal is to force education that creates a divide/hatred based on skin color before a person even has a chance to understand another person's character. This was Martin Luther King's main premise! On the other hand, the proposal is to force education that makes a child question their gender in the most confusing point in their life (puberty) and pose the question to them if they would like to be one of the other 72 genders currently available. We wonder why God is absent in our country right now, but we consistently run toward things contrary to his most basic principles. Nebraska has always been an example to the rest of the nation in what it means to be a Christian/Constitutionalist County. If we agree to this legislation, we are forfeiting the fight between right and wrong based on what a few extremists want.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Caleb

Last name *

Poore

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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 *

Morgan

Last name *

Hinman

City *

Callaway

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 support any of these drafts pertaining to critical race theory or sex ed, being taught to children. The school shouldn't be a platform for any political 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 *

Morgan

Last name *

Hinman

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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 *

Lacey

Last name *

Markt

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.)

After reviewing the NE Health Education Standards, Draft #2, I found that, overall, the standards seemed much more well-rounded and grade appropriate. The previous draft seemed concerned with creating a health curriculum that indoctrinated children with current gender ideologies. This second draft focused more a child's whole health--physical, mental, social, etc.--beyond sex and gender identities. I do think standard HE.7.7.2d, which says that 'biological sex and gender identity may or may not differ' should be removed from the curriculum. While much less prescriptive than before, its presence in the curriculum gives weight to current cultural beliefs that it's okay and healthy for gender identity to differ from biological sex, something which not all families believe. It also opens the door for health teachers to push a certain ideology that differs from family or personal beliefs. While health teachers should be prepared to answer questions about this in a non-biased, belief-sensitive way as they come up in the classroom, it should not be included as a standard for the reasons I already mentioned.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Lacey

Last name *

Markt

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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 *

Gina

Last name *

ODoherty

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 will keep my message fairly short; SCRAP THE STANDARDS. We as citizens have spoken loud and clear after draft 1. We do not want CRT or CSE. Draft 2 is too vague to muddle through. Leave the standards up to the local districts and local schools where the public has half a chance to go to meetings, view materials used in the classroom, and voice our concerns. As a grandmother of a bi-racial granddaughter, I can not afford to have CRT pass. To create division and or mistrust along racial lines, even among family members, is truly incomprehensible and maddening. I never what to see my granddaughter view me as anything other than a trusted grandparent wanting her best, not as her oppressor.
Regarding CSE, once again draft 2 leaves the door open to discuss gender identity and other topics which only serve to confuse children's underdeveloped brains that are still forming and can not process that information. As a young girl, I was what one may call a tomboy. I liked sports and wished I can play football with the boys far over playing with other girls.. Can you see how this material could confuse a child like that? Introducing CSE at those ages can confuse a child that they may be, or that they are, someone other than what they were really created to be. Once again, SCRAP THE STANDARDS, and as a last suggestion, Id like to see the NDE board be more transparent, and make available any books or lesson plans that you are recommending to our schools.
Thank you for your 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 *

Gina

Last name *

ODoherty

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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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Mitchell

City *

Auburn

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 an extremely concerned mother of a preschooler who will be in kindergarten next year I am reaching out to you regarding a couple of issues involving the education of our children. First, the “sex education” you are wanting to impose on the very young and impressionable children attending the public schools in Nebraska. I am appalled at what you are wanting to force on these young minds. Young children need not be informed of gender identity. By doing so, you are aiming to confuse and mentally and emotionally harm these children. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven’t even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their innocent and fragile minds with horrendous unnecessary sexual information that will only result in further negative outcomes as they grow and change through puberty and into adulthood.

It saddens me and deeply concerns me that you would consider harming thousands of children simply to conform to the indoctrination that most of you seem to cater to. Your push to damage the children of Nebraska with radical sexual teachings only proves that your goal is not to properly teach and protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it’s followers. It shows a weakness on your part that you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture of progressive ideology.

As for critical race theory, it is counterproductive in and of itself due to the fact that you would be teaching our impressionable children that they will be ostracized if they disagree with your backwards ideology. By pushing this into the curriculum, are striving to teach our children to hate themselves as well as others. You are actually aiming to train them to be racist. You will not be teaching them acceptance of others nor would you be teaching them acceptance of themselves. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing, it’s is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of your precious CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. You will be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults.

In conclusion, I urge you to throw out the sex education standards you have on the table as well as the critical race theory garbage that you and so many other school boards are trying to force upon us. I ask you to dig down deep and realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be force fed to our children. I implore you to continue to protect our children, and to teach them the true history of this country because that is the only way to learn and move forward in bettering ourselves as a country, together regardless of race or religion or gender. Get back to basics in teaching our precious children, and forget about the progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division, hatred and racial violence.

Scrap the 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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Mitchell

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Chris

Last name *

SPENCER

City *

Gothenburg

State *

Nebraska (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 scrap the standards! The proposed standards do not reflect the values of Nebraska. They will harm children. Please stop. Let the local school districts develop their own standards to reflect the values of the communities they serve.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Chris

Last name *

Spencer

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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 *

Beverly

Last name *

Tharp !

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

SCRAP THE 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 *

Beverly

Last name *

Tharp

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ziemer

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.)

The new health standards, even as revised in the second release, are unacceptable. Basics m, such as personal hygiene, good touch bad touch, where to turn to trusted adults, proper body part terms, anti bullying when someone is different, all of those are great. It is NOT, however, the school systems business to reach into other areas such as gender identity and sexual orientation. These are highly moral issues that many families feel differently about. Therefore making them clearly off limits. The reasons given why do include these such as to end bullying, that is not logical. Wouldn't the obvious step be to conduct more anti bullying assemblies. You can teach kids to respect others who look, talk, act differently, without getting into specifics of, gay, straight, bi, pan, on and on. It's been done for years. NOT TO MENTION, It is absolutely unacceptable for teachers to be teaching children of any age what different sexual acts are and how to conduct them. Such as masturbation, and anal and oral sex. THAT IS RIDICULOUS and I highly doubt any of YOU would want to be teaching that yourselves. The test scores and school ratings in Nebraska are appalling. Get back to focusing on the basics and making sure kids are proficient in those. You want to talk about inclusivity. It's terrible that less than 50% of black students are proficient in reading and math. Quit focusing on political activist agendas and more on what actually matters.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ziemer

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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 *

Cheryl M

Last name *

Willis

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.)

It saddens me that, after addressing the board time and again, and watching my peers and co-laborers deliver their live speeches, and now, reviewing the 2nd draft, none of the board is willing to scrap this whole endeavor. It is not necessary, but for some reason, the board wants to make it necessary. At this point, it is a waste. It's a waste of a lot of time. It's a waste of trying to make something important that really is to be shouldered by families, homes, and the local schools. This is such a disappointment. The written 2nd draft is not wanted by myself, my family, my peers, and my co-laborers. Please Scrap the Standards.
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 *

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 *

Amy

Last name *

Robinson

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 a parents we trust you with our children. Our most precious and innocent gifts from God. After reading through your sexual education standards and intent to teach critical race theory, that trust is now broken. I no longer see school as a safe place for my child. I see it as a grooming ground for pedophilia, divisiveness, and hate. The very definition of grooming a child "befriending and establishing an emotional connection with the child/ child's family to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse". That is exactly what the standards do. This is sick and it is perverse. Grooming children and exploiting them for a political purpose to satisfy a radical agenda is disgusting. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for even considering such filth. Iowa and Florida have been bold enough to take a stand to protect the innocent children. If you decide to go ahead with these standards I will remove my child from school and move to a state that respects parental rights. I can assure you I will not be the only parent who will consider this. Instead of teaching garbage like this you need to bring back drivers ed, home economics, and shop class. It's time to #scrapthestandards.

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 *

Robinson

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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 *

Amye

Last name *

Dusatko

City *

Bennington

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.)

Draft #2 the NDE Health Standards MUST be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district to appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Additionally, Draft #1 was evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced!!!

Draft #1 was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education?

SCRAP THE 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 *

Amye

Last name *

Dusatko

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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 *

Leigh

Last name *

Stutzman

City *

Callaway

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education? Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters of Nebraska. Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced. No one side is happy with these standards! While we are glad that some changes were made, there are still glaring problems that cannot be fixed. #scrapthestandards.
Sincerely,
a concerned mother of 3 grade school 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 *

Leigh

Last name *

Stutzman

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Hoffman

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.)

Thank you for taking the time to read my response to the Nebraska State Board of Education's Draft #2 of health standards. The Nebraska State Board of Education should not be using National Sex Education Standards (NSES) as their main source and it is apparent that this is still the case. NSES is authored by Siecus, who also authors Comprehensive Sexuality Education. If the state designates NSES as it's source, then only CSE-compliant curricula are acceptable for teaching the material. CSE curriculum is not appropriate for our children.

For example, Nebraska Kindergarten Standard HE.K.7.3.b "State accurate names for body parts."
The corresponding NSES Standard is "AP.2.cc.1: List medically accurate names for body parts, including the genitals". The corresponding CSE-compliant curriculum is: "A person with a vulva has three holes between their legs and a very sensitive little area at the top called the clitoris." (Grade K, Lesson 2, p. 2) And then into Second Grade: "The clitoris, located between the top of the labia minora and the clitoral hood, is a small body of spongy tissue that is highly sensitive…. The clitoris and surrounding tissue contain many nerve endings, making the entire area very sensitive to indirect and direct touch." (Grade 2, Lesson 1, p.4)

This material is inappropriate for young children to be learning, especially within the context of a school classroom. The board has a responsibility to protect our children from CSE curriculum. It should not be creating standards that are vague and open the door for teachers to use their own interpretation of the standards or use CSE curriculum. As a former teacher, I know that vague standards open the door to a variety of curriculum. I also know that only certain companies control education curriculum for public schools. What they print in their books is what will be taught unless we have specific standards from the state that protect dignity, values, and personal beliefs.

I respectfully ask you to create new standards that are not vague and open for interpretation. It is important that as parents and educators we can trust that the State Board of Education's top priority is the safety and protection of our children.

Thank you for your time,
Jennifer Hoffman

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Hoffman

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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 *

Cadyn

Last name *

Smith

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

My name is Cadyn Smith and I think we should scrap the standards there's nothing good about them nothing has changed since draft one except for the wording this is because the riders want to trick us into thinking they changed their mind about their agenda. I've always gone by the phrase once a cheater always a cheater. And that phrase holds true to this day what makes you think that We The People will settle for draft two WE WONT SCRAP THE STANDARDS and MOVE ON

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cadyn

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 *

Ann

Last name *

Scott

City *

Gothenburg

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 and consideration of the proposed Health Standards. I am a Family Nurse Practitioner in rural central Nebraska. I have read the 2nd draft very closely and continue to believe that we just need to scrap the standards completely. I appreciate much of the sex education being removed but firmly believe that state health standards are not needed. Individual school districts, along with parental input, should guide schools in their health curriculum. Each school district is unique with different cultures, morals and values. I appreciate having input in my child's education and being able to place God and family at the forefront. I care for pediatric, adolescent and adult patients and understand the importance of health education. However, the public school system should not be the vessel for 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 *

Ann

Last name *

Scott

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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 *

Joan

Last name *

Walsh

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.)

It is time that parents and children have a say again in public education since they pay the taxes which support the school systems in this state. Teacher's unions need to take a back seat when they are pushing a socialist agenda down the throats of freedom loving Americans and brainwashing our children to hate America, its history and its foundations. Teachers who "teach" this socialist agenda need to be fired, and any teacher who down talks to students about America and lies about history should be fired. Administrators who follow the communist critical race theory should likewise be fired. There is no place for them in Nebraska. Show the communists the door or defund the schools who support their agendas..No money for schools who support crt or who do not allow parents to know what their children are being taught. If teachers lesson plans are not transparent to the public, then they should not be given funds from taxpayers. It's that simple.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Joan

Last name *

Walsh

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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 *

Melissa

Last name *

Cary

City *

McCook

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS!
Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who
played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7)
Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Melissa

Last name *

Cary

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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 *

Jamie

Last name *

Bendorf

City *

Giltner

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.)

NDE board,

I want to start off by saying thank you for the revision. However I strongly feel the second draft needs to be scrapped as well.

I understand you feel there needs to be inclusion as far as children who question identity and their voices are not being heard. They feel ostracized, alone, and shamed by those who don't understand. I know for a fact that I didn't have gender issues and I felt those exact same emotions. See the problem isn't about gender at all. The problem is these are children. They all are picked on or feel shamed at some point.

Children question if they do XYZ, will they be made fun of? Every child feels this and I know if you look back you did as well. Did you question if you were male or female based upon a time being shamed by peers? Or do you know that your childhood was rough because you wore the wrong shirt, or the hand-me-down prom dress, or the shoes that had holes in them? Or even shamed because of who you were seen with, made a silly mistake, or even who your parents are? I bet more have been shamed in this way, not because of the gender they are choosing. Now I am not saying people haven't been called out based upon gender either. Just that every child has had this come up in their life.

See, adding this curriculum won't change a thing. If anything it will create more diversity. You are planting a seed of doubt in every child. They will question and maybe make a choice they aren't prepared to make. Kids (K-12) don't know who or what they want to be in a capacity to make that decision at this age. If they do, they are well past what a teacher can ever teach them. If a child is questioning their gender, then this needs to be handled by the parent. Just as if a child is feeling bullied, then this needs to be handled by a parent. If a child questions their faith, then this needs to be handled by a parent.

See no matter what a child is feeling, this needs to be addressed to the parent first. If a parent doesn't know how to handle it, then they have the right to seek assistance. They can take their concerns to a teacher or administration. However we all know with emotions, it's best to be handled by a professional who is trained to handle this. Teachers are training to educate math, science, history, and literature. If a teacher is educated in gender science, then this needs to be addressed at a collegiate level.

This is not a one size fits all topic. Let the teachers teach the core curriculum and not add anything more to their plates. Or bring more controversy to the school. You have already created shame and division by just bringing up this topic. Both sides feel attacked because of this. Focus on the kids' education, not gender or racism. Let the correct profession take charge of these sensitive topics

Thank you!
Jamie Bendorf

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jamie

Last name *

Bendorf

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Katrina

Last name *

Carter

City *

Gothenburg

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 strongly opposed to these standards being taught at our elementary schools. I feel that they are one sided with barely veiled strong political undertones and undermine a parents role in teaching our own children our political/religious views and values. Scrap the 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 *

Katrina

Last name *

Carter

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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 *

Brandon

Last name *

Carter

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

Scrap the standards. They are not age appropriate. We should not have to force feed young children this complete political agenda. By agreeing with these standards the state is agreeing that it is ok to sexualize our children at a very young age.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Brandon

Last name *

Carter

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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 *

Michele

Last name *

Ott

City *

Valley

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.)

Focus on the falling numbers of the ACT and math and science scores and leave the raising of our children to the parents and STOP teaching them inappropriate lessons in school. Your program appears to me as a pediatric nurse that you are grooming them to be ok with being molested or to molest. The information your sick minds think is ok to tell our children is wrong and you know that! Keep sex ed all together out of the school and if parents want to sing up their kid for teachers that can't even teach math to teach them about sex on a saturday outside of school hours then do that! We need mothers and actual good people deciding what our children learn not pedofiles which is clearly what all the writers of this information are!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Michele

Last name *

Ott

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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 *

Cynthia

Last name *

Copeland

City *

Elkhorn

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS. I strongly disagree with the second draft. Stop the indoctrination.

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 *

Copeland

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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 *

Matthews

City *

Papillion

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.)

Draft #2 is still predicated on CRT. This "theory," is based on a child's color of their skin which, in itself, is teaching our children to be racist. For our children to have equal education, they must not be taught to notice color. This is pressuring young children to become divided and not united as one. As for the new health standards. It is in fact, the human growth portion of this agenda that seems to be, unnecessarily invasive to our children's emotional health and stability. "Analyze," other lifestyles? Just what is a "health disparity?" The high school "strand," is extremely vague and needs more explanation for Parents to make an educated decision. I am not understanding why it is, the NDOE feels the need to teach Kindergartners the very specific names of body parts. Honestly, if I were to teach only half of these things in my child care, I would be shut down in a matter of hours. This has no place in public the education "square." In conclusion, Parents are and will remain THEIR child's primary source of educating their children on these topics. It has been my experience, in the 27 years of having a child care, the parents are well equipped to teach their own children these topics. Only the parents know when their child is ready to hear many of these topics that are being introduced through this board. Please reconsider emotionally scaring our children and placing them (potentially) in the hands of a pedophile. As we have read in the news, as of late, it wouldn't take much to "groom," our children for this to take place, especially when it is coming from a trusted source, such as a teacher or an adult in the school. I am in no way suggesting that all teachers would assault children. What I am suggesting, is this...even the schools really do not know if there is perhaps, a pedophile in their midst. By teaching this in our schools, will only help a potential problem to bubble up, if a person/teacher/trusted adult, sees an opportunity to act on this line of teaching. Your job, is to make sure our children are safe and being taught in a safe surrounding. Neither one of these topics, CRT and Health Standards, seem to protect a certain race or the innocents of 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 *

Linda

Last name *

Matthews

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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 *

Lynette

Last name *

Lightfoot

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.)

"SCRAP THE STANDARDS"
Draft #2 still includes CSE, so anything from Draft #1 can still be included if schools choose to adopt Draft #2.
Draft #2 does NOT PROTECT from the inclusion of CSE:
"Locally determined content in sex education should be developmentally appropriate and medically accurate. The content should be affirming and protective in order to provide inclusive, equitable, and safe learning environments for every student." ***THIS IS CSE***
"SHAPE America" contributed to, reviewed and officially endorsed the National Sex Education standards. This is referenced in Draft #2.
As Governor Ricketts has pointed out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. The Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies.
These standards could be thrown away today and there would be no repercussions. Parents would continue to be the primary educators of their children. The NDE and the SBOE are continuing to overstep their authority.
Opening the door to CSE leaves the schools exposed to the entire curriculum that comes as a package deal. If Nebraska is using NSES as a resource, then Nebraska has CSE Standards.
"SCRAP THE 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 *

Lynette

Last name *

Lightfoot

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Elaine

Last name *

Smith

City *

Gothenburg

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 believe it is only the right of a parent to decide what age is appropriate to expose them to an alternative way of life that is controversial and contrary to the way of the Truth. SCRAP THE 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 *

Elaine

Last name *

Smith

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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 *

Heather

Last name *

Reid

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 references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. Trust was not re-built by the NDE or the SBOE by taking four months between the SBOE meeting held on April 2, 2021 and their delivery of a watered down Draft #2 on July 29, 2021. NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers.The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters of Nebraska. There are problematic standards now in EVERY strand. There are vague standards and not-so vague standards. Scrap the Standards. 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 *

Heather

Last name *

Reid

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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 *

Hillary

Last name *

Goodwin

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

While I see some improvement in draft 2 over draft 1, there are still elements that do not need to be there. As a parent, it is my responsibility to determine when my children are ready to hear about sensitive issues such as gender identity, reproductive function and health. Children have no concept of abstract thought and much of what is still proposed to teach will just add to the confusion. Scrap these standards. Children enter school as a safe place and sometimes this is the only safe place they have. These standards do not improve that in any way.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Hillary

Last name *

Goodwin

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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 *

Sierra

Last name *

Charsley

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'm not happy with the idea of teaching our children about critical race theory and gender identity. These are things that should be taught at home and have no place at school. Nebraska has always had good schools that support parents. Schools should not be teaching social issues. I'm shocked we even need to discuss 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 *

Sierra

Last name *

Charsley

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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 *

Roger

Last name *

Allmand

City *

Holdrege

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.)

Not having the opportunity to examine the current offering from the State Board of Education, however, I would be against even a hint of any Critical Race Theory type of education. It is very negative and certainly tends to enhance the divisions that already exist in our country plus not being representative of our country.

I would also be very much against any education regarding "trans" lifestyles. This is unhealthy and solves no problem. A mental health care professional told me that 40% of calls that are received from parents concerning their troubled children are regarding "trans" confusion.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Roger

Last name *

Allmand

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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 *

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.)

Dear Board,
I am writing again, for the fourth time, as a concerned parent. Daft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters of Nebraska and also by trying to secretly pass these standards when the legislature is out of session.
As a parent, I urge you to scrape the standards and stop over stepping your authority.
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 *

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 *

Jacki

Last name *

Rathbun

City *

McCook

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 parent, grandparent, taxpayer, and informed voter, I am very concerned about the direction our country is headed. Education starts in the home! Teachers are to prepare our young people to be productive citizens with FACTS in Math, Science, English, History, Civics and the digital world. Families should teach their values and how to run a successful family. I realize that some kids don't live in the best circumstances, but there are programs to fill in the gap of what some parents are not able to provide.

Draft #1 told the TRUTH of what you really want to do and Draft 2 was hidden, but left too many openings to do the same as Draft 1. I'm sure you all understand when trust is lost and that is exactly what has happened. Scrap the plan to make our kids racists and sexual beings way to early and by those that parents don't trust to teach OUR VALUES. I and many that I talk to believe Dr. Martin Luther King was what we teach our kids, when he dreamed of a time we could be judged by the content of our character, not our skin color! I might add not by our gender either. SCRAP THE Plan

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jacki

Last name *

Rathbun

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Cameron

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.)

Draft #2 of the proposed health standards need to be scraped! This draft is so vague that it allows for CSE and CRT ideas to be included in the curriculum. Equality not equity should be a priority in Nebraska education standards. CRT does not teach children equality or anti-racism. It does just the opposite by teaching kids that skin color is more important than their character. Not sure how in anyone's right mind this seems like a good idea to be included in children's education! Let's remember that the parents are the number one educator of the child. Also, CSE is not appropriate to be taught by teachers. It is the parents decision to determine what/when these topics should be discussed with their child. If equality is the a priority in public education then take all kids/families into consideration. Controversial ideologies have no place in Nebraska 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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Cameron

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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 *

Wendy

Last name *

Scofield

City *

Ogallala

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.)

Draft 1 of the NDE Health standards caused parents, grandparents and concerned individuals to lose trust in the NDE because the CSE standards are not appropriate for children. They are not developmentally appropriate or accurate. Draft 2 removed some of the language but is too vague. They also contain CRT and equity which teaches hate and racism. Children are impressionable and this material is completely inappropriate!! It has no place in the school system or anywhere else! Why would anyone want this garbage to be taught to their children, grandchildren, etc?

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Wendy

Last name *

Scofield

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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 *

Candace

Last name *

Kelley

City *

Plattsmouth

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 an educator, school board member, and parent, I am completely disappointed at our Nebraska Department of Education. I am stunned and outraged that you would even consider requiring such harmful standards to our Nebraska children. I don't believe that anyone who wrote these standards is aware of a child's development. There is no research to support any of these standards. I am disappointed that adult political agenda would find it's way in our classrooms. Parents/guardians should be the soul educator in these matters. The standards are certainly a form of sexual child abuse. Our kids have so much to learn and deal with in school already. Mandating more standards will take away time for students to learn age appropriate skills. Not to mention they need time to play as children. Bringing in such standards will create stress, confusion, and loss of time in subjects that are more beneficial for students. In the older grades, I would expect that these standards will create more sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, and bullying. Please get rid of these standards….not for me, for all children in 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 *

Candacd

Last name *

Kelley

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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 *

Heather

Last name *

Hamblin

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.)

Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters of Nebraska.
SCRAP THE 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 *

Heather

Last name *

Hamblin

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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 *

Jeanne

Last name *

Luebbe

City *

PHILLIPS

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 agree with the entire recommendations of Protect Nebraska Coalition's findings. These standards, Draft #2 should be thrown away today! Parents will continue to be the primary educators of their children. Based on the multiple reasons listed in their response, these Standards MUST be scrapped. The NDE and the SBOE are continuing to overstep their
authority. #scrapthestandards

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jeanne

Last name *

Luebbe

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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 *

Wise

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.)

Please NDE do NOT adopt CSE and CRT education in the public school system. I personally don't feel they are appropriate this way. I feel 4th or 5th grade is early enough to start sex education. Morally I don't think CRT is anything that should even be thought about teaching at public school. I pray God will give you all wisdom to do the morally right thing. Thank you for listening.

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 *

Wise

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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 *

Heather

Last name *

Cook

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 concerned about the terms inclusive and equitable. Does inclusive mean teaching what they had in the first draft as far as identities? In what context of inclusion do they mean? And equitable?They say “medically accurate” but don’t have a physician on the task force writing the standards. They consider Planned Parenthood to be their medical consultant.2nd draft is as clear as mud! Using phrases that clearly don’t spell
Out what they are planning! Go back to drawing board & spell it out so it’s crystal clear! I want specificity. There shouldn't be any generic verbiage that can be used down the road to go against our wishes.Still the same buzz words equitable inclusive etc. Scrap it all Inclusive and equitable. Dangerous words with ever changing meanings I'm not clear how equity is relevant in sex ed. Equity is Marxist trash always, but it's usage here is even more perplexing.I read the "new" standards also. They simply used different language to say the same things as in the first draft. This doesn't belong in the curriculum. Parents should be giving this sort of "education " at home as they see fit.I feel like they went from detailed to vague in order to sneak this in without permission. There were a handful I saw that were purposefully vague and leaves the interpretation door wide open.Agree. It is not changed...just "re-arranged," wording...Really no surprise. They’re trying to come in the back door. Scrap them all We have on our Nebr law books, statutes covering CIVICS and citing RESPONSIBILITY to develop PATRIOTIC and CIVIL citizens!!! Click on pg 2 of the NDE second draft Nebraska Statutes! CRT-teaching (whether called CRT or not) VIOLATES some of these, for sure, and, therefore, could be held to action in the last line (7)!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Heather

Last name *

Cook

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Cyndi

Last name *

Hartman-Splear

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.)

Watered down version of Draft 1 is not acceptable and MUST be scrapped. Vigilant oversight is applied CSC is still noted in watered down vaguely worded areas in draft 2.
We can see problematic standards in every strand. Some changes are evident but glaring problems remain. The opening statement is a blaring example of CSE your still pushing that addition after denying it being present in draft #1.
You must remember please whom your customers are. The distrust in NDE is very high. Our children must be sent to school to learn fundamental education , Not Indoctrinated
Please listen , Scrap the standards. Trust in NDE and SBOE members is low. There is no legislative body oversight. You are circumventing NE Voters. Scrap it!
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 *

Cyndi

Last name *

Hartman- 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 *

Stephanie

Last name *

Dvorak

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.)

Scrap the standards!! These are not necessary. Parents need to be responsible for sexual education. They alone can decide when and what is appropriate for their child to learn.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Stephanie

Last name *

Dvorak

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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 *

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 encourage the NBE to abandon their efforts to adopt new guidelines ...
Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.

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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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 *

Michelle

Last name *

Schenck

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.)

I am appalled at the continued inclusion of CRT and CSE in the standards you are proposing. The second draft isn't much better than the first draft. Any CRT and CSE inclusion is to much. This should not even be on the table for discussion in the United States of America's public school system. These standards should be entirely scrapped. You should focus on educating our children in science, math, social studies, reading and writing. You are overstepping your authority in going beyond these general subjects. If you adopt these standards you will be ruining our public schools and forcing many parents to seek out alternatives to the public school system. SCRAP THE 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 *

Michelle

Last name *

Schenck

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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 *

Gerald

Last name *

Splear

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.)

Respectfully Draft #2 is just a muddied pit of reworded garbage. Seems we were to keep our blinders on ,not seeing the draft as the mess it's still in.
Having a LPS teacher mom I guess helped. We read, we wrote, we learned history , English-language skills and math and science fundamentals.
We were not taught to hate or judge by skin color, but tolerance and kindness.
To be proud / respectiful of our country. Law , order, and the CONSTITUTION.
As educators this must be your focused goal, not slinging your sick sex education and CRT crud at us.
Scrap the draft and teach our grand children education not some undemocratic garbage.
Thank you and scrap those 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 *

Gerald

Last name *

Splear

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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 *

Cathy

Last name *

Robinson

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.)

ISAIAH 5:20 Woe to those who call evil good and good evil,who put darkness for light and light for darkness,who put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter.children are blessings from God .This need not be in schools.Sex ed should be addressed at home.

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 *

Robinson

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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 *

Colleen

Last name *

Belitz

City *

Columbus

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.)

#SCRAPTHESTANDARDS. SAVE NEBRASKA'S KIDS

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Colleen

Last name *

Belitz

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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 *

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'm very concerned that the State board of Education has changed the language in its mandate. Congress never said that students are entitled to EQUITABLE education. They are entitled to EQUAL educational opportunities. DO not change the language our politicians, representing the American people, have put into place. Here is the law:

SUBCHAPTER I—EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
PART 1—POLICY AND PURPOSE
§ 1701. Congressional declaration of policy
(a) Entitlement to equal educational oppor-tunity; neighborhood as appropriate basis

HERE IS WHAT YOU SAY - in 2 different places:
The Nebraska State Board of Education believes that every student is entitled to EQUITABLE educational opportunities across all races, colors, sexes, and national origins.

The content should be affirming and protective in order to provide inclusive, EQUITABLE, and safe learning environments for every student.

I believe it should be changed to read equal rather than equitable according to the Congressional law as drafted.
Also, sex education and sensitive topics - sexual consent, sexting, etc. should be covered by parents at home and not in a school setting. These are topics for parents. The school is welcome to provide resources for parents and send out information to guide and encourage these conversations within the home. Health education can give students the ability to make good, wise, and safe decisions without discussing personal topics that should be dealt with by a parent. The school is not to replace the parent but to support the parent in doing the best they can to raise 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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Otto

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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 *

Mercina

Last name *

Karbowski

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS! Why do health standards have CRT components. Why would you have an "education" that wants to divide us instead of unite us? I'm offended that because I appear to be a certain color, there is an assumption that I am either a racist or the target of racism. Furthermore, I am appalled at some of the topics taught to little children. If a public servant came up to my child and wanted to talk about some of the topics in here, I would call social services. Come on Nebraska State Board of Education! Let the parents decide how much or how little to expose their children to. This is way too vague and opens the door to predatory behavior in extreme cases, and sexual explicit exposure to graphic material at best.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Mercina

Last name *

Karbowski

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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 *

Kluver

City *

Hastings

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 appalled by all of the inappropriate and perverted information being pushed through as Comprehensive Sex Education, hiding behind a veil of science and necessity. I could, if needed, provide contradictory information to every reason given to create these new standards.

I read through both Draft #1 and Draft #2. The second draft is simply reworded--a more general version of the first, which leaves it open to continue pushing the same material. As can be seen, all of the same language is still included in the Glossary of Terms.

I don't know about parents in other states, but I do know Nebraska parents do not want their children being indoctrinated with a polluted political sexual agenda. We are a conservative state, and our "leaders" should always err on the side of what is good and moral.

I am a retired public school teacher and have grandchildren in school at this time. I don't believe it is the place of our schools to teach sexual behaviors. The simplified Health instruction concerning healthy eating, activity, and basic health issues, should be the limit of public intrusion into a family life. It is up to each family to teach their children their own beliefs and values - not the governments place.

I could continue by repeating what I already know thousands have already said but I don't see the point, so I will simply end by saying, "Scrap the Standards" and leave our local schools, along with local families, to develop our 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 *

Barbara

Last name *

Kluver

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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 *

Susan

Last name *

Keizer

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 a lifelong resident, tax payer, parent, grandparent and voter in Nebraska. I was raised here, went to grade school, high school, college and earned post graduate degrees in Nebraska. Nebraska is my chosen home and that of my children and grandchildren. I espouse the NE way of family, traditions, and values. I believe that family, education, church and community are the pillars of all that is good and real. The proposed Standards, Drafts 1 & 2 are not required nor desired in Nebraska. I demand that they be scrapped and leave our public education system continue to teach the core studies prescribed by our State and Legislators. It is not the State Board of Education's role to indoctrinate our children with sexual deviations while pretending that it is science and health. The opposite is true.

Comprehensive Sex Education (CSE) is an ideology intended to corrupt and confuse further the youth of our State. Grade school, middle schools and high schools already teach the primary functions of health and reproduction. Morality is up to parents, grandparents, family and our church communities. Critical Theory/ Critical Race Theory (CT/CRT) is just that a theory that is divisive and racist. Together these concepts attempt to degrade and tear apart the nuclear family (what-ever that looks like), it divides us based upon race and gender. Scrap the Standards and get busy educating our children in science, mathematics, language and other core curriculum.

One specific notation from Draft #2 that points to a hidden agenda is "HE.7.7.2.d: Recognize that biological sex and gender identity may or may not differ". Why in the world are you pushing for this to be taught in the classroom. Parents and trusted adults like counselors should address personal issues in private settings. These are not the norms.

The movement to adopt CSE/CRT Standards is happening nationwide. All States are fighting this unrelenting power grab so when the SBOE stated they were unaware they lied. I no longer have trust in this Board. No Standard Drafts will be acceptable to me.

I'll end with a very wise quote from Thomas Jefferson which suits this situation well: "In matters of style, swim with the currents; in matters of principle, stand like a rock" I am standing like a rock and oppose the addition of any standards. Scrap the 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 *

Susan

Last name *

Keizer

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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 *

Dawn

Last name *

Urman

City *

Gothenburg

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 have looked over draft 2 and it seems to me that wording has changed and some items have been moved to other categories. We need to scrap these standards! This new draft is not quite as offensively written but the material is still offensive. The intro alone references the Nebraska Equity Lens, SHAPE America and that "local school districts should include sex education within health education. The content should provide inclusive, equitable and safe learning environments." This is all still directed at LGBTQ+ students. Some concerning words are "advocate" (HE.HS.2.3a, HE.5.6.1.f,) "locate sources/ health services" (HE.4.4.2a and c) "access valid health information, products and services regarding diseases and conditions" (HE.8.4.2.b, HE.HS.1.17.c, HE.4.8.1.a, HE6.81.a, HE.7.8.1.a, HE.HS.2.19.a, HE.HS.1.19.b, HE.4.8.1.c, read- abortion and other medical services without parental knowledge). "Define child abuse e.g. sexual" (HE.2.5.2.d- this is 2nd grade! 7-8 year olds, they should not be hearing about this!) "sexting" (HE.5.5.2.f, HE.HS.2.13d, HE. HS.2.18.b, HE.7.7.1.f, HE.HS.1.16.f- this is already addressed and banned in schools) "different cultural and social groups" (HE.3.6.1.f, He.6.6.3e - is this different cultures (ethnicities) or lifestyles (lgbtq)?) "safe touch" (HE. K.7.1.a, HE. 1.7.1.a and b, - who determines safe touch as a touch on the shoulder can be unsafe for an abused child) "gender roles, gender identity" (HE.5.7.2.c, HE.7.7.2.d same issues as draft 1). Again, the writers of these standards have a political and extreme agenda for our children and the breakdown of the family unit. Scrap these standards, we will not sit by and let you indoctrinate our children against us and the values we have as a family. Please explain why no conservatives were part of the writing committee, only advocacy groups. You sent it back to the same people! Their views and "vision" didn't change, this draft is not representative of the majority of Nebraskans.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Dawn

Last name *

Urman

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Pennelope

Last name *

Emblin

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 DO NOT agree with the changes that are being proposed for our children's health programs.
I feel that they are morally wrong and are sending a horrible message to our kids. I believe that the health program should be basic anatomy, and education on drinking and drug use. All other matters are private and should be discussed only with a parent AT HOME.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Pennelope

Last name *

Emblin

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Angela

Last name *

Green

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education?

As a parent who was sexually abused, these standards appear that the Nebraska education department is grooming our children to be accepting of inappropriate touching. Teaching them this will remove their basic instincts that predators are bad. They will learn that predator behavior is acceptable.

It's shameful that you are trying to groom my children to be accepting of sexual discussions that are clearly not aligned to their age group.

It's my job to have these sacred discussions with my children. Stay in your lane!

SCRAP THE 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 *

Angela

Last name *

Green

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Charlene

Last name *

Martin

City *

Broken Bow

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 eliminate the sex education standards you are proposing as well as the critical race theory rhetoric that you are trying to force upon our children and grandchildren. Please realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be taught in our schools and protect our children from it. Factual history should be taught as this is how to learn and move forward; improving ourselves as a people and country. We need to do this together regardless of our race or religion or gender. School should teach the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic, and history. The family is responsible for guiding our children in other areas. These “progressive” ideas are causing division, hatred, and racial violence in our country. Our children and grandchildren and all future generations should not be a part of this experimental indoctrination. These Standards have no place in our school system. Please remove them from our school system and do not bring it back.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Charlene

Last name *

Martin

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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 *

Hope

Last name *

Bartels

City *

Friend

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.)

Draft 1 of the NE heath standards goes against family values and it didn't acknowledge a parent's right of being the primary educator for their children. Draft 2 of the NE health standards still goes against family values and leaves it wide open for CSE and CRT to be snuck into the school curriculum. You denied that CSE and CRT are in the standards but we can see they are. NDE, you are overstepping your authority! Do NOT interfere with my rights as the primary educator of my children. I have lost ALL trust in the NDE and this makes me question what NE public schools are teaching my children. Even draft 2 of the health standards MUST 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 *

Hope

Last name *

Bartels

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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 *

Cory

Last name *

Bartels

City *

Friend

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.)

Draft 1 of the NE heath standards goes against family values and it didn't acknowledge a parent's right of being the primary educator for their children. Draft 2 of the NE health standards still goes against family values and leaves it wide open for CSE and CRT to be snuck into the school curriculum. You denied that CSE and CRT are in the standards but we can see they are. NDE, you are overstepping your authority! Do NOT interfere with my rights as the primary educator of my children. I have lost ALL trust in the NDE and this makes me question what NE public schools are teaching my children. Even draft 2 of the health standards MUST 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 *

Cory

Last name *

Bartels

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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 *

Diana

Last name *

Stahlnecker

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 was glad to see in draft #2 that a lot of the sex education for K-8 had been changed but the wording of things left it open to be added back in or still taught. Fore Example, “Locally determined content in sex education should be developmentally appropriate and medically accurate. The content should be affirming and protective in order to provide inclusive, equitable, and safe learning environments for every student." This is the definition of CSE so this needs to be removed. It needs to specifically state that graphic sexuality in sex education or gender identity, will not be taught to K-8 or something along those lines. Our children need to be protected from the sexualization that is happening Nationwide. CSE is neither medically nor biologically accurate and therefore you would be teaching a lie. I don't know how anyone can agree with CSE. These standards are not part of the mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. Please stop circumventing the voters of Nebraska. We deserve to be treated better than this. Due to the vague wording throughout the newly proposed sex education standards, they need to be scrapped. Also, why are you referencing Shape America? They do not reflect Nebraska values. NDE does not need some group telling us what to teach our children. Please, please, scrap changing sex education, stay with what you have.

Critical Race Theory - Does the opposite of what they say it does. It breeds hate, racism, and divisiveness. It is Not inclusive, it does NOT bring about equity. Go on Youtube and listen to an interview done with After Words with Dr. Robert Woodson, a black scholar and author, as one example of truth about CRT and teaching of CRT (without calling it CRT). It will be an eye opener - if you are willing.

The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism.
(7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
Therefore, any ideologies or refences to CRT should not be taught and needs to be scrapped.

If you have no intention of scrapping anything, then at the very least all the vague language needs to be removed and very concise explanations need to be put in place to protect from things being interpreted a will or being added when it shouldn't be.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Diana Stahlnecker

Signature

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Diana

Last name *

Stahlnecker

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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.)

As a taxpayer and grandparent who raised 3 highly educated children while working a full time and part time job because I refused to allow myself to take any state aid I am appalled at the waste of time drawing another draft of health education standards. Obviously you are not aware of how far behind children in the US are from other countries. I reject your 2nd draft and implore you to TEACH our children basic education and allow the parents to teach them the facts of life. Perhaps your staff can spend their summer vacations learning common sense so further drafts are no necessary!!

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 *

Samual

Last name *

Schlegel

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARD you as teachers are obligated to teach only the basics math, science, reading, and writing if social studies is taught it needs to be American history any teachings should not include anything to indoctrinate our children any longer.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Samual

Last name *

Schlegel

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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 *

Samantha

Last name *

Campbell

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARD stick to teaching math,reading,science, and writing if social studies it taught it needs to be American history and any teachings need to stop indoctrination our children!!!!! Let masking or getting the vaccine be an option it is the legal right for any one to have choice of what they put in or on there bodies!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Samantha

Last name *

Campbell

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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 *

Scrap the Standards

Last name *

Scrap the Standards

City *

Scrap the Standards

State *

Scrap the Standards

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

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

No scrap the 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 *

Sandra

Last name *

Warner

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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 *

Gaylord and 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 were hopeful that the NDE would listen to the voice of parents and grandparents concerning Draft 1 of the proposed health education standards. Unfortunately, the proposed revisions in Draft 2 are a watered-down version which board members hope will reduce the watchfulness of parents. The goal is to eventually implement this ideology. Health standards are not mandated by the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to put together health standards and SHOULD NOT. Voters have NOT passed mandatory sex education, and unfortunately, the board and commissioner are circumventing the will of Nebraska voters to place upon our children an ideology they have bought into and desire to indoctrinate all children into. We parents and grandparents are not and will not be deceived!! It's time to replace this board and the commissioner. SCRAP THE 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 *

Gaylord and Lana

Last name *

Flaming

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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 *

Londa

Last name *

Vencil

City *

Waterloo

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 both drafts one and two. Scrap the standards! The teachers union should focus on teaching reading and writing and leaving sex education up to parents. CRT communist indoctrination has to be eliminated and the truth about our great nation be taught to our children. The teachers union is the scourge of our society and their agenda is not for the betterment of our country or 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 *

Londa

Last name *

Vencil

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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 *

Javan

Last name *

Ristine

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

Scrap the 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 *

Javan

Last name *

Ristine

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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 *

Kendra

Last name *

Mercer

City *

Gothenburg

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 have looked over draft 2 and it seems to me that the wording has changed and some items have been moved to other categories. We need to scrap these standards! This new draft is not quite as offensively written but the material is still offensive. The material still means the exact same things. The intro alone references the Nebraska Equity Lens, SHAPE America and that local school districts should include sex education within health education. The content should provide inclusive, equitable and safe learning environments. This is all still directed at LGBTQ+ students. Some concerning words are “advocate” (HE.HS.2.3a, HE.5.6.1.f,) “locate sources/ health services” (HE.4.4.2a and c) “access valid health information, products and services regarding diseases and conditions” (HE.8.4.2.b, HE.HS.1.17.c, HE.4.8.1.a, HE6.81.a, HE.7.8.1.a, HE.HS.2.19.a, HE.HS.1.19.b, HE.4.8.1.c, read- abortion and other medical services without parental knowledge). “Define child abuse e.g. sexual” (HE.2.5.2.d- this is 2nd grade! 7-8 year olds, they should not be hearing about this!) “sexting” (HE.5.5.2.f, HE.HS.2.13d, HE. HS.2.18.b, HE.7.7.1.f, HE.HS.1.16.f- this is already addressed and banned in schools) “different cultural and social groups” (HE.3.6.1.f, He.6.6.3e - is this different cultures (ethnicities) or lifestyles (lgbtq)?) “safe touch” (HE. K.7.1.a, HE. 1.7.1.a and b, - who determines safe touch as a touch on the shoulder can be unsafe for an abused child) “gender roles, gender identity” (HE.5.7.2.c, HE.7.7.2.d same issues as draft 1).
Again, the writers of these standards have a political and extreme agenda for our children and the breakdown of the family unit. Scrap these standards, we will not sit by and let you indoctrinate our children against us and the values we have as a family. Please explain why their were no conservatives apart of the writing committee, only advocacy groups. You sent it back to the same people! Their views and “vision” didn’t change, this draft is not representative of the majority of Nebraskans. These standards will not help our children but only cause further confusion and concerning conflict. Let us parents be Parents and teach our children about these topics. This is not for a school to do. Teachers have way to much to do already. School is for Math, reading, writing, etc. get back to the good basics of school and STOP trying to indoctrinate out innocent 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 *

Kendra

Last name *

Mercer

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

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 have reviewed the 2nd draft of the proposed health standards. I continue to be strongly opposed to this draft. You have not made a substantial enough change that I would be comfortable with my child learning this. Gender identity and the multiple identities does not need to be discussed in schools. Teach children that there are differences and you still need to be kind. You don't need to get into details. Let parents teach as they see fit. You are overstepping your bounds and making education political. Scrap the 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 *

Amanda

Last name *

Ripley

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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 *

Harris

City *

Eddyville

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 absolutely refuse to submit to the new education they want to oppose upon my innocent little daughter. She does not need to hear about this nonsencse at school. She lives on a ranch and knows right from wrong and men from women so don't teach her that crap at school! That is my job at home!!! In Jesus name we pray!!

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 *

Harris

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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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Pietig

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Lisa

Last name *

Pietig

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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 *

Jesse

Last name *

Johnson

City *

Anselmo

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.)

SCRAP THE 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 *

Jesse

Last name *

Johnson

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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 *

Gronewold

City *

Gothenburg

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 have followed the process of the health standards closely since an initial article I read in March. In the following months, the board members denied certain material being included, activists playing a roll, etc. After NUMEROUS specific examples shared by the public at the June meeting, the board backpedalled and acted as if you were all against these standards from the beginning OR had no idea that these things were included in the standards. As I have read these articles over the last month, one thing has become clear... I do not trust the board with the education of my children. Even if we do return to public school after this year of homeschool, I will have to diligently weed through curriculum and materials and battle for our family's beliefs. Draft #2 was an improvement, but despite overwhelming feedback, a disconnect between biological sex and gender identity is still an expectation of 7th grade education. If you choose to adopt health standards, they WILL become the expectation. It will be easier to adapt them as time goes by and they may or may not align with my beliefs. Educate my children...DO NOT INDOCTRINATE THEM! Scrap the standards. Allowing Draft #1 get out ahead of you was a mistake. Admit it and let it go. There is no way to recover. Trust is gone and that breaks my heart.

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 *

Gronewold

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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 *

Alexandria

Last name *

McBride

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 to the board today to express my concern with the licensing process for a licensed professional coming in from another state. I am a licensed Speech Language Pathologist in Illinois, having been licensed also in Tennessee and Maryland. I attended University of Nebraska Omaha for my masters program, have held an active license since graduation in 2o11, and I also maintain national certification through the American Speech Language Hearing Association. My husband and I moved back to Omaha to be closer to family during the pandemic. After getting settled, I feel like I have more to give to the children in our community and would love to further pursue my career as a Speech Language Pathologist in the school system. After emailing the state to gain further knowledge on the licensing process here, I am more than discouraged. As a busy mom and wife, I don't have to work to provide for our family, but I love what I do and I want to serve my community. The tight restrictions, lack of reciprocity and overall hoops that have to be jumped through to work in the school system in this state are overwhelming and I believe you are losing many valuable assets to the community. While I feel my expertise would be beneficial to the students in Omaha, at this time I am going to need to find another outlet for my skills as the requirements to practice in this state are more than I want to take on at this time. I would love to join a committee or talk further about how we can support and encourage professionals coming from out of state so that we aren't losing talented individuals that would be of benefit to our state and communities.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Alexandria

Last name *

McBride

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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 *

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 apposed to the 2nd draft of the proposed health standards. While the second draft is a slight improvement from the first word wise, the proposals are now written in a vague manner, which would still permit the objectionable content to be presented as in draft #1. When all objections are considered from all viewpoints, there clearly is no "winner" in whatever the final decision ends up being. The only logical solution is to scrap the standards altogether! Thank you for your consideration and 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 *

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.)

I have lost all trust and faith in the Nebraska State Board of Education, especially in viewing draft #2. Who "revised" this? Were the same people involved in draft #1, involved with draft #2? These standards are not required and I do not agree with the second proposal as written (too vague and still problematic). Scrap the 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 *

Robert

Last name *

Derr

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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 *

Jackie

Last name *

Linville

City *

Broken Bow

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 strongly disagree

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jackie

Last name *

Linville

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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 *

Rosemary

Last name *

Ray

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.)

Comprehensive sex education draft # 2 Is an improvement because it removes genitalia and gender references from grades. K-5. This was too much information, too soon. However since Planned Parenthood & Siecus are the primary influences on what is written, I do NOT trust the standards.
Local districts need to choose resources supported by the parents. Parents need to review the resources.
Sex education standards are NOT necessary for a quality or accredited K-12 education.
Scrap the 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 *

Rosemary

Last name *

Ray

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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 *

Ann

Last name *

Scott

City *

Gothenburg

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 and consideration of the proposed Health Standards. I am a Family Nurse Practitioner in rural central Nebraska. I have read the 2nd draft very closely and continue to believe that we just need to scrap the standards completely. I appreciate much of the sex education being removed but firmly believe that state health standards are not needed. Individual school districts, along with parental input, should guide schools in their health curriculum. Each school district is unique with different cultures, morals and values. I appreciate having input in my child's education and being able to place God and family at the forefront. I care for pediatric, adolescent and adult patients and understand the importance of health education. However, the public school system should not be the vessel for 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 *

Ann

Last name *

Scott

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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 *

Kendra

Last name *

Gauksson

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.)

Children, no matter what their background, need to maintain their innocence as long as possible. Stop trying to groom our children. Introduce SEX at such a young age. Let children be children. This is a big scary world right now that are bringing new worries to children every day. Do not pile more on their plates. Let the children be children! You will have a mass exodus of families pulling their kids from public schools if you do this....I promise you that. Outside of blue Lincoln, Nebraskans do not support 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 *

Kendra

Last name *

Gauksson

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Thomas

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 first time I gave input on these, I asked that the Health Standards be 100% abandoned and everyone who was responsible for letting them see the light of day, without any hint of concern, be fired or voted out of office. After reviewing the 2nd draft, that is still my position. A drastic mistake was made and your hand was overplayed. We now see clearly what is the desired end game. It is still quite evident from the Equity Lens, every reference to "equity" instead of "equality" (man, liberals sure know how to ruin a word), support given to the 1619 project (and no, you can't hide behind the disclaimer that the NDE doesn't endorse it when IT IS ON YOUR WEBSITE), "Comprehensive sexual health education programs ideally start in prekindergarten and continue through Grade 12." (yes, that's on the NDE website too). And yes, I notice you still think it's somehow important to tell my child about the fad of "gender identity", most of which is being created by culture, not truly how the child would have felt if they would have been allowed to naturally align their feelings with their FACTUAL, SCIENTIFIC, UNALTERABLE GENDER. All our kids are equally valuable as children of God that need to be protected, nurtured, and educated. It seems the NDE has been set on indoctrination and division. Can we get back to REAL education? Please?

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Thomas

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Wendy

Last name *

Demoret

City *

Gothenburg

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 don’t see a lot of difference between draft one and draft two. A little different wording. The concerns I have with the first one haven’t been addressed or removed. SCRAP THE 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 *

Wendy

Last name *

Demoret

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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 *

Abigail

Last name *

Nelson

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.)

This is unacceptable. Such blatant, perverted, and down right vile "education" is un American as the CRT is Racist as it only pr9motes one race while.discriminating against another. And it is blatant communism indoctrination which is what the Nazis used to "educate" Hitler's youth to accept communism. The sex "education" is perverted and despicable to be taught to Children. Such "teaching" structure is nothing short than a pedophile grooming kids little by little until the LPS takes advantage of the innocent children. If such teaching as outlined in the new "education" packet will be accepted by the perverted education board of lincoln nebraska, legal action will be sought against such individuals by lincoln's citizens, as it will be assumed that the school board is trying to "groom" the children.

-kindess regards,
A lincoln citizen that sees through your shit!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Abigail

Last name *

Nelson

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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 *

Sara

Last name *

Lemburg

City *

Ewing

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS ALL TOGETHER!!!

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 *

Lemburg

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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 *

Kate

Last name *

Schwede

City *

Wahoo

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.)

Scrap these Standards! What a 100 percent waste of tax payer money to waste time discussing these highly controversial subjects to be taught. Just because one side thinks sexualizing young children is normal, does not mean everyone agrees. Can we teach abstinence as well? Just stop, let's focus on actual education and let kids be kids instead of coercing and confusing them. There is a difference between being worldly verses actually having the maturity to discuss certain topics. It should be up to the Parents and guardians as the primary educators of their children to discuss sexuality with their children. It is not the school or government's place. Leave the bedroom topics at home!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kate

Last name *

Schwede

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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 *

Curtis

Last name *

Lemburg

City *

Ewing

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.)

Scrap the standards all together.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Curtis

Last name *

Lemburg

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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 *

Vicky

Last name *

Stoll

City *

Mitchell

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.)

Scrap the Draft #2 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 *

Vicky

Last name *

Stoll

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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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 *

Sara

Last name *

LONGTON

City *

Plattsmouth

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 parents we trust you with our children. Our most precious and innocent gifts from God. After reading through your sexual education standards and intent to teach critical race theory, that trust is now broken. I no longer see school as a safe place for my child. I see it as a grooming ground for pedophilia, divisiveness, and hate. The very definition of grooming a child "befriending and establishing an emotional connection with the child/ child's family to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse". That is exactly what the standards do. This is sick and it is perverse. Grooming children and exploiting them for a political purpose to satisfy a radical agenda is disgusting. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for even considering such filth. Iowa and Florida have been bold enough to take a stand to protect the innocent children. If you decide to go ahead with these standards I will remove my child from school and move to a state that respects parental rights. I can assure you I will not be the only parent who will consider this. Instead of teaching garbage like this you need to bring back drivers ed, home economics, and shop class. It's time to #scrapthestandards.

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 *

Longton

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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 *

Valerie

Last name *

Karsjens

City *

Ogallala

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.)

Just scrap the whole health standards. You have used the same activists on the 2nd draft that you did on the first draft. Nobody trusts NDE anymore. We don't you want to have any influence over our children. There is a growing movement to dissolve the department and to eliminate the position of commissioner which I wholeheartedly will support. You have failed us repeatedly from the social studies standards with links to resources for teachers to use for social studies consisting of CRT literature to all the lies, deceit and obscuration by your board and especially by Mr. Blomstedt. You aren't even any good at covering up your lies. We are done with you. Your time is over. SCRAP THE STANDARDS, GO HOME, AND ACCEPT DEFEAT.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Valerie

Last name *

Karsjens

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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 *

Scott

Last name *

Carpenter

City *

Creighton

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 and I am appalled by the Nebraska Dept. of Educations proposed health standards, both draft 1 and 2. PLEASE SCRAP THE STANDARDS!

Draft 1 of the NDE health standards is an attack on parents fundamental rights because parents were not aknowledged as the primary educators of their children, and draft #2 now acknowledges parents as primary educators. Which draft is the true belief of the NDE???

Draft #1 is the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE.Today, parents still see this as the primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is just a watered down version designed to trick parents to lower their vigilance over the NDE. I have no faith or trust in the Nebraska Department of Education with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees and want them replaced.

The CSE standards are not appropriate, medically or biologically accurate and would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #1 also contained CRT components which teaches hate, racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is the opposite of what America was founded upon!

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 *

Carpenter

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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 *

Christine

Last name *

Whipple

City *

Arapahoe

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 still strongly oppose draft #2 of the Nebraska Department of Education CRT and CSE agenda. They DO NOT belong in the school system!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Christine

Last name *

Whipple

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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 *

bryant

City *

Curtis

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 people you represent and #SCRAP THE 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 *

Bryant

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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 *

Abbey

Last name *

Rickard

City *

Bennington

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS!!!!
1. Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards still needs to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724.
2. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education?
3. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
4. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.
5. Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today,
parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.
6. There are problematic standards now in EVERY strand. There are vague standards and not-so vague standards. Now, even more important, #scrapthestandards.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Abbey

Last name *

Rickard

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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 *

Kenda

Last name *

Kuehner

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.)

Please consider this statement as part of the official record.. I am 100% against the 2nd draft of the sex education standards in our schools along with the critical race theory. As an RN, my opinion is that this is introducing racism, something that children are taught. By nature children have no racial differences. They don't care if their friends are black, white, green or or any other color, let them be kids.
Secondly, the sex education standards are not something that kids as young as kindergarten need to know. By teaching this it is only giving kids permission to have sex as we teach our children to respect and do as told by teachers. So when approached by a pedifile or anyone else asking for sex they will unknowingly comply because that is what you are wanting to teach them.
This entire concept is absolutely ludicrous.. It should be up to the parents to teach children what is appropriate for them to learn and at what age based on their beliefs and valves, not yours. I respectfully ask that you scrap every idea of trying to indoctrinate our children with CRT and sex education. No, you are not elected persons held to an oath to do what your constituents want.
Based on the sheer numbers of opposition at the meetings I have attended, you appear to have your own agenda. Please, please listen to the people of Nebraska and put a stop to this nonsense!
Kenda Kuehner, RN, BSN
Kearney, 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 *

Kenda

Last name *

Kuehner

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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 *

Cindy

Last name *

Witt

City *

Falls 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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project

Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still needs to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cindy

Last name *

Witt

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Sandra

Last name *

Welden

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.)

My husband Jay and I would respectfully ask that you, the State Board of Education, would delete any and all sections of the second draft of standards having to do with sexual indoctrination of children that is being considered at your August meeting. This discussion is best left to the parent(s) or guardian of the child.

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 *

Welden

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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 *

Denise

Last name *

Cline

City *

Riverton

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 completely opposed to ALL of the projected (sex education) curriculum. I DO NOT want any child taught these principles suggested--even with the new changes! It still is abhorrent material that should NEVER be taught at any age level. Please remove ALL of it from our state-forever!

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 *

Cline

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Senamon

Last name *

Rogers

City *

Mitchell

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.)

Scrap the 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 *

Senamon

Last name *

Rogers

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

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.)

The original NDE curriculum proposition was not acceptable in any of its content. This so called revision is no better the end result is still the same. This proposal is not acceptable and should not be taught/used in the public school system. This type of education should be handled in the home with the parents. This proposition or anything close to it should be destroyed in its entirety and never brought up again. 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 *

Robert

Last name *

Pfeiffer

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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 *

Schaeffer

City *

THEDFORD

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 education of our children is vital to the success of their future. However, sex education should be basic. There is no need to put anything more. Absolutely no information about LGBTQIA! Our childrens minds are being molded into a way of thinking or acceptance. They need to know simple body parts and how a traditional the male and female body works, to produce a child (naturally), and STDs which most is only an educational information for high school. College (as we all know) is the time to learn about all of that. Also, if the parents want to teach about LGBTQIA etc at home, that is their choice. Not 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 *

Rebecca

Last name *

Schaeffer

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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 *

Amanda

Last name *

Duval

City *

Wood River

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 the mother of a 12 year old boy, I am very open and honest with all my kids about sex and what is going on in our world today. I am well aware that not all parents are as open as I am but I don't feel that it is the schools place to impart this information to our children. Many of the topics that the board is considering are a matter of opinion, not science. It's been a while since I was personally in school but I am pretty sure that we need to teach facts, not ideas or opinions. If the schools feel that they need to impart this information to kids then make in an optional course that parents can opt their kids in or out of because as I stated there are parents that don't talk to their kids. However I feel it is very brazen for the school system to take it upon themselves to attempt to teach my kids ideals that go against my personal ideals and values. I request that the entire curriculum pertaining to the updated learning be taken back to the drawing board and start again!!

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 *

Duval

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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 *

Andria

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.)

The proposed health standards are unacceptable.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Andria

Last name *

Ripley

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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 *

Dawn

Last name *

Schake

City *

Amherst

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 Disagree with Draft #2!!! “SCRAP THE 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 *

Dawn

Last name *

Schake

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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 *

Mallory

Last name *

Dennhardt

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
SCRAP THE 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 *

Mallory

Last name *

Dennhardt

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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 *

Marilyn

Last name *

Bonsall

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.)

As a taxpayer who has, and is, paying taxes to our public schools for a very long time, I strongly disagree with the direction you were suggesting with the health education! It has nothing to do with health and everything to do with the immorality of our children, city, state and country! Do what you are supposed to do... Teach our children academics and butt out of the rest! You have no right to plant ideas into children's heads because there are a few who cannot decide what gender they are or what their sexual preference might be! You will continue to see an increase in people pulling their kids out of public school if this is to continue... Who knows, maybe you won't need those new schools after all!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Marilyn

Last name *

Bonsall

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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 *

Brian

Last name *

Montgomery

City *

Hastings

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.)

Draft #2 is Nothing More than a watered down photocopy of the First Draft. Our Children Are NOT Test Subjects and We The People Will NEVER Tolerate Their Indoctrination. Teach Them School Subjects, ONLY, and Respectfully Keep Your Sexual and Political Viewpoints to Yourself. Nebraska has NO Obligation to Even Address Sex Education in Our Schools, We Are An Abstanant Sexual Avoidance State. Leave It Alone, Scrap The 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 *

Brian

Last name *

Montgomery

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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 *

Jace

Last name *

Bonsall

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 strongly oppose the newly proposed health standards for public education in NE. They have potential to do much mental harm, as well as pave the way for pedophiles to harm our children. This curriculum has no place in education. These conversations need to be left to the parents, as it goes against many peoples moral beliefs and values. Keep this out of the educations system.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jace

Last name *

Bonsall

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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 *

Alisha

Last name *

Waegli

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.)

These standards are unacceptable. These are sensitive topics not appropriate for young children. These are discussions that should come at the discretion of parents. Not to be discussed at a young age with a teacher and peers. I kindly ask that these standards not be approved! Please consider what is truly appropriate for children to know and learn when it comes to sex. They are children! Let's not take that away from 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 *

Alisha

Last name *

Waegli

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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 *

Cheri

Last name *

Schmidt

City *

Doniphan

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 Nebraska State Board of Education has grossly overstepped it's boundaries again in the latest draft # 2. If we are going to be allowing one group's beliefs and ideologies to be promoted under the guise of "health education" then we need to allow other groups ie; Christians to be promoting theirs. We can teach respect for all without having to delve into sexual preferences. The state needs to stick to teaching the basic core education of science, reading, math, social studies and leave the parents to teach the "morality" issues as they see fit. No CSE or CRT. #Scrap the standards. Totally.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cheri

Last name *

Schmidt

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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 *

Hostick

City *

Merna

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.)

Scrap the Standards!!! Are each one of you as board members willing to go through a sex change yourselves? I very much doubt it. We are all created in God's image. He has a plan and a purpose for each one of us and that does not involve changing what He has created in His image. As a Nebraskan, I've always been proud of our hard working, common sense upbringing. You are not representative of the people of this state. The ideologies that you have been trying to put into our school's state standards should have been rejected from the very start by you as a board. These are not a health standards nor an education standards, but an attack on the fabric of society. It is a bitter disappointment that the grassroots people of this state can't trust the NDE board to make common sense, ethical & moral decisions concerning the education of our children. This board needs to be dissolved. You will never have my trust again.

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 *

Hostick

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Nancy

Last name *

Hartnett

City *

COLERIDGE

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.)

Though I want to believe that your intentions are good & proper, I am very opposed to the teaching children K-12 anything more than the basics of human sexuality. There are so many other health issues of more vital importance, such as childhood obesity, mental health, illegal drug / alcohol abuse, bullying, technology overuse / cyber-bullying, etc, etc, ETC. Your human sexuality standards will not be accepted at the local level, will pit school systems against each other, & even serve divide children even further. Humans are complex in our make up, & to focus so intensely on sexual identity leaves out all the other parts of our self that are just as vital. This focus, combined with additional focus on abortion, makes the Nebraska State Board of Education appears to be forcing change that is not wanted, not appropriate, & heavy handed. You have already lost much credibility in the eyes of Nebraska citizens. Stop now before you become completely irrelevant.

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 *

Hartnett

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ritchie

City *

Litchfield

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.)

SCRAP THE 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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Ritchie

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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 *

Cari

Last name *

Haag

City *

Shelton

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.)

Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must be replaced.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cari

Last name *

Haag

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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 *

Janet

Last name *

Greenquist

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.)

You took a positive step in at least trying to rewrite the guidelines, but it is not enough!!
Please consider dropping this whole bungled mess of sex education, misguided ideas, and thoughts. All of this should be totally up to the parents to guide and teach their children as they believe what is the truth and what is right for their family.

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 *

Greenquist

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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 *

FRAKES

City *

BENNINGTON

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.)

What possible advantage and morality will come from your terribly explicit sex education class? That is the responsibility of the parents- - not the school !! There is more promiscuity, abortions, venereal diseases, and single mom parents all due to this SEX EDUCATION ??? The US education is terribly lacking compared to the rest of the world. Teach reading, science and math so we can catch up with the rest of the world- -not sex and social justice.
We also do not need an introduction to communism, our freedom that so many fought and died for is at risk with this movement. Please save America and quit trying to change her. If you are unhappy with this country and it's wonderful opportunities and freedoms THEN LEAVE !! The rest of us should not have to bow down to your crazy, radical agenda when the majority of us LOVE our country AS IS !!!

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 *

Frakes

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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 *

Josh

Last name *

Munford

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.)

1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

2. Draft #1 and the watered-down Draft #2 of the NDE Health Standards are evidence that the NDE and SBOE members have forgotten that parents and students are their customers. If the NDE and SBOE members were running a private, for-profit company, they would soon be bankrupt because they are not listening to their customers nor delivering the product/service/content that their customers are requesting. #scrapthestandards. The standards are not part of their mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. They DO NOT need to produce health standards. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. They are circumventing the voters 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 *

Josh

Last name *

Munford

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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 *

Dawn

Last name *

Urman

City *

Gothenburg

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 have looked over draft 2 and it seems to me that wording has changed and some items have been moved to other categories. We need to scrap these standards! This new draft is not quite as offensively written but the material is still offensive. The intro alone references the Nebraska Equity Lens, SHAPE America and that "local school districts should include sex education within health education. The content should provide inclusive, equitable and safe learning environments." This is all still directed at LGBTQ+ students. Some concerning words are "advocate" (HE.HS.2.3a, HE.5.6.1.f,) "locate sources/ health services" (HE.4.4.2a and c) "access valid health information, products and services regarding diseases and conditions" (HE.8.4.2.b, HE.HS.1.17.c, HE.4.8.1.a, HE6.81.a, HE.7.8.1.a, HE.HS.2.19.a, HE.HS.1.19.b, HE.4.8.1.c, read- abortion and other medical services without parental knowledge). "Define child abuse e.g. sexual" (HE.2.5.2.d- this is 2nd grade! 7-8 year olds, they should not be hearing about this!) "sexting" (HE.5.5.2.f, HE.HS.2.13d, HE. HS.2.18.b, HE.7.7.1.f, HE.HS.1.16.f- this is already addressed and banned in schools) "different cultural and social groups" (HE.3.6.1.f, He.6.6.3e - is this different cultures (ethnicities) or lifestyles (lgbtq)?) "safe touch" (HE. K.7.1.a, HE. 1.7.1.a and b, - who determines safe touch as a touch on the shoulder can be unsafe for an abused child) "gender roles, gender identity" (HE.5.7.2.c, HE.7.7.2.d same issues as draft 1). Again, the writers of these standards have a political and extreme agenda for our children and the breakdown of the family unit. Scrap these standards, we will not sit by and let you indoctrinate our children against us and the values we have as a family. Please explain why no conservatives were part of the writing committee, only advocacy groups. You sent it back to the same people! Their views and "vision" didn't change, this draft is not representative of the majority of Nebraskans.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Dawn

Last name *

Urman

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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 *

Jeni

Last name *

Negley

City *

Gothenburg

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.)

Scrap the Standards! These are still the same as draft #1. Changing the words and making it vague does nothing. Might even make it worse. No focus on abstinence. Why does a second grader need to know a variety of tabacco products? H1.7.1a there is NOT a good way for this to be taught. This is grooming!! These have no place in the school system. These standards hurt kids more then help them. These subjects need to be taught to students by parents not by the school system. Please scrap the 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 *

Jeni

Last name *

Negley

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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 *

Jennifer

Last name *

Sand

City *

Bertrand

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 scrap the proposed standards. The sexual health portion of Draft 2 has several areas where there is a lot of introducing and teaching the things draft 1 blatantly outlined. Now I feel it is more of the same thing but disguised in less blatant terms. The majority of Nebraskans DO NOT want this. That should be very clear to you by now.
Unfortunately, you as the NDE board, as well as the Commissioner and the entire NDE have lost your credibility and the trust of parents, grandparents, teachers and schools. We care about the health and safety of our children! You obviously don't understand the role of parents and family.
The sexual health of children belongs in the parents hands. You have overstepped the boundary by assuming that this is your responsibility and proposing totally inappropriate standards. Please for our children-SCRAP THE STANDARDS you have proposed and get to the business of educating our children in reading, writing, math and science-there is more than enough work to do in those areas! And do not introduce these ideas, CRT, and other detrimental ideas into those areas.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jennifer

Last name *

Sand

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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 *

Mallory

Last name *

Dennhardt

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
SCRAP THE 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 *

Mallory

Last name *

Dennhardt

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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 *

Kolene

Last name *

Woodward

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.)

Using the principles in our Founding Documents, these standards need scrapped completely. The Declaration of Independence says our rights come from our Creator--God. Meaning Government doesn't give rights and can't take them away. All of Western Civilization is based on a Judeo-Christian ethic. These standards are ANTI-GOD. Also found are the "laws of nature and of Nature's God". NONE of these "proposed" standards behaviors' are found in nature. "Consent of the Governed". It is obvious the "governed" of Nebraska do NOT want these standards, including the Governor. You work for the people who elected you, your "governed" want you to scrap these. Please listen.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kolene

Last name *

Woodward

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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.)

As I am unable to attend the August 6 ,2021 Nebraska State Board of Education meeting, I am submitting a public comment in reference to the proposed Draft 2 health standards. I have read them and yes they are much less offensive and less disturbing than the Draft 1 was but I must admit, that trust in the Nebraska State Board of Education overall concern for the young innocent minds of our Nebraska children has been breached! I am a hetererosexual, married woman with 4 sons, 10 grandchildren and 1 greatgrandchild. I was born and raised in Nebraska with conservative values,respect for all races, skin color, religions. I am a retired Labor and Delivery nurse who respects all life. I have helped deliver babies from Mexico,Guatemala, Africa, Asia.They came to America for a better life to have freedom of speech, dignity and justice for all! I am so disappointed that a trusted group of professionals who say they are doing what is best for our children could even have released the #1 Draft with its CSE and CRT implications. Ideology on both these are not based on proven facts and logic. They are theories. I am saying to the SBOE " Scrap the Standards" all together #1 and #2. Nebraska children deserve better. I really don"t trust the board and for that matter the unions. Your references are still the same. I pray for all of you to see the light before it is too late.Sincerely, Mary Nickel

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 *

Nickel

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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 *

Maggie

Last name *

Thompson

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.)

Our nation is currently undergoing a wave of soul searching about the role that sex-based discrimination play in everyday American life. These discussions are making their way into discourse as it relates to our public schools, so I would like to highlight what Lincoln Public Schools states on their website as the primary mission of its schools, which is the development of responsible adults who are: 1) Productive citizens of a pluralistic (diverse) community, nation, and world, 2) prepared to learn throughout their lives, and 3) appreciative of the arts, history, and culture. The mission statement further aspires that “students in LPS are educated for the future and therefore expects the school district to be self-renewing, flexible and capable of adjusting to the needs of its various constituencies.” The student goals that LPS has laid out on their website indicate that they should be able to: 1) Think critically and creatively, using higher order thinking skills to make decisions, solve problems, and create new perspectives and possibilities; 2) Understand and celebrate the diversity and interdependence of our pluralistic, multicultural community, nation, and world; 3) Become a lifelong learner. As LPS knows (and clearly values), LPS students represent a myriad of diversity. LPS further states on their website that they are committed to recognizing the dignity and worth of ALL human beings in the programs that are conducted by the district. Although I was unable to find city-specific data for LGBTQ youth in Lincoln, information collected from OutNebraska, a local non-partisan non-profit, pointed me to data which suggests that over 12,000 youths in Nebraska identify as LGBTQ+. As this board grapples with whether and how to teach comprehensive sex education, I implore you to be reminded of these guiding principles. Representation matters; ALL students deserve to learn about their bodies. They deserve the opportunity to learn and question their assumptions and beliefs; indeed, this is what makes for a critical thinker and a lifetime learner. Our world is changing and evolving, and so must our education. Yes, these are tough subjects. They can be uncomfortable subjects. But do we not teach our children to face and conquer their fears? Do we not tell them to “check their sources”? Do we teach them that change, greatness, and magic happen outside their comfort zones? We must ensure that we are leading the way, confronting our own discomforts and long held assumptions along this path. We must ensure that all students learn to celebrate and value those who are different from themselves. In a political climate seeking to discredit the experiences of those with diverse identities, we must ensure that our students feel safe, seen, and valued. We must ensure that our students know that families come in all colors, makeups, and sizes, and that all are beautiful. We must ensure that these lessons are delivered throughout our students’ academic careers, at age appropriate levels. We must ensure that students do not suffer prejudice and discrimination within our school walls on the basis of their gender identity. Research suggests that all of this starts with education, making a representative and equitable education for ALL students a top priority for this board. I implore you to embrace comprehensive sex education; in doing so, you will help to ensure that the identity and experience of every student is upheld as valid and worthy. 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 *

Maggie

Last name *

Thompson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Owen

Last name *

Korte

City *

Hartington

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 revised standards are based on a foundation of thinking (critical race theory, National Sex Ed Standards, and gender theory) that do not represent the beliefs of most Nebraskans. Furthermore the standards at best give lip service to the family's inherent responsibility to teach their children such things. It is not the governments responsibility to take away what is by rights the role of parents. The principle of subsidiarity means the govt does what the family cannot.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Owen

Last name *

Korte

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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 *

Shirley

Last name *

Adkisson

City *

Cozad

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.)

Why are you even considering CRT and CSE for the children of Nebraska?? Have you read what is in these books? Disgusting!! How is teaching them racism and sexual things they are way to young for, going to help them in society?? This is just ridiculous!! I can't imagine any parent going along with this for their children, including yourselves!!! We need to learn to live together, not hating and having preconceived notions about people because of their skin color!! Also, the state has no business teaching children about sex, how to do it, it's ok to do it, etc, etc!! Would you have liked someone taking the responsibility away from you!! How can you even entertain such smut, let alone thinking it's ok for children!! Do you not have any conscience or morals at all?? It is totally ridiculous!! You are supposed to be protecting children!! That is your job, not promoting hate, and sex to children way too young!! Definitely, hope you will see the light, and will vote these both out of the state's standards!! They will hurt these children a lot more, than help them!!! Please use some common sense, and protect these children!!! IT IS YOUR JOB!!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Shirley

Last name *

Adkisson

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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 *

Kathy

Last name *

Peters

City *

Bennington

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.)

First, equal opportunity does not mean equal outcome. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
2. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education? There are problematic standards now in EVERY strand. There are vague standards and not-so vague standards. Now, even more important, #scrapthestandards. No one side is happy with these standards! While we are glad that some changes were made, there are still glaring problems that cannot be fixed. #scrapthestandards. Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education. WE RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU START OVER. What you are doing is wrong

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 & Shane

Last name *

Peters

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Christina

Last name *

Franklin

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

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 *

Franklin

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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 *

Ristine

City *

Gothenburg

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 Amanda Ristine from Gothenburg, Nebraska. I was in attendance during the May and June state board meetings strongly opposing adopting any Nebraska health standards.
In September 2019, the Nebraska Department of Education revised their Nondiscrimination and Equitable Education Opportunities in Schools Position Statement to be inclusive of a multitude of identities, including sexual orientation and gender identity, race, ethnicity, disability, and economic status. Given this revision, advocates are optimistic about future opportunities to advance sex education in Nebraska. This statement was taken directly off SIECUS website. I'm sure most individuals in this room have heard the saying, "give someone an inch and they'll take mile". Meaning someone who has been given a small amount of power or freedom to do something, and then has tried to get a lot more. This is exactly what is going to happen here. We allow the state board to pass health standards in any format; in time they will use their power to make them more in depth over time including anything they see fit.
I very concerned and disappointed with our state board members. I'm continuing to stand with Governor Ricketts and several other Nebraskans and asking the State Board of Education to "scrap the 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 *

Amanda

Last name *

Ristine

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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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Cheney

City *

Bennet

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 highly oppose the suggested CRT and CSE standards. I do not want this information taught to my children at school. I also oppose any sort of mask mandate for students. It should be optional for the student/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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Cheney

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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 *

Jessica

Last name *

Bokish

City *

Arcadia

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 a parents we trust you with our children. Our most precious and innocent gifts from God. After reading through your sexual education standards and intent to teach critical race theory, that trust is now broken. I no longer see school as a safe place for my child. I see it as a grooming ground for pedophilia, divisiveness, and hate. The very definition of grooming a child "befriending and establishing an emotional connection with the child/ child's family to lower the child's inhibitions with the objective of sexual abuse". That is exactly what the standards do. This is sick and it is perverse. Grooming children and exploiting them for a political purpose to satisfy a radical agenda is disgusting. You should all be ashamed of yourselves for even considering such filth. Iowa and Florida have been bold enough to take a stand to protect the innocent children. If you decide to go ahead with these standards I will remove my child from school and move to a state that respects parental rights. I can assure you I will not be the only parent who will consider this. Instead of teaching garbage like this you need to bring back drivers ed, home economics, and shop class.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jessica

Last name *

Bokish

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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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Demaree

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.)

Our children are too young to be learning or hearing about what you're wanting to teach starting in Kindergarten. I understand the need for us to teach our kids acceptance of others but that is not the public school system's 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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Demaree

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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 *

Mueller

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.)

1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who
played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our
constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
2. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education?
3. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.
4. Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

Signature

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Signed,

First name *

Angela

Last name *

Mueller

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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 *

Nikki

Last name *

Downey

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.)

Draft #1 was the evidence and proof to parents that the sexualization of our children through CSE and the use of medically/biologically inaccurate information is a primary goal of the NDE. Today, parents can still see this primary goal in many vaguely worded standards and some standards that still directly promote these ideologies. Draft #2 is simply a watered-down version designed to trick parents to reduce their vigilance over the NDE. Parents were burned by the Draft #1 standards and cannot trust the NDE with its current state board members, commissioner, and employees. They must 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 *

Nikki

Last name *

Downey

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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 *

Carla

Last name *

E Butler

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.)

It's Perfectly Normal sex ed study book is visual sexually explicit education. It is abusive! Abuse comes in different forms which includes visual, physical, verbal.
I am sure you all have seen this soft porn book.
Do you have children or grandchildren? Do you want your children to be seeing this and taught this? You know your children better than anyone else, right?
So, you know that some children are not ready to see or hear this and you are the only ones who can determine this.
Parents should have the right to choose when, where and how to teach their children. You know what is best for them.
Too much information too soon can affect our children like psychological, emotional, physical ways can cause shame, anxiety, fears, poor self-esteem, molestation of younger kids, bed wetting, promiscuity, excessive modesty and the list goes on.
Sounds like state sanctioned sexual abuse on our children!
You have caused us parents and grandparents to lose 100% of our trust in your decisions. This would be included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children.
Do you realize the highest offending age of a sexual abuser is 12-14 male and 93% will repeat? An interesting fact is that sex abuse lawsuits have increased tremendously! Interesting, right? Lawsuit!
Nebraska is one of only 3 states that currently does not have any school choice laws. Parents have no where else to go! This too can be another reason for a lawsuit.
All of these awful things could be stopped when you make the right decisions and therefore there would be no repercussions.
Parents would continue to be the primary educators of their children.
A Win win for everyone!!!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Carla

Last name *

Butler

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

John

Last name *

Schnell

City *

Mead

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.)

Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards is still unacceptable for us Nebraska parents and grandparents. The mere change in the wording in standards fails to address the intent. What is the Nebraska Board of Ed and the NDE thinking?? CSE and CRT are so woven into the fabric of the document that it is unredeemable. These standards must be thrown out. IF NDE feels it needs to have written health standards the department needs to start over with a blank sheet and a completely different committee made up of those who have the most skin in the game; interested and invested parents. Or scrap the whole idea of state wide standards and defer to local school boards. We are watching how our SBofEd elected representatives(Patricia Timm) 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 *

John

Last name *

Schnell

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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 *

Anne

Last name *

Loeffler

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 writing to our state school board to strongly protest the CSE and CRT curriculums that are being forced in our schools here in NE. I have personally viewed the CSE curriculum and it is almost pornographic in its photos with NO talk about traditional marriage. These ideas (not truths) are being presented to very young children!! We need to scrap the standards and step up to protect our children from such indoctrination.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Anne

Last name *

Loeffler

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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 *

Kassie

Last name *

Thieszen

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 scrap the health standards completely. Draft #2 does nothing but re-word and try to appease those objecting the 1st draft, like putting lipstick on a pig. This is plain and simply inappropriate for public schools to be teaching children. Comprehensive sex education does nothing but sexualize children. It undermines the parent's right to educate their children about these sensitive topics according to the family's own personal religious/moral standards. Public schools need to get back to teaching reading, writing, math, history, financial literacy, home economic skills. Leave the politics and social agenda out of it. We can teach children to be kind and respectful of opposing views/lifestyles without forcing them to accept those view/lifestyles as undeniable "truths".

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kassie

Last name *

Thieszen

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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 *

Margaret

Last name *

Slusarski

City *

Columbus

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 scrap the revised suggested health standards as they are not a requirement and were not formed by a inclusive committee. They are not age appropriate and they push an agenda that does not respect life.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Margaret

Last name *

Slusarski

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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 *

Tammy

Last name *

Hanel

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 writing in opposition to CSE & CRT. As a 49 yr old adult who was born & raised in NE, taught for lps 20 yrs ago, & has volunteered in public & private schools as a therapy dog team I am appalled that anyone who says they are working for the best interest of children would even let this pass go. The new draft means nothing & only allows evil to hide. The entire standards need to scrapped. If you look at what truly matters when it comes to education, you will see how test scores, graduation rates, math & literacy rates, & ACT scores have plummeted. If you think parents will continue to leave their kids in failing schools, you are sorely mistaken. School choice will put an end to the insanity & poor education. I wonder how much of the $13,558.27 (NDE 2019/2020 number) per NE student would need to leave a failing system to wake people up? And all those families who already have their kids in private education, but the public schools still receive their taxes will finally be able to participate in school choice. This is about the children period! We will continue to fight to protect each & every one of them! Funny, I thought that was your job?

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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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 *

Karolyn

Last name *

Weiss

City *

LaVista

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 do not change the planned standards in health etc. that have been presented. I believe these will bring great harm to the student. They will undermine what the parents have a responsibility to teach and has never been the responsibility of the state. It will be destructive and confusing to the moral teaching that the parents are instilling in their children's lives. Thank you for reading my 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 *

Karolyn

Last name *

Weiss

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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 *

Donald

Last name *

Sutton

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.)

It is biologically impossible to turn a man into a woman yet the board still proposes to mislead our children. Please refrain from doing 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 *

Donald

Last name *

Sutton

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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 *

Jacob

Last name *

Lozier

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 a parent and licensed Mental Health Practitioner in the state of Nebraska, I was heartened by draft 1 of the proposed Health Education Standards, as we seemed to be moving in the direction of knowledge, acceptance, and health on various important topics. After the first public comment period and revisions, I was saddened to see the removal and erasure of important realities that our children are navigating, specifically related to gender identity, sexual orientation, and sexual health.

When it comes to public education, I believe you have the awesome responsibility to make decisions which follow the cutting edge research and expert opinions on what to teach, not the opinions and fears of the masses. A child who is alone and struggling with these topics, perhaps in rural Nebraska, could be buoyed by the type of gentle information sharing that the 1st draft of the standards proposed. I believe in public education and encourage you to keep moving forward.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jacob

Last name *

Lozier, MA, LMHP

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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 *

Monica

Last name *

Barfknecht

City *

JUNIATA

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.)

To: Nebraska State Board of Education

Dear Board of Education Members:

Scrap Draft 2 of the proposed Health Education Standards.

The Commissioner of the Nebraska Department of Education recently wrote to school administrators across the state indicating the Department is facing a crisis of confidence. He is absolutely correct. Scrap Draft 2 of the proposed Health Education Standards and remove the Commissioner from the Nebraska Department of Education.

The Department of Education is not required by state law to develop Health Education Standards. Let's be clear: the proposed standards causing an uproar in the state relate to sex education. Draft 1 of the standards strayed far beyond scientific facts to political ideas and values that are not shared by the majority of Nebraskans. The purpose of schools is to educate and not indoctrinate. Draft 2 is simply a reworked vague presentation of the same standards as Draft 1 with the same objectional source materials. Scrap Draft 2 of the proposed Health Education Standards and let parents guide the development of values in their own families.

An advanced civilization will protect its most vulnerable citizens. The children of Nebraska must be protected. Draft 2 is still a setup for grooming children. We must not sexualize our children and set them up for exploitation. Scrap Draft 2 of the proposed Health Standards and protect our most vulnerable and valuable citizens – the children of Nebraska.

Proponents of the standards say the standards are necessary to prevent bullying. These standards will not stop bullying. Schools need to teach and enforce that bullying is not acceptable for any reason. Scrap the proposed standards and address the actual problem.

Big Pharma and providers of puberty blockers such as Planned Parenthood line their own pockets by pushing these standards and providing funding for groups that design these standards. Scrap the standards and do not cave in to the well-funded political push to further enrich Big Pharma and Planned Parenthood.

As a mother of four and a Nebraska taxpayer, I implore you, scrap the proposed Health Education Standards.

Sincerely,
Monica Barfknecht

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Monica

Last name *

Barfknecht

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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 *

Michael

Last name *

Jaquez

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.)

Draft number 1 does not acknowledge parents as the primary educators of their children. While this was corrected in draft number 2, there are so many glaring problems with this standard, that I must ask that you scrap the standards entirely.

I am a parent of three (almost grown) children, and I can say without reservation that the curriculum filtered down to the schools from the proposals here will NOT teach our kids what they need to learn about sex. Let's keep this in the hands of parents. It's obvious from what you propose that you do not trust the parents to teach their kids a point of view that you want to teach, but let's be honest. Freedom does not allow for multiple points of view. Freedom REQUIRES multiple points of view.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Michael

Last name *

Jaquez

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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 *

Julie

Last name *

Leibman

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.)

The fact that I have taken time out of my work day to read this draft, only to discover that you are STILL trying to slide ideology into public education, is absolutely infuriating. Parents send their children to public school in good faith that they will be taught HOW to think, not WHAT to think. The proposed curriculum addressing gender identity with middle schoolers makes MY head spin. This will send so many kids - already in the struggles of puberty - into a tailspin of confusion and misery. I can't think of a worse assault on a child's dignity. And if my kindergartner comes home and wants to talk about the function of a clitoris? My blood is boiling.
Likewise, the "equity lens" is a thinly veiled euphemism for CRT. Stop trying to teach kids to be racist, to mistrust or devalue other races, or to feel shame over their own race. This divides people - you are engineering hatred!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Julie

Last name *

Leibman

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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 *

Chris

Last name *

Blaylock

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 wish to voice my complete opposition to Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards. The entire proposal should be scrapped. It is the responsibility of parents to educate their children not the state. We were loving and tolerant parents to our 3 children. I will tell you first-hand that the LGBTQ+ community wishing to implement draft #2 is not looking to educate children but to indoctrinate them. They do a great job with euphemisms and wordsmithing, but you're being deceived.
Once you let CSE & CRT into the schools, make no mistake there will be no questions of any kind allowed. There is no compromise. I personally went from having a daughter that was raised Catholic her whole life to a child that has been gaslighted to believe she was trans male. Critical information was withheld from us, we were not consulted or allowed to ask any questions. Now we have a daughter that has been coached by the LGBTQ+ community to cutoff her entire family. It's been a horrific experience! If you invite this into Nebraska schools, misery and suffering awaits all parents.
As I reviewed each of your bios, I noticed that almost all of you have adult children. You will not be directly impacted by your decisions regarding this matter, but these parents will be. Don't sacrifice the many on behalf of the few. I hope you do the right thing for Nebraska kids.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Chris

Last name *

Blaylock

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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 *

Jairin

Last name *

Drevo

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.)

SCRAP THE STANDARDS. The second draft is jam-packed with encouragement and allowances for teachers to push their personal beliefs on children without their parents around...this should be punishable by law!! No kindergarteners need to learn anything about sex from teachers!! I find myself incredulous that I am having to BEG you to do that!! Nebraska families want to teach their children, and we have been given the right already. Please stick to academic material and keep your education (reading, writing, arithmetic) where it belongs. Even PROPOSING these standards will keep my children out of the public school system. CRT is a Marxist ideology that will cause so much more diversity if taught to children. I lived in Germany for 5 years, and the thought terrifies me. Don't forget. We're Nebraska. We are the heartland. It's our responsibility to the nation to offer a place to live that supports family life and work ethic. Our numbers would be through the roof if parents weren't so busy and could educate themselves on these topics. Every child in our school system was born of a female and male!!!! I defy you teaching them lies.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jairin

Last name *

Drevo

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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 *

Katie

Last name *

Frisch

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.)

These standards are still not acceptable.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

K

Last name *

Frisch

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Gaylin

Last name *

Jepsen

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.)

Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards need to be scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. The curricula must teach the advantages of representative government and the dangers of forms of government that restrict personal freedoms like communism. Draft #2 also includes some language regarding Comprehensive Sexuality Education, leaving the door open for it to be adopted at a later date. The use of sexually explicit language and graphics would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Making them aware and familiar with these concepts makes them ripe for victimization by sexual predators. Please SCRAP THE STANDARDS. As Governor Ricketts points out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. Focusing on better educating our kids in math, science, reading, writing, and social studies would be a better use of 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 *

Gaylin

Last name *

Jepsen

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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, the NDE does not have a mandate to come up with health standards so this should not pass and these "standards" should be eliminated. We do not agree with some of the language in these "standards" and oppose the ideology that wants to be taught to our children, especially CRT.

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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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.)

Draft 2 should be revised:
You should not be striving for equitable educational opportunities. You should be striving for equal educational opportunities.

CSE should be eliminated from the standards.
Eliminate HE.K.7.3.b and HE.7.7.2.d
Anything related to gender identity should be eliminated.

Also anything related to CRT should be eliminated.

Bottom line: The health standards are not required or necessary. There is probably some overlap with biology and social studies.

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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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 *

Baetz

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.)

As an extremely concerned Christian mother and grandmother I am reaching out to you regarding a couple of issues involving the education of our children. First, the “sex education” you are wanting to impose on the very young and impressionable children attending the public schools in Nebraska. I am appalled at what you are wanting to force on these young minds. Young children need not be informed of gender identity in which there is no science to this only based on “feelings.” By doing so, you are aiming to confuse and mentally and emotionally harm these children. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven’t even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their innocent and fragile minds with horrendous unnecessary pornographic sexual information that will only result in further negative outcomes as they grow and change through puberty and into adulthood.

It saddens me and deeply concerns me that you would consider harming thousands of children simply to conform to the “wokeness” that most of you seem to cater to in our society. Your push to damage the children of Nebraska with radical sexual teachings only proves that your goal is not to properly teach and protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it’s followers. It shows a weakness on your part that you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture of progressive ideology.

As for critical race theory, it is counterproductive in and of itself due to the fact that you would be teaching our impressionable children that they will be ostracized if they disagree with your backwards ideology. By pushing this into the curriculum, are striving to teach our children to hate themselves as well as others. You are actually aiming to train them to be racist. You will not be teaching them acceptance of others nor would you be teaching them acceptance of themselves. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing, it’s is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of your precious CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. You will be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults.

I will fight to protect my grandchildren and the children of Nebraska from this mental onslaught of indoctrination. I implore you to hear me, and to hear the hundreds, if not thousands, of other parents who are fighting to defend their children from this attack on their mental health as well as their innocence.

In conclusion, I urge you to throw out the sex education standards you have on the table as well as the critical race theory garbage that you and so many other school boards are trying to force upon us. I ask you to dig down deep and realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be force fed to our children. I implore you to continue to protect our children, and to teach them the true history of this country because that is the only way to learn and move forward in bettering ourselves as a country with biblical godly values. Get back to basics in teaching our precious children, and forget about the ungodly progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division, hatred and racial violence. Again I am absolutely appalled at what your trying to push! And you all should be ashamed of yourselves wanting to teach innocent children this twisted garbage. Scrap these standards ASAP! You will all be voted out. The people of Nebraska have spoken!

Signature

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 *

Baetz

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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 *

Rosalind

Last name *

Laux

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.)

In reviewing Draft #2 of the Nebraska Health Standards, I am still opposed to their implementation in our school system. Much of the objectionable wording has been “cleaned up” or eliminated; however, in the vague nature of the revised standards there are open doors which could allow the trans ideology and aspects of CSE to be included in the future. I feel we would be turning over our curriculum to private organizations like the SIECS, Advocates for Youth and other liberally funded organizations whose goals have not changed, and who are still the apparent resources used in writing the standards. I am not convinced that Critical Race Theory and CSE are absent in Draft #2. I feel BOTH of these would be harmful to the children of Nebraska, socially, psychologically and emotionally.

I vote no on Draft #2.

Rosalind Laux,
Lexington, 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 *

Rosalind

Last name *

Laux

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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.)

Dear School Board of Education:

In the USA, parents are the primary educators of their children. EVERYONE ELSE must answer to the parents. The SBOE is trying to usurp that authority. NDE has revealed their true goal which is to corrupt the standards we currently have. There has been no honest response to #scrapthestandards. The legislature mandates ONLY that the NDE and SBOE oversee 5 areas: Math, Science, Reading, Writing and Social Studies. Even so, these groups ultimately must answer to the public. The very vague wording of the CSE standards is very intentional and would still allow local districts to adopt CSE standards with the full support of the NDE. The public will not stand by and let this happen, #scrapthestandards. CRT teaches that my grandkids are racist, and that others are not given equal opportunity. That is a lie. Equity is not equality. Everyone has the equality of opportunity. Equity promotes the insanity of FORCED equal outcomes. Again, we will not live the lie of CRT. #scrapethestandards.

Sincerely,

Denton and Jody Hoy

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 *

Dennis

Last name *

Sand

City *

Bertrand

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.)

Draft 2 is different in wording but I don't believe it's different in intent. It opens the door for the same exact thing as Draft 1. You have lost the trust of the vast majority of people in the state of Nebraska. With the Draft 1 proposals and the people who were chosen to write the proposals, you proved that you are out of touch with Nebraskans. You did not allow for more conservative voices to even take part in writing the drafts. Please SCRAP the standards-they are inappropriate for children and have no place in our schools. Please focus your energy on improving reading, science, math and science and keep CSE and CRT out of Nebraska schools. Parents/guardians are responsible for the sex education of 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 *

Dennus

Last name *

Sand

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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 *

Nelson

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.)

These standards are still unacceptable.

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 *

Nelson

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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 *

Miroslava

Last name *

Howe

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.)

“SCRAP THE STANDARDS”
Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska’s children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska’s children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but thanks to the information given on Draft #1 parents can fill in the blanks to understand that sooner or later the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards. Additionally the Nebraska Department of Education does not have Draft #1 and Draft #2 in any other languge available for non English speaking parents. The live video stream will probably not have a Spanish speaking person translating.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Miroslava

Last name *

Howe

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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 am writing to tell you to SCRAP the Nebraska health standards 2nd draft. This draft still contains information unnecessary for our children of this state to learn. Parents should have the ultimate authority to teach their own children in regard to sex education according to their belief and principles. Health education is not even part of the State Boards' responsibility according to the legislature of this state.

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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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 *

Baetz

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.)

As an extremely concerned Christian mother and grandmother I am reaching out to you regarding a couple of issues involving the education of our children. First, the “sex education” you are wanting to impose on the very young and impressionable children attending the public schools in Nebraska. I am appalled at what you are wanting to force on these young minds. Young children need not be informed of gender identity in which there is no science to this only based on “feelings.” By doing so, you are aiming to confuse and mentally and emotionally harm these children. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven’t even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their innocent and fragile minds with horrendous unnecessary pornographic sexual information that will only result in further negative outcomes as they grow and change through puberty and into adulthood.

It saddens me and deeply concerns me that you would consider harming thousands of children simply to conform to the “wokeness” that most of you seem to cater to in our society. Your push to damage the children of Nebraska with radical sexual teachings only proves that your goal is not to properly teach and protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it’s followers. It shows a weakness on your part that you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture of progressive ideology.

As for critical race theory, it is counterproductive in and of itself due to the fact that you would be teaching our impressionable children that they will be ostracized if they disagree with your backwards ideology. By pushing this into the curriculum, are striving to teach our children to hate themselves as well as others. You are actually aiming to train them to be racist. You will not be teaching them acceptance of others nor would you be teaching them acceptance of themselves. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing, it’s is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of your precious CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. You will be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults.

I will fight to protect my grandchildren and the children of Nebraska from this mental onslaught of indoctrination. I implore you to hear me, and to hear the hundreds, if not thousands, of other parents who are fighting to defend their children from this attack on their mental health as well as their innocence.

In conclusion, I urge you to throw out the sex education standards you have on the table as well as the critical race theory garbage that you and so many other school boards are trying to force upon us. I ask you to dig down deep and realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be force fed to our children. I implore you to continue to protect our children, and to teach them the true history of this country because that is the only way to learn and move forward in bettering ourselves as a country with biblical godly values. Get back to basics in teaching our precious children, and forget about the ungodly progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division, hatred and racial violence. Again I am absolutely appalled at what your trying to push! And you all should be ashamed of yourselves wanting to teach innocent children this twisted garbage. Scrap these standards ASAP! You will all be voted out. The people of Nebraska have spoken!

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 *

Baetz

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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 *

Leia

Last name *

Underwood

City *

Oconto

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.)

In regards to the second draft of the proposed and supposedly "revised" health standards, might I suggest you board members and every school district board member, whom are parents of a child ages 3 through 15.. Stand up please..Honestly Answer.. Because your jobs really depend on this. Would you talk about any of these topics proposed with your child in the comfort of your own home right now? What about hearing some other individual speaking to your child about any of these topics? Think hard on this, based on your child's maturity level, are you comfortable enough to allow an individual to show your child photos or read any of the proposed curriculum too them?
As a parent and grandparent I can say without any pause that these subjects are way to much for any child under the age of 16. These are minor children who cannot make life choices on their own legally. Parents are supposed to protect their children and we are supposed to trust our child's educator to teach the basics.. Reading ,Writing, Arithmetic, Science, Sports, Arts and Music.. Leave the Life's Lessons and Life's Questions to the Parents. I VOTE TO REVOKE AND REMOVE THIS DRAFT AND THE OTHERS THAT WILL FOLLOW!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Leia

Last name *

Underwood

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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 *

Ryan

Last name *

Bruna

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 oppose these proposed health standards. This level of sexual content should be left to the parents. Also, exposure this early regarding sex and sexual identity will over sexualize kids.

I understand the heart behind this is to create an environment of inclusion. But the by products of these teaching will be further confusion, and It will raise sexual activity amongst adolescents and teens. It is consistently proven that teens who struggle with their identity have higher rates of depression and anxiety. This will continue that trend

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Ryan

Last name *

Bruna

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Andrew

Last name *

Leibman

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.)

My thoughts on Draft 2 are the same as for Draft 1: SCRAP IT. Teaching gender "identity" as distinct from sex, and something they "feel" has already proven to be CATASTROPHIC for children who lack strong male or female role models due to familial circumstances. It is heaping political ideology of mentally ill administrators onto an already fraught situation, and the casualties are CHILDREN. Critical race theory, disguised as "equity lens" is another deeply divisive ideology that is designed by Marxists to destroy unity in this country. It will only lead to MORE racism, not less. Let's teach Martin Luther King's philosophy, where a person's character is more important that his or her (note, there are just two...) skin color. Equality of outcomes is impossible to ensure, and any person who thinks otherwise has no business in education or anywhere else outside of a mental institution. If the NSBE continues to walk down this path, there will be a mass exodus that utterly guts public schools in this state. Without children to indoctrinate, funding will also disappear, and so will these positions of self-appointed authority.

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 *

Leibman

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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 *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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 strongly oppose the proposed 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 *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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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 *

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.)

As Governor Ricketts has pointed out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. The Legislature mandates the Nebraska Department of Education and the State Board of Education to oversee only five areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. Health Education for children should be the responsibility of the 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 *

Evelyn

Last name *

Kumm

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Identification

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First name *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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 strongly oppose the proposed 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 *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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Identification

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First name *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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 strongly oppose the proposed 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 *

Nick

Last name *

Petersen

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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 *

Isaac

Last name *

Brown

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 adamantly oppose the proposed health standards. I do not believe it's in the best interest of our families, community, and 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 *

Isaac

Last name *

Brown

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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 *

Eileen

Last name *

Sylvester

City *

Ainsworth

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.)

Stop!! The same writers for draft one also wrote draft two. Have their motives changed? NO! It is time to go back to the starting point with a new set of writers. Political activists should not be writing these or copying them from the national standards. The developers of any education standards in any area of the curriculum should not be affiliated in any way with extreme groups no matter how much money those groups are giving to try to promote or influence their special interests. Sexualizing our students is wrong on every level and very detrimental to the health and welfare of these students. Board of education members ... I challenge you to stand up and make a stand to treasure and honor our children and not to subject them to unnecessary lessons on critical race theory and inappropriate sexual and gender identity studies!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Eileen

Last name *

Sylvester

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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 *

Aaron

Last name *

Griffith

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 strongly oppose this vile crap that you propose teaching to the future of our nation. Quite frankly it goes against all science evidence we have. We should be protecting the innocence of children, not directly attacking that and sexualizing young kids. All unbiased studies being done are providing an abundance of information showing this is harmful and destructive to children. It also sets them up for years of working through the trauma that comes along with these idiotic ideas. Do not pass this crap into the school curriculum. It will have detrimental impacts for our nations future.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Aaron

Last name *

Griffith

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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 *

Spencer

Last name *

Prentice

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.)

Please, oppose this horiffic, discriminitive curriculum.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Spencer

Last name *

Prentice

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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 *

Megan

Last name *

Hunt

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 second draft does not go far enough. It is not complete.

We've tried doing it the religious right's way. Opponents of comprehensive sex education have already seen the consequences and ramifications of a world where kids are raised with abstinence education, with prejudice and bigotry against LGBTQ+ individuals, without access to contraceptives, and with expectations of body shame bordering on absurdity. This is the world we live in now, this is the world our parents and grandparents grew up in, and we can do better for our kids.

The opposition wants us to teach values, but just their values. However, that is not the role of a public school, and we have 304,000 children to keep safe, alive, and thriving. Research shows that medically and scientifically accurate sex education decreases the number of teen pregnancies, decreases the incidence of abortion, and delays the average age when students begin engaging in sexual activity.

Nobody who supports comprehensive sexual education is opposed to a family's right to teach values to their children. But offering our public school children a curriculum that doesn't address healthy relationships, consent, and LGBTQ+ issues, in addition to public health facts and figures, would demean the value and importance of our great institution of public education. Our children deserve medically-accurate, research-based information, which shockingly is not currently the standard.

I know my way around Omaha, but that doesn't make me an expert in geography. I'm raising my child in a home where she knows she can grow up to love whoever she chooses, and where I will give her resources to make responsible decisions about her body as she gets older, but that does not make me an expert in child development, puberty, or sexual health. We are a community that supports its public schools. Kids need medically-accurate, research-based information, which is not currently the standard. This is our opportunity to do better. Also, my view is that for many parents, some of these conversations are hard. And some families feel too awkward about these topics. And then it's too late.

I want to reassure the board that you have the public support to recommend the best possible updates to the health standards curriculum. There is no reason — whether practical or political — to water it down.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Megan

Last name *

Hunt

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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 *

Kyle

Last name *

OBrien

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 would not like my children to be taught this. There are things that should be taught in the home.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kyle

Last name *

OBrien

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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 *

Chalee

Last name *

Rehm

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.)

The proposed health standards by the Nebraska State Board of Education need to be completely scraped. The revision is not satisfactory to Nebraska parents as it maintains the language and ideology if Critical Race Theory. These standards are decisive both relationally, socially and politically, therefore they are not in the best interest of our children. Scrape these proposed health standards entirely for the safety and well being of 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 *

Chalee

Last name *

Rehm

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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 *

Marge

Last name *

Kershner

City *

Minden

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.)

Marge Kershner, Minden NE
I'm speaking against Revision 2 of the proposed health standards.

safe space

a phrase frequently heard these days

safe space, a space that is free from danger, free from outside forces

I stand here today to demand safe space for the children in our schools.

Currently school doors are locked to keep students and educators safe from intruders who would do them physical harm.

A safe space

A space free from the interference of Marxist-based Critical Race Theory that would divide us into the oppressed and the oppressor.

A safe space

A space free from interference of Planned Parenthood, an organization that strives to separate children from their parents when making decisions about their sexual health. An ideology that promotes and provides contraceptions, hormone blockers and rides to abortion clinics, to name only a few their services, all without the knowledge or consent of the parents.

A safe space

A space free from those who would insist that a sexually deviant curriculum be taught in the schools.

Father God, knowing that we live in a world where all people suffer, we ask you to be at work in our lives and our children's lives to heal hurting bodies, lives and hearts, freeing their minds to learn. We claim your freedom from the lies, pride, lack of forgiveness, envies, and prejudices that bind our hearts. Reconcile us to yourself that we may be reconciled with each other and work in harmony with each other.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Marge

Last name *

Kershner

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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 *

ALDONA

Last name *

TANNER

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.)

Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute
79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to
support CRT through their “Equity Lens” and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

ALDONA

Last name *

TANNER

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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 *

Brittany

Last name *

Morse

City *

Austin

State *

TX

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

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

Plenty of people can give you the statistics and logical reasons behind why these standards make sense. Instead, I'm going to tell my story to make you see students like the one I was because growing up no one did. I am the product of Nebraska public schools and a Nebraska college. I excelled in academics and my formative education set me up for great things in my life including graduating from a top 10 masters program. One place where it failed was health education.

I knew from an early age I was different, and in middle school I knew I was a lesbian. Because of my school and community environment, I had no frame of reference for learning about who I was. I didn't see my experiences reflected in my health classes. I often heard open mockery of LGBTQ people. I was either told people like me didn't exist or that being gay was the worst thing someone could be. I hated myself and cried myself to sleep praying to god to make me "normal." I started contemplating suicide at age 12 and sunk into a 10 year long untreated depression, which I also didn't learn about in school and had no tools to deal with it. I started hating going to school because I didn't want people to find out about my sexuality or my mental health challenges. I developed severe anxiety and struggled socially during adolescence and college.

At age 24, after moving out of state, I was finally able to accept myself for who I am. At age 30, I'm just now beginning to actually like myself and be comfortable in my own skin. I'm currently figuring out things about dating and relationships that most people do in high school because I was denied the opportunity to do so in school since it was absent from the curriculum and not a supportive environment.

I visited family in Nebraska recently and I wasn't quite prepared for the anxiety I felt about simple things like going to a public bathroom. In many ways, I felt like I stepped back into the world of my youth over a decade ago.

You have an opportunity to move the state forward. You have an opportunity to ensure you meet the needs of all students. You have an opportunity to prevent students from hating themselves for who they are. All kids deserve to learn about who they are and how to navigate the world in a supportive space. All kids deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. All kids deserve to be seen. All kids deserve safety. All kids deserve to see a future for themselves. All kids deserve to be themselves.

I urge you to adopt these health standards so that all Nebraska students can thrive.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Brittany

Last name *

Morse

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Google Forms

Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Mindy

Last name *

Gilmore

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.)

Refusal to teach medically accurate and age appropriate information about sex to children is idiotic and cruel. They deserve to have all of the information, not just what mom and dad may or may not share, which may or may ot be accurate. Also don't withhold the class from the kids that want it. Parents can always opt out for their kids if they don't agree with it.

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 *

Gilmore

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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 *

Wesley

Last name *

Halvorsen

City *

Syracuse

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 urge the Board to adopt age appropriate health education standards that are research based and gives kids factual information. I believe this is a great way to prevent abuse, reduce bullying, and encourage healthy lifestyle. 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 *

Wesley

Last name *

Halvorsen

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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 *

Joan

Last name *

Classen

City *

Bennington

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.)

Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019.
Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence,
establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union, The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and
fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards was a major assault on parents' fundamental rights because parents were not acknowledged as the primary educators of their children. Draft #2 does acknowledge parents as the primary educators. Which draft is the true perspective of the Nebraska Department of Education? Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards need to be totally scrapped along with Draft #1.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Joan

Last name *

Classen

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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 *

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.)

The NE State Board of Education has lost all credibility and trust with the majority of Nebraskans and needs to be dismantled.

It is incomprehensible that the proposed standards were put out there at all as it was designed to sexualize and indoctrinate the innocent children. Whether you admit it or not, CSE and CRT are imbedded and still you choose not to scrap the standards in its entirety after the very strong pushback you have received.

When writing these standards Planned Parenthood and Out Nebraska and other similar groups were giving input but why were parents, grandparents and church leaders not asked for their input? I think we all know why.

You were elected to protect the children and instead you and the commissioner are the problem and the children now need to be protected from you as you can no longer be trusted with our precious youth.

I ask each of you to do the right thing and resign.

Scrap the 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 *

Teresa

Last name *

Cook

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Aaron

Last name *

Craig

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 believe that children in Nebraska deserve a comprehensive health education for our kids that is research based, medically accurate, and age appropriate.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Aaron

Last name *

Craig

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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 *

KAY

Last name *

STAHLY

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.)

1. Draft #2 of NDE (Nebraska Department of Education) Health Standards still need to be totally scrapped. The references to Critical Race Theory (CRT) are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal.
To restate: These proposed standards need to be totally scrapped. They are still referencing Marxist ideas to pit our children against each other and against their families, and, I would imagine, some of their in school teachers feel the same way.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kay

Last name *

Stahly

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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 *

Abbi

Last name *

Swatsworth

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 urge the writing team to return the Health Standards based on science and best practices. The removal of gender identity and sexual orientation hurts all students. To have capitulated to pressure from people who primarily used religion as a sword feels like such a betrayal. The lives of students are at risk. You must stand by your equity statement and demand a draft three from the department. I know you have an extremely difficult job and I deeply appreciated the patience and poise you are showing under pressure. Please 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 *

Abbi

Last name *

Swatsworth

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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 *

Coleen

Last name *

Keep

City *

Henry

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 gender identity is ludicrous! Support for abortion as birth control is morally and emotionally wrong! The whole proposal should be scrapped...no rewrite!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Coleen

Last name *

Keep

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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 *

Janet

Last name *

Hueftle

City *

Eustis

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 have attended one of the SBOE meetings in Kearney as well as my local school board meeting stating my opposition to the proposed health standards. I have written emails to the state board members and only heard back from one member that was not even a true response on the issue of the standards.

I also attended a meeting with Governor Rickets. I most definitely agree with the Governor that the Health Education Standards are not even necessary. I have learned that the Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas!!!! As you well know those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies….the core subjects. What purpose did the SBOE have in mind when it granted itself the power to oversee Health Education as well as Fine Arts, Physical education, World Languages, Career and Technical Education?

I do not support the proposed standards and question the purpose behind the power grab trying oversee non core subjects. I see it as an opportunity to slowly indoctrinate our children with CSE and CRT. You know your motives.

In conclusion I say SCRAP THE STANDARDS!

Sincerely,
Janet Hueftle

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 *

Hueftle

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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 *

Petersen

City *

Bayard

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.)

These health standards are an overreach of the NDE and are ridiculous to begin with. This is a parents job to tell their own kids, in their own timing about sex. There are also many other things that are in there that are not appropriate for most of the age levels. Please get a handle on the NDE and let local school districts take care of themselves.

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 *

Petersen

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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 *

Judith

Last name *

Loyd

City *

Gering

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 Board Members, I have read the second draft of the new Health Standards and believe that they should be scrapped. As a retired elementary and special education teacher, many of these standards are commonplace issues that most teachers teach daily in the elementary. In the upper grades, the standards are unnecessary, and many should be taught by parents, religious houses of worship, and the community not the school system. These standards are another burden placed on the school system which already is overwhelmed by the reading, writing, math, science and history standards not to mention the standards for music, PE, computers, shop, family and consumer science and special education. Our schools were designed to teach reading, writing, and math not become substitute parents and are being overcome with cumbersome standards. I, therefore, respectfully request that these standards be permanently dismantled for the wellbeing of the children, teachers, staff, parents and our communities.

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 *

Loyd

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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 *

Carl J

Last name *

Samuelson

City *

Papillion

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 want my children, and the next generations, and the generations after that, to be taught correct, accurate, research based health education.

Anything else is a disservice to those children, and the teachers who would be forced to teach inaccurate, unhealthy lessons.

We have an opportunity to really teach; I implore y'all to make the correct decision here.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Carl J

Last name *

Samuelson

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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 *

April

Last name *

Jorgensen

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 disappointed that the state school board has scaled back the proposed health standards. These standards are not mandatory anyway, so any district that didn't want to follow them, wasn't going to anyway. However, it's important that our state moves forward into the 21st century and teachers our children about the gender spectrum etc as the first draft of standards would have comprehensively done. Please go back to the previous draft so they districts have the PERMISSION to properly teach 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 *

April

Last name *

Jorgensen

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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 *

Jenna

Last name *

McGrain

City *

Bennington

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 reaching out to you regarding a couple of issues involving the education of our children. For the sex education, I am appalled at what you are wanting to force on these young minds. Children do not need to be informed of gender identity. By doing so, you are aiming to confuse our children both mentally and emotionally. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven't even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their fragile minds with oversexualized information that will only steal their innocence. This could result in negative outcomes well before they're even emotionally mature enough to handle the consequences.

Your push for these radical sexual teachings mixed with gender identity, only proves that your goal is not to protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it's followers. It shows a weakness on your part that not only do you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture, but that you feel you must teach it to impressionable children in order to gain acceptance of it. Scrap the whole proposal. As for sex ed continue with the abstinence program.

For teaching on equity, it has no place outside of law school. Equity does NOT mean equality. Equity assumes one type are perpetrators (or "privileged") who are unfair beneficiaries of the system or outright perpetrators of prejudice and who must be identified, limited and punished. What does this thinking do to young impressionable children? It will train them to be biased toward each other and will create division. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing, it's is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of your precious CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. If this is taught, you would be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults. Scrap the whole proposal. You have ruined the whole proposal by sneaking these radical ideas in. Shame on you!

Scrap it all!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jenna

Last name *

McGrain

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Christine

Last name *

Welliver

City *

Pleasanton

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.)

Scrap CRT and CSE!! It is EVIL! It is not what we want for our children and grandchildren!!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Chris

Last name *

Welliver

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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 *

ABIGAIL

Last name *

REIMER

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.)

Please do not adopt these proposed standards for the sexual education. I believe that they will be harmful to our children which will result in being harmful for our society as a whole. I have a daughter who will be a kindergartener in the fall and it obvious how eager she is to learn. This is wonderful but also underlies the need to teach them truth and facts. These standards are not truthful or factual. They are opinions and beliefs. Please do not push these standards onto our young 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 *

Abigail

Last name *

Reimer

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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 *

Kelly

Last name *

Gray

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.)

To the State Board of Education: I am writing today as a parent of young children. I have recently been exposed to the proposed Sex Education Curriculum and I am very concerned for the future of our children and generations to come should this pass. My first question to ask would be, “those of you that have children would you feel comfortable exposing your young, moldable, ones as young as 5 to the material that is contained in this curriculum?” If you answer “yes,” then you are saying you are ok with exposing young, impressionable, developing children to over-sexualized, pornographic, images and material along with gender confusion and so much more. This is an attack on the innocence and purity of our society and eliminates the God ordained covenant between a man and a woman and sex taking place only under the blessing of marriage. Along with attacking the gender of human kind. I urge you to vote against this proposed curriculum in any form or fashion. The success or demise for this next generation is at your hands. Thank you for your time and your careful 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 *

Kelly

Last name *

Gray

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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 *

Charlotte

Last name *

Tebbe

City *

David 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.)

The first draft of proposed standards, were very inappropriate for our schools and students k-12. The second set of standards while different than the first, appear to be watered down, yet with some of the same agenda. Sex education, critical race theory and teaching of things that many consider morally wrong (LGBTQ) - all of these do not belong 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 *

Charlotte

Last name *

Tebbe

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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 *

sherry

Last name *

Jones

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 Sherry Jones from Grand Island and am running for State Board of Education, District 6.
I want to begin by saying, unfortunately, I have lost confidence in the Board of Education, as a whole. If the momma and papa bears had not come out of hibernation I believe we would have draft #1 of the proposed health standards thrust upon our Nebraska schools without the blink of an eye. Fortunately, for the children of Nebraska, the proposed human growth and development standards, awakened the bears and without doubt there will be an extended spring season during which they will be protecting their cubs with great vigilance. I believe the bears have spoken loudly and clearly… they want these human growth and development standards to be scratched. Let's let the local schools and their boards, with input from parents, decide what is best to teach children in this area of human growth and development.
Secondly, I want to respond to the concerns of some individuals regarding the subject of bullying. It has been said that SOGI (sexual orientation and gender identity) instruction is needed to address bullying in our schools. I do not believe this is so. I was an elementary school counselor for 14 years during which our district's school counselors devoted 3 or 4 lessons to each grade, each year, to address the subject of bullying… with successful results. We focused on the unacceptable bullying behavior, how to respond if you are being bullied, and what to do if you see someone else being bullied rather than the circumstances which could bring about bullying - which are truly unlimited. One could be bullied because of the shape or size of their ears, because of their body size, or because of their level of intelligence. We can address bullying without focusing on specific circumstances and SOGI. You can be assured bullying of anyone was not tolerated on my watch.
Lastly, I want to mention an issue which is not receiving the attention the proposed health standards have received but could be even more impacting. That is NDE Rules Changes involving Rule 10 and Rule 14. From what I understand, these rule changes would bring about loss of local control for public schools, and for parochial schools it could bring about requirements violating religious beliefs. So, I encourage all of us to take a look at NDE Rules Changes.
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 *

Sherry

Last name *

Jones

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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 *

Cindy

Last name *

Humphreys

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 in favor of teaching our children science based age appropriate sexual health information.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Cindy

Last name *

Humphreys

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Identification

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First name *

Joy

Last name *

Lesiak

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.)

There should be no mask mandates.
These children are going to grow up believing them breathing is killing someone.
Ridiculous.

NO CRT/CSE or any version of it.
There is absolutely no need for a public school to teach children inappropriate sex ed.
It's not your job nor your place.
Since parents are saying no to these "standards" then they shouldn't even still be out there.
If a parent wants to teach their child about such things at such early ages they can do it in their own home.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Joy

Last name *

Lesiak

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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 *

Brenda

Last name *

Nickol

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 strongly support evidence-based, age appropriate health education in schools for several reasons. I will highlight the two that are most important to me:
1. I want to see fewer deaths by suicide and less ideation and attempts of suicide by young LGBTQ+ members of our communities.
2. I want to do everything we can to prevent sexual assault.
If you care about preventing either of those things, the great news is that age appropriate, comprehensive sex ed has been proven time and time again to have a significant impact. I personally know the people who did the largest ever research into campus (university and college) based sexually assault, and one of the most important factors to prevent sexual assault is to provide comprehensive sex ed throughout school. Starting in Kindergarten. This only sounds shocking if you haven't actually seen the curriculum and examples of materials. Such education does not prevent families from teaching their own values at home. But comprehensive, age appropriate sex ed does make all kids safer. Something I would think we are all interested in.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Brenda

Last name *

Nickol

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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 *

Heather

Last name *

Russell

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.)

My name is Heather Russell, LIMHP, LICSW. I am a graduate of the Grace Abbott School of Social Work, UNO. I am a mother of three children and a licensed foster parent.

Please understand that any and all undertones of CSE that are still present in Draft 2 are not good for children because children are NOT cognitively and socially developed enough to be able to process it and handle in a healthy and beneficial manner. It is my clinical judgment that exposure to Comprehensive Sex Education and Critical Race Theory (or similar concepts) will do MUCH HARM to children, families and our communities.

Please understand brain development. The prefrontal lobes of the human brain, largely responsible for logic and reasoning, making balanced and wise decisions are not intact until early adulthood. This is why decisions can often be seen as irrational, emotionally charged and impulsive amongst youth. Please also understand that children and adolescence are curious, experimental and are extremely peer focused. These two crucial truths of development are important reasons as to why dumping CSE and CRT information onto them, that they are not mature enough or cognitively able to handle, would be like adding gasoline to a wildfire. Please simply SCRAP THESE STANDARDS!

Mental health professionals, like myself, work with children and adolescents (and their families) who have been exposed to these concepts to prematurely and the impacts have been very detrimental to mental health, self-concept/esteem and relationships, etc. Increased sexual confusion, identity confusion as well as unhealthy and dangerous promiscuity and sexual activity is what ends up getting promoted and encouraged by these concepts within young minds and amongst peers due to the exposure. These consequences impact physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health both in the present and long-term.

This is an important example of why it is Nebraska law that minors are not their own medical decision-makers, are not allowed to make certain purchases or view certain media that contains adult content. Parents are responsible to guide and make decisions in their children's best interest. Please do not undo this important process by exposing children to CSE and CRT concepts that are still present in draft 2 against the vast majority of parents' wishes. Please let parents continue to be parents. Let children be allowed to be children and not add more to their plates. Also, as I see it, please do not infringe on the American people's constitutional rights by promoting such concepts to children on a mass scale, at their schools, while obviously other beliefs and perspectives are not being taught. How is that fair? It is not the school's place to add this.

Additionally, CSE can be easily used to the advantage of grooming that pedophiles use to desensitize children and ultimately molest/rape them and even kidnap them and potentially sale them into sex trafficking. I am in personal and professional agreement with this alarming risk that would be impacted by increased exposure to sexual concepts and what youth would developmentally perceive as their own sexual rights when not beneficial or healthy and internalized responsibility at too young of ages.

Lastly and of vital importance, CSE proposed standards draw much concern for children who have trauma and may be triggered by the teachings and visuals. Schools are not equipped to handle the trigger response and retraumatization that they would evoke. A child's school is not the place for this.

I urge you, please do not move forward with these changes to the standards. 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 *

Heather

Last name *

Russell

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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 *

Taylor

Last name *

Smith

City *

Parks

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 Nebraska Department of Education,

I am writing you because of my concern with the sexual education, gender, and race proposed educational standards in our state right now. As both a teacher and future parent, I see every day how crucial it is to equip the next generation of Nebraskans with an education that's consistent with our shared American values and free from ideological indoctrination. Instead of continued revisions as seen in your second draft, I urge you to please remove all sex education and other ideologically motivated content from schools and its curriculum by completely scrapping the newly proposed health state standards entirely.

A school's responsibility is to provide an educational framework to prepare students for college or a future career someday, NOT force belief systems on such sensitive topics or political agendas onto children. These are topics that are the responsibility of parents alone to address. Therefore, these are topics that should not be addressed in school, especially this young of age. I strongly believe these new standards will sexualize our children, lead to sexual grooming, and achieve the opposite of what you have proposed by drafting them. I ask you with all my heart to please help us instead protect our children from this by completely scrapping the newly proposed health standards entirely.

Topics like sexual activity, pornography, sexual orientation, gender-roles, gender-identities, gender expression, family structures, cohabitating, abortion, and sexual development are ones that should be addressed by parents, not schools forcing their opinions on these matters to children in schools. These sensitive topics directly relate to one's morals, values, and often biblical views. Although I am not advocating for hate or judgement, I do strongly believe all Americans should have the right to respectfully form and share their own beliefs on sexual, gender, and moral issues. Not allowing individuals to form their own beliefs on issues related to their faith, is an infringement upon our American freedoms.

Topics like racial biases/stereotypes have become also very sensitive topics in our current political atmosphere. Curriculum like Critical Race Theory has openly been developed by Marxist ideologies. These ideologies have proven through history to actually achieve the opposite of what this curriculum is proposing. I urge you to remove the standards that still could embody these same ideologies and will lead to the same result.

Finally, if this curriculum is not completely scrapped, I foresee Nebraska losing many good teachers. These new standards encompass ways of teaching topics that some parents, teachers, and students might not morally agree with. If our state adopts these standards, you will lose teachers who morally refuse to teach them. I know this because I myself am one of them and have talked with many others like me who feel the same way. This will intensify the current teacher shortage we are seeing.

Thank you for all that you are doing. I pray that God continues to give you the discernment and strength to make the decisions that, without a doubt, will affect our children and their children's future.

Sincerely,

Taylor Smith

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Taylor

Last name *

Smith

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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 *

Trent

Last name *

Poley

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 change in proposed health education standards from Draft #1 to Draft #2 demonstrate a pattern that is becoming alarmingly consistent in our state (that pattern being conservative political ideology seeping into our educational system). The fact is that people of various gender identities and sexual orientations exist. And any attempt to suppress or portray this fact in a negative light is a clear example of bigotry and prejudice. These things have no home in Nebraska and no place in our educational system.
Educating these students on such matters is not an attempt at "indoctrination" or, even worse, "grooming". Rather, this education could be vital in providing students resources to work through very difficult and complex thoughts, feelings, and emotions. This education is necessary in creating an educational system that is safe and welcoming for all. Teaching students to respect those they differ from and disagree with is not accomplished by ignoring those differences and disagreements.
As an educator in this state, I hope the Board will support a curriculum that reflects science and logic rather than fear and prejudice. Our state and our students deserve an education that creates respectful, responsible, and knowledgable citizens.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Trent

Last name *

Poley

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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 *

Eric

Last name *

Fuchtman

City *

Creighton

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 writing with concerns to the NE Sex Education Standards draft #2. We read through them and oppose all of it. We ask that you reject/scrap it. Not revise it but reject it.
If you really care about kids and their education then stick to the basics of reading, writing, and arithmetic. Leave it up to parents as to what "sex-ed" they want to teach to their kids at home. It's not the public schools place to indoctrinate kids on this issue and it never should be.
These new standards WILL destroy their identity, confuse their gender, create unresolved guilt and self hatred.
You are furthering the work of the devil. Jesus warned in Matthew 18:5-6, "Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great mill stone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea".
This kind of education stimulates the desires of children, leading to various expressions of sexuality that end up DESTROYING and DEFILING their souls. Researchers found that "early sexual debut increased levels of depression, suicidal ideation, aggressive behavior, physchological distress, anxiety, stress, loneliness, poor well-being, regret and guilt. It also increased negative social behavior such as substance abuse and risky sexual behavior."
If you confuse children by awakening sexual desires reserved for adults or encourage children to have multiple sexual experiences then you will reap the consequences of more abortions, more anti religious bigotry, and most importantly more broken homes.
You say it is going to seek respect for all forms of sexuality or that it is inclusion or compassion or human flourishing. But those are all lies.
You will be encouraging children down this wrong path that is stated in Romans 1: 25-32, " For they exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed forever. Amen. For this reason God gave them over to degrading passions; for their women exchanged the natural function for that which is unnatural, and in the same way also men abandoned the natural function of the woman and burned in their desire toward one another, men with men committing indecent acts and receiving in their own persons the due penalty of their error. And just as they did not see fit to acknowledge God any longer, God gave them over to a depraved mind, to do those things which are not proper, being filled with all unrighteousness, wickedness, greed, evil; fulll of envy, murder, strife, deceit, malice,; they are gossips, slanderers, haters of God, insolent, arrogant, boastful, inventors of evil, disobedient to parents, without understanding, untrustworthy, unloving, unmerciful, and although they know the ordinance of God, that those who practice such things are worthy of death, they not only do the same, but also give hearty approval to those who practice them".
The youth movements of Nazi Germany and Communist Russia were startlingly similar states Peter Hitchens, in his book "The Rage Against God". All of this is wrong and if you are for the children YOU MUST REJECT All of the sex 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 *

Eric

Last name *

Fuchtman

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Naoma

Last name *

Macke

City *

Creighton

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 my opinion that the Nebraska Department of Education should scrap the proposed Draft 2 of the proposed Health Education Standards.
They are a violation of the parents' God given right and responsibility to be the primary educator of their children, especially in the areas of sex education and racial bias. I do not believe that schools should be teaching children about sexual anatomy and gender identity.That belongs in the home. Schools were formed to assist parents in educating their children in Math, Science, Writing and Social Studies.
The proposed standards are not part of the Nebraska Department of Education and State Board of Education mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. The legislation failed to pass mandatory sex education in 2011 and 2013. The NDE and SBOE do not need to produce health standards. However the State Board of Education gave themselves additional powers in 2014.
Therefore I ask that the proposed Health Education Standards be scrapped and let parents decide what is best for 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 *

Naoma

Last name *

Macke

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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 *

Jason

Last name *

Jacobs

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 wrote at length why I wasn't in support of Draft #1 and the same reasoning applies to draft #2, despite the changes. Vague language leaves open the possibility of extreme leftist ideologies relating to human sexuality, gender, and new "family" structures being taught to small and impressionable children. We don't need any form of comprehensive sex education. Nebraska citizens have spoken on this by voting it down in legislative form numerous times. Please get rid of draft #2 and any future drafts and let parents continue to be responsible for the sexual education of their own children at times they deem to be age appropriate. 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 *

Jason

Last name *

Jacobs

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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 *

Jackie

Last name *

Mahr

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.)

Please stop the overstepping of your boundaries. Teaching young innocent children about lewd behavior is unacceptable. It robs them of their childhood and is none the schools business.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Javkie

Last name *

Mahr

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Randy

Last name *

Gibson

City *

Alda

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.)

Having reviewed the proposed 2nd draft for State of Nebraska standards for Comprehensive Sex Education, I am writing the Nebraska Board of Education in opposition to the adoption of these standards. I am urging you, the Board to completely scrap these standards. These standards are not required by statute and therefore are not needed.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Randy

Last name *

Gibson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Lynette

Last name *

Beshm

City *

Minden

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.)

Scrap the Standards! Eliminate the National Sex Education Standards from the educational plan - PERMANENTLY! Let the parents & grandparents teach their children about morals and sex. Also eliminate anything close to Critical Race Theory. Get back to the basics of teaching our precious children and forget the progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division & hate. Protect the innocence of 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 *

Lynette

Last name *

Beahm

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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 *

Lori

Last name *

Gibson

City *

Alda

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.)

Having reviewed the 2nd draft of the standards. I am in opposition of them being taught. I stand with all those who are against the comprehensive sex education and critical race theory standards. Scrape the 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 *

Lori

Last name *

Gibson

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Debra

Last name *

Armbrust

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.)

In review of the sex education the Nebraska board of education has determined should be included in the Health curriculum, I am appalled! Our children should not receive this information at these tender ages unless your intent is to create proverted adults. Their minds are too young to process this information. Students will not ask questions because they won't want to be ridiculed by their peers. It is not the schools' teachers job to teach sex & beliefs to our children. It is the parents/family job. It is the schools' teachers job to teach the basics of reading, writing, arithmetic, science & true history. Until ALL students excel in these basics, I suggest that you do not add more. Sex Education needs to be removed from the Health curriculum.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Debra

Last name *

Armbrust

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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 *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Griffith

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.)

Opening the door to CSE leaves the schools exposed to the entire curriculum that comes as a package deal. See the free curriculum at “advocatesforyouth.org” as an example. If Nebraska is using NSES as a resource, then Nebraska has CSE Standards.
As Governor Ricketts has pointed out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. The Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. The SBOE, in 2014, granted itself the power to oversee Health Education as well as Fine Arts, Physical education, World Languages, Career and Technical Education. Why?
Legislative failures to mandate CSE in Nebraska in 2011 and 2013 could have been a factor.
These standards could be thrown away today and there would be no repercussions. Parents would continue to be the primary educators of their children. Based on the multiple reasons listed above, these Draft #2 Standards MUST be scrapped. The NDE and the SBOE are continuing to overstep their authority.
#scrapthestandards

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

Last name *

Griffith

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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 *

Laurie

Last name *

Horn

City *

Holdrege

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 implore you to scrap the proposed health standards. Draft 2 is basically the same as Draft 1 except the language used might be "more acceptable". Draft 2 is subject to put the same things in place as Draft 1 that people of Nebraska DO NOT want. You have lost the trust of multitudes of parents and many schools by releasing CSE and CRT concepts. You have heard loud and clear that Nebraska parents/schools do not want the State Board of Education deciding what will be taught in this regard.
Parents are the ones who are to be teaching sexuality/beliefs/morals to their children. Do not impose these standards in the Nebraska against the will of the vast majority of parents. You have heard repeatedly it is NOT what they want for their children. Is it truly your right to decide otherwise?

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 *

Horn

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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 *

Amber

Last name *

Brown

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.)

Scrap draft 2. We do not need to add any of that information.

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 *

Brown

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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 *

Brittney

Last name *

Williams

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.)

As a resident of Nebraska my entire life and a graduate for Omaha Public Schools I am full support of comprehensive sexual education. We know better so we should do better.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Brittney

Last name *

Williams

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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 *

Amy

Last name *

Tharp

City *

Broken Bow

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 still strongly disagree with the standards.
Where are the medical professionals and counselors that have experience in child development, treating, or counseling that should have been utilized in writing these "new/improved" health standards?
I strongly disagree with having people from OutNebraska, Planned Parenthood former employees and strong LGBTQ supports and Critical Race Supporters dominating the group that wrote these.
Where did you get your MD, OD or PhD in child development?
Children don't see color. They see their classmates as friends or not. They just want to play, have friends and learn. They shouldn't be indoctrinated to think they have to apologize for their skin color, whatever it may be. It doesn't matter. They either have good parents that teach them to have character and kindness in their heart.
You have no balance. You have no people of faith when 10% of Nebraska kids are taught in parochial schools.
You have failed to hear Nebraskans.
You have failed to remember this is a Republic and majority rules. You are all depraved individuals for even entertaining these proposed standards.
You've failed to remember that "WE THE PEOPLE" are your employer.
Kids should not be part of a continued indoctrination experiment regarding the topics of race or sexuality. I am appalled and sickened by your utter disregard for the children of Nebraska.
SCRAP THE STANDARDS!!!!!
SCRAP THE NEBRASKA 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 *

Amy

Last name *

Tharp

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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 *

Stephanie

Last name *

Montgomery

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 a parent, I was disappointed to learn that the second draft of Nebraska's Health Education Standards excludes many topics essential to helping kids stay safe and healthy. I worry that the Board of Education is bowing to political pressure at the expense of our kids.

Some opponents of inclusive, comprehensive health education have framed issues such as sexually transmitted disease (STD) and pregnancy prevention, sexual orientation, gender identity, consent, and non-heterosexual family structures as too political or controversial for Nebraska. However, as a member of the LGBTQ+ community and a mom and stepmom to kids who identify as nonbinary and pansexual, these issues are very personal to our family.

Decades of research shows that comprehensive sex education programs at schools work to help kids delay sex, form healthy relationships, avoid STDs and unplanned pregnancies and stay safer from sexual abuse and interpersonal violence. While I talk about issues like sexuality, gender, and consent with my kids, I fear that many parents don't know how to have these conversations. Worse, some might further stigmatize LGBTQ+ people in the process.

All kids, no matter their sexuality or gender identity, deserve to receive accurate information about how to stay healthy, and to feel welcome at school. Public schools can and should be a part of the village that helps families keep their kids safe. Ignoring LGBTQ+ youth and their unique health education needs in their programming amounts to discrimination.

My stepchild, Katrina, experienced this first-hand at Palmyra Junior/Senior High. Not only did her health education not include information about sexual orientation or gender identity, her teacher had no clue how to address questions when asked, leaving it up to students to discuss them amongst themselves. As you might imagine, this left the LGBTQ+ students in the room feeling alone.

As Katrina recounted, "I felt disappointed. To the other kids it was such a foreign topic, and not in the same realm as heterosexual sex. They found it hilarious. But it's really not funny. The fact that my teacher didn't know what to say when I asked about anything sexual that wasn't straight, it was really saddening."

She added, "anything not seen as the norm is shunned by most public schools, especially rural. It's seen as an alternative 'lifestyle,' so any kid that's a part of the community feels insanely alienated."

The consequences of pretending that LGBTQ+ kids don't exist in our schools are seriously scary. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, LGBTQ+ individuals face health disparities linked to stigma, discrimination, and denial of their civil and human rights, including high rates of psychiatric disorders, substance abuse, and suicide. LGBTQ+ youth are more likely to be victims of bullying, dating violence, and sexual violence. They also face significant disparities related to STDs, HIV, and accessing cancer prevention screenings.

The good news - research has shown inclusion can dramatically impact health outcomes and reduce rates of suicide for LGBTQ+ youth. The CDC recommends that schools play a part by offering health curricula with information relevant to LGBTQ+ youth, and to promote acceptance and support for LGBTQ+ students from their peers.

I urge the Board of Education to follow the guidance provided by the CDC, and other public health professionals, and offer Health Education Standards that are evidence-based and inclusive of all Nebraska kids. Our schools have an obligation to create an environment where all students feel safe and supported, and our kids deserve access to the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to stay safe and healthy.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Stephanie

Last name *

Montgomery

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Laurie

Last name *

Hauschild

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 a teacher, recently retired after 32 years. I strongly support the proposed health education standards as written. I read the first draft just before I attended Governor Ricketts' town hall in Grand Island and found them to be accurate, well designed, and helpful in giving kids information they need to make sense of the world. The factual details should please parents who prioritize scientific accuracy; the emphasis in the standards on treating others with respect should be a plus for parents who prioritize a "love thy neighbor" moral approach. I was dismayed at the town hall progressed to hear Governor Ricketts describe the standards as something dangerous that threatened parental authority, as "non-scientific," and even claiming they were "grooming" our children—- none of which I saw any sign of in the standards when I'd just read them. It was heartbreaking to see Nebraskans forming their opinion based on a description that seemed to me not to truly describe the standards— the Governor encouraged them to comment to you, and I'm just afraid that they may have simply trusted his characterization and didn't read the standards themselves— I certainly hope not, because the standards were excellent. The only place I agreed with the governor was that in the description of different types of families, the traditional nuclear family should not have been left out, which appeared to be an oversight. Even something as simple as teaching anatomically correct terms can help protect small children, since sexual predators sometimes prey on very young children precisely because they don't have the words to describe what's being done to them. The more knowledge we can give them to help, the better. Please approve the standards—- one of my former students pointed out that as a child of two moms he would have been subjected to far less bullying growing up if children had been taught to respect many kinds of families—- it's an excellent point. My compliments to the team that designed the standards; they were very well done.

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 *

Hauschild

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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 *

Marni

Last name *

Hodgen

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.)

Draft 2 is extremely vague. There are no reasons to believe the NDE board after draft 1 was released. Books on gender identity and sexual relationships are in our puic school libraries, it's already in our schools. Teachers (some) are putting up LGBTQ and BLM flags up in their classrooms. Scrap the standards. Get back to the basics of Reading Writing and Arithmetic. Our country and state have horrible placement in our math and science rankings. Please stop wasting children's time on things like kindergarteners needing to know how many ounces of water people should drink per day. 2nd graders don't need to set goals of drinking their recommended ounces or know the definition of calories. Keep the CSE and CRT out, scrap the 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 *

Marni

Last name *

Hodgen

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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 *

Nila

Last name *

Howard

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.)

Opening the door to
CSE leaves the schools exposed to the entire curriculum that comes as a package deal. If Nebraska is using NSES as a resource, then Nebraska has CSE Standards.
As Governor Ricketts has pointed out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. The Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. The SBOE, in 2014, granted itself the power to oversee Health Education as well as Fine Arts, Physical education, World Languages, Career and Technical Education. Why?
Legislative failures to mandate CSE in Nebraska in 2011 and 2013 could have been a factor.
These standards could be thrown away today and there would be no repercussions. Parents would continue to be the primary educators of their children. Based on the multiple reasons listed above, these Draft #2 Standards MUST be scrapped. The NDE and the SBOE are continuing to overstep their authority.
#scrapthestandards

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Nila

Last name *

Howard

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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 *

Christopher

Last name *

Howard

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.)

Opening the door to
CSE leaves the schools exposed to the entire curriculum that comes as a package deal. If Nebraska is using NSES as a resource, then Nebraska has CSE Standards.
As Governor Ricketts has pointed out, Health Education Standards are not even necessary. The Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. The SBOE, in 2014, granted itself the power to oversee Health Education as well as Fine Arts, Physical education, World Languages, Career and Technical Education. Why?
Legislative failures to mandate CSE in Nebraska in 2011 and 2013 could have been a factor.
These standards could be thrown away today and there would be no repercussions. Parents would continue to be the primary educators of their children. Based on the multiple reasons listed above, these Draft #2 Standards MUST be scrapped. The NDE and the SBOE are continuing to overstep their authority.
#scrapthestandards

Signature

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Signed,

First name *

Christopher

Last name *

Howard

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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 *

LaNette

Last name *

Bendix

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 a grandparent with grandchildren in the public school system and I pay plenty of taxes to the great state of Nebraska. I am appalled that the NSBE would even consider implementing CSE and CRT in our public schools. CSE is mentally and emotionally damaging to these young and innocent minds……minds that are not fully developed and not capable of recognizing this as garbage. Parents will teach their children what they want them to know and when it is appropriate for their child. These children belong to their parents, not the state and it is the PARENTS decision. As far as CRT is concerned, it is racist in itself…….politicized indoctrination that will further tear this country down. Our Unitied States of America is decaying from within and CRT and CSE are playing a large part of our descent. The second draft you are proposing, at first glance, seems toned down from the first, but I think it is vague and open to interpretation and just a way to " come in the back door". It is not your duty to set health and sex ed standards and this whole idea needs to be scrapped! Stick to the core subjects that will produce strong, mentally healthy and productive citizens….educate and not indoctrinate!

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

LaNette

Last name *

Bendix

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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 *

Pamela

Last name *

Laird

City *

Cozad

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.)

Scrap the 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 *

Pamela

Last name *

Laird

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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 *

Bendix

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 am a tax paying citizen of the state of Nebraska. I am against the teaching of CSE to children. It is not required and it will ruin these kids mental and emotional health. It is a waste of tax payers money to buy the trash library books and curriculums. Scrap the health standards…..all of it! CRT is about as racist as it gets….PERIOD!!!

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 *

Bendix

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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 *

Neuheisel

City *

O'Neill

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.)

If I was naive, I would look at this 2nd draft and think it was ok. It still supports the teaching of several ideologies and theories as fact, but otherwise, most of the controversial terms have been removed. However, what we're left with is vagueness, which leads me to believe that nothing has really changed within it.

For example, the first draft proposed to teach kindergarteners accurate terminology for genitalia. The second draft states kindergarteners will "state accurate names for body parts". Seems similar, only more vague. There are multiple examples of this throughout the document.

My sons are ages 8 and 6 and they will be entering third and first grade. I am beyond appalled at the terminology used and the ideology taught within these standards at these grade levels. It is not only inappropriate, but it's grooming. And, I know, the controversial terms were taken out right? I don't believe that to be the case. The vagueness within the second draft opens the door for teaching the same ideologies without accountability.

I don't understand how educated professional educators could have read through draft one and even thought of proposing it to us to begin with. Have you ever spent time with a kindergartener or second grader? I have 4 children, 8 and under. Not only do they not need sex ed, period, they certainly don't need to be taught radical sexual terminology that makes them susceptible to predation. The fact that the board even presented the first draft to us at all leads to serious concerns about their credibility and integrity and discredits any future draft, as we are no longer able to trust the judgment of the writers.

As a mother of four children, I entrust my children to the public school and their staff 9 months of the year to teach them the academics they need to eventually succeed in society. However, make no mistake, I am the primary educator of my children, especially when it involves morals, matters of faith and matters of sexuality. The proposed ideas are propagated by private special interest groups hungry for money and power, at the expense of my children's safety and long-term well-being. These topics and their biases have no place in a public school system funded by me and taxpayers of all belief systems.

Our public schools should be a place of unbiased, non-political, enthusiastic academic learning. It should not be a place that supports the teaching of unproven theories, radical political agendas and sexual ideologies. This only serves to demoralize my children and strip them of their innocence prematurely, and I won't have it. If these standards pass in any way, shape or form, I will find an alternative to public schooling, be it parochial schooling, home schooling or moving to South Dakota if need be. #scrapthestandards.

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 *

Neuheisel

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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 *

Kristen

Last name *

DuPree

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 a mother of two, who favors decisions based on data. I am very disappointed to see the standards covering different family structures, gender identities and comprehensive sex education removed from the second draft.

The gender identity topics were included at the recommendation of the American Academy of Pediatrics (among other professional medical organizations) to help promote safe and secure learning environments for ALL students. As you are aware, trans and gender non-conforming (GNC) youth are 2x more likely to experience violence than their cis-gender peers and 5x times more likely to attempt suicide. These statistics are alarming.

I'd like to share a story about my 5 year-old. A few months ago, when I was picking her up from day care, she asked me, "Mom, can girls can turn into boys?" I was caught a little bit of guard, and said, why do you ask? She told me that one of the class room assistants recently went from being called Ms. "Katie" to Mr. "Kevin." Oh ok. So, I answered her question in an honest and relatable way that seemed to satisfy her curiosity.

After that discussion, it was quite obviously to me of how easy it is for parents to pass on their own biases and judgment to their young children. Imagine if another parent responded with, "No, that's inappropriate", "No, that doesn't happen", "Stay away from that teacher." Now, at 5 years old, this child associates trans or GNC people as scary, different and other than.

Excluding gender identity discussions from the Health Standards perpetuates the stigma that is causing so much harm to certain students. The APA recognizes that the health of these students is at risk, and these classroom discussions are a way to mitigate that risk.

Please don't give in to the loud and often misinformed crowds of people showing up to testify at meetings. I urge you to listen to the consensus advice of experts, level-headed parents, and the youth that show up to share their own experiences. Please request a 3rd draft of the standards that include necessary topics to make all students feel safe and welcome in their 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 *

Kristen

Last name *

DuPree

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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 *

McCarthy

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 support age-appropriate, comprehensive, medically accurate sexuality and sexual health education for 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 *

Molly

Last name *

McCarthy

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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 *

Patrick

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.)

My name is Patrick Martin, and I am a lifelong Nebraskan, tax-payer, business owner, parent, and educator. I would say that all of these roles qualify me to be called a stakeholder in the Nebraska education system. On its website, the State Board of Education—all of you—states that one of it's goals is to "build connections amongst stakeholders to take action in support of success for all learners." On the section of the website introducing the Commissioner of Education, some of the values listed are "honesty, integrity, and trust." Through this entire process with the Health Education Standards, this board has acted in direct opposition to these stated goals. You have broken trust with countless parents, stakeholders, and tax payers in the Nebraska education system. And once trust is broken, it's almost impossible to regain it. American citizens have been messed around by the government for years. Government takes our income and we put up with it. When we sell things, the government taxes our property and we put up with it. The government has its hand and nose in our business in nearly everything we do and we put up with it. But now you people are getting pretty personal with our children and opening the door to expose them to all manner of debauchery as well as laying the foundation for a playground for abusers and traffickers. If you pursue a momma bear, she will probably pick up and move to a new territory. If you take away her food source, she will seek out a new one. She'll essentially, put up with it. But if you mess with her cubs, she will come at you. So here we are. You might think that your watered down draft two is going to appease us, the majority of Nebraskans, but you are wrong. You've crossed the line and we aren't going to back down when the future of our children is at stake. I guess you are reaching one of your goals—we ARE taking action in support of success for our kids. But as far as honesty, integrity, trust? There's none, and there will be none until you scrap 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 *

Patrick

Last name *

Martin

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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.)

My name is Elissa Martin and I am writing as a Nebraska business owner, tax payer, parent, and educator. I am very concerned about the proposed health standards adding more to teachers' already over full plates and taking more valuable educational time from core subjects such as reading and math. The NAEP (National Assessment of Educational Programs) defines the proficient level on the nation's report card in math and reading this way: "Students reaching this level have demonstrated competency over challenging subject matter, including subject matter knowledge, application of such knowledge to real world situations, and analytical skills appropriate to the subject matter. Thus, NAEP Proficient represents the goal for what all students should know" . In 2019, only 34% of Nebraska's 8th graders scored at or above this level . That means that 66% did not! Math scores are a bit better, with 37% of the 8th graders at the profiencite level, but this still falls far short of the NDE goals of preparing "all learners to be college, career, and civic ready" and to "lead and support the preparation of all Nebraskans for learning, earning, and living." I'm fairly certain that ALL is not defined as over 60% who are not prepared. High school isn't much better. The performance level definitions given for ACT scores administered to high school juniors consider scores between 18 and 22 to be "on track" where students at this level are "LIKELY to be able to access credit bearing first year related content courses at SOME Nebraska postsecondary institutions without remediation." In 2020, Nebraska's average ACT composite score was 19.9, which is down from 2019. This places Nebraska students squarely in the on track category, rather than the desired ACT benchmark of college career ready. If we look at this data, I think we can all agree that the State Board of Education would be better serving Nebraska students by focusing more on core instruction and improvement in reading and math for ALL students, regardless of how they identify by race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status or any other label you would like to apply, rather than by wasting more time, energy, and resources on yet another draft of these standards. Just scrap the health standards, and get back to educating 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 *

Elissa

Last name *

Martin

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Kristen

Last name *

Widman

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.)

My name is Kristen and I am a mother of two and was a paraprofessional in my kids' school for the last two years. I am writing in opposition of Draft 2 of the proposed standards in its entirety. As a para I sat through multiple different classes and can assure you that the things that need to be taught are already being taught in an appropriate manner. Regarding health class in particular, I have been in both a 7th grade health class as well as a 9th grade health class, and in both instances the students were taught age appropriate, cut and dry material backed by science. It is deeply concerning to me the items in the draft of the standards that are being proposed that would stray from the concrete path our school is already on.

As I'm sure you are aware, suicide is the second leading cause of death in all youth 10-24 years old. According to The Jason Foundation, "each day in our nation, there are an average of over 3,703 attempts by young people grades 9-12. If these percentages are additionally applied to grades 7 & 8, the numbers would be higher." It absolutely floors me that the writers of the proposed standards believe that teaching 3rd graders about masturbation will solve this problem. Or that by making everything about equity these children will excel and find their meaning in life. The truth is that these standards will produce the exact opposite result.

Although our son is #1 in his class, always scores above the benchmark for both our district and the state, and is a shining star for the school, we are now pulling our kids out of public school. I absolutely will not let my kids be a part of the sociology experiment you are opening the door to with these proposed standards. My children will not be a part of the public school system again unless the proposed standards are completely eliminated, and the Nebraska Board of Education focuses their time and energy on providing the students of Nebraska quality education in the core subjects. We really like our school and the teachers and the support staff, but as a parent I have lost all trust for the board that oversees my children's education.

We will not back down. We will not waiver. We will not stand to the side and let you sexualize children in the name of a political ideology. Politics has no room in a K-12 classroom. And when the number of children leaving the public school system continues to increase, and the best test scores in the state aren't coming from the public school system, they will look back at this pivotal moment in time and recognize that the Nebraska Board of Education wavering from their mission of education and visible disdain for the parents speaking out against the proposed standards, was the tipping point. The proposed standards in their entirety MUST be scrapped. The state board needs to remove the proposed standards from the situation and let individual school boards make these decisions for their districts and parents make them for 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 *

Kristen

Last name *

Widman

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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 *

Joan

Last name *

Davis

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.)

I oppose Critical Race Theory because the take-away message is that people of color are essentially victims of the past, present and future; and are victims of white people who are perpetrators of evil toward people of color. This is a lie. This is not every person's experience in life -- black or white or any color for that matter. There are evil people in this world and unfortunately people of color have been victims, but this is a flaw of individuals, not a system opposed to people of color.

I am a proud white-skinned grandmother of two beautiful bi-racial grandsons. One is brown and the other is white and they are brothers-- by our biracial daughter-in-law and our white son. So, my brown-skinned grandson will be taught to feel "less than" his white-skinned brother? This is nonsense! It is a theory, not the truth. I can only imagine the anguish and confusion in our grandson's minds because of this skewed teaching. This curriculum is divisive, not educational. You insistence to push your agenda is driving parents away from public schools system. We can't trust you. Parents will not tolerate this!

School boards across the country and in Nebraska are attempting to stuff this type of social change propaganda down our throats, starting with our children. This is not true education. How dare you! These are our children and grandchildren. You have crossed a sacred boundary. Our children are not yours to tamper with. Your job is not to promote social change. Parents will not tolerate this!

Critical Race Theory Curriculum needs to be aborted. It is a theory attempting to be taught as FACT. This is wrong. Instead, focus on teaching our children that there is hope for unity among the diversity of our world; every person is valuable. We do not need these divisive "standards".

I also oppose any form of the Comprehensive Sex Education curriculum, (CSE) which will not achieve what the board expects it to accomplish. My grandkids (and other children) will be confused and traumatized by this content. I say "NO" to this CSE: It is a pornographic, sexual grooming curriculum. Both CRT and CSE belong in the trash heap.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Joan

Last name *

Davis

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Identification

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First name *

Deana

Last name *

Calderon

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.)

I am currently a stay at home mother of a 5 year old boy and a 4 year old girl. I have 8 years of experience working for the public schools as a para professional. Last year, due to covid, I decided to purchase a preschool curriculum and homeschool! I plan to return to work outside of the home in September. My 5 year old will attend kindergarten at a public school and my 4 year old will attend preschool at a private Lutheran School. I do not intend nor wish to homeschool from here on out. However, I will have to homeschool or consider private school if these new health standards are passed.

I believe it is absolutely imperative for our children's future and the well being of our country that these new health standards be completed scrapped. Draft 2 still consist of Critical race theory words and ideas. The wording in draft 2 seems more appealing to the untrained eye, but I assure you, it is not. It is the "gateway drug" if you will, for CRT.
I urge the NDE to get rid of the new health standards completely. This is not the job or rights of a public school system to teach our children these topics or ideologies.

The Legislature mandates the NDE and SBOE to oversee only 5 areas. Those are Math, Science, Reading, Writing, and Social Studies. I believe these are the only 5 they should be allowed to oversee. In 2014, the SBOE granted itself the power to oversee Health Education. That is an abuse of power. Enough is enough. Please scrap the standards, revert back to only overseeing Math, Science, Reading, Writing and Social Studies. Leave the sex/health education to the parents and guardians. I urge you to please scrap the new health Standards completely and save the public schools and 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 *

Deana

Last name *

Calderon

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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 *

Jaime

Last name *

Schmidt

City *

Firth

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,

I am writing to tell you that the only way you can build trust back in the community of parents who send their children to Nebraska Public Schools is to scrap the drafts of the comprehensive sex education completely. By leaving the door open to teach gender identity and equity you show that you do not have protection of children as the goal of your work and that you will not be able to be trusted by Nebraskans who want to see our children educated, not indoctrinated. As representatives of the people who are raising the next generation, the department should be fighting against harmful exposure to graphic sexualization of children and divisive CRT, not just revising and watering down the proposed wording and leaving doors open to expand in the future. Close the door on the wrong choices you have allowed in the past and show us you are turning in a new and wise direction. Scrap the Standards!
Sincerely, Jaime Schmidt

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jaime

Last name *

Schmidt

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Identification

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First name *

Paige

Last name *

Yockey

City *

Phillips

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards also contained CRT components which teaches hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. CRT is totally opposite of what our incredible American country was founded upon. How can parents ever trust NDE again? They allowed the presentation of Draft #1 and they also continue to support CRT through their “Equity Lens” and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Paige

Last name *

Yockey

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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 *

Angie

Last name *

Klein

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.)

Good morning Nebraska State School Board, thank you for the opportunity to testify this morning. I am Angie Klein from Bellevue, Nebraska.
Today I stand before you in opposition to the new Health Care Standards draft number 2 that this board is considering. There are several reasons that I am in opposition of these standards.
We have nations say we will no longer participate in this curriculum because they have seen firsthand the damage that occurs to students that have participated in the curriculum. Whole nations- now that is saying something about what this curriculum embraces. At the local level here in Nebraska we have seen 47 schools(districts) tell the state school board we will not participate in this curriculum. Personally, I've seen my transgender friends struggle during their formative years find their way into a school counselors office and in a few short years find out they are sterile for life. I have personal friends that have struggled with pornography (including my very own husband from the age of 10) because of a textbook in their school. Back in my day we didn't have books like "It's Perfectly Normal" to help facilitate the sexualization of children.
Yet, today we find it appropriate to have this book and others in the OPS/LPS libraries and some of these books have found their way into classrooms. I am not even allowed to take this book and make a YouTube of it- I am not allowed to open it up and display it in a video because it would be censored because it is deemed inappropriate and pornographic by YouTube itself. Yet this board says it is okay to now introduce it to our schools as a supplemental book for the sake of inclusion and for the sake of education. This is madness and makes no sense what so ever.
As a former homosexual I understand where the other side is coming from. I remember feeling misunderstood. I remember the need to belong, to be noticed, to be heard. That isn't a sexual issue that is fixed by a health education standard. It is a deeper issue of brokenness. This curriculum doesn't fix brokenness but for may it will lead them into a lifetime of confession.
Thank you, board, for submitting the first draft standards in doing so you submitted the intent of your hearts. Also thank you for those you have put on the advisory committee and the writing committee of this curriculum it just solidifies even more really what the intent is here. Draft #2 does not address the concerns that have been spoken at these meetings but rather has hide itself behind a façade that appears to appease those in opposition. We can see right through it and we calling a spade a spade.
For those of you in this room in opposition we must continue to show up, we must continue to speak up. We must continue to demand change. We must go to our local school boards and say "no not on our watch". We must continue to protect those who cannot and protect those who will go through our public-school systems. A generation is asking us to do this and one day that generation might look you in the eye and ask what did you do. When my daughter and when my son asks what did you do? I want to be able to say Daddy and Mommy did all they could. Daddy and Mommy chose to do the hard thing for you and for your children and their children and the thousands of students in Nebraska because we saw the danger and destruction that was coming upon you. We saw how the children were being destroyed and we declared not on our watch. It is time to arise and it is time to let your voices be heard.
Thank you state school board for your time today.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Angie

Last name *

Klein

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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 *

Shauna

Last name *

Hundley

City *

Hickman

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 asking that the State Board of Education reconsider the proposed health standards. Although a majority of the proposed standards are age-appropriate and content-appropriate; the sexual health portions are not. As a former public school teacher of over a decade, I cannot imagine having to look at a classroom of elementary students and teach what these standards propose. As a mom, I'm mortified that kids as young as five could be introduced to such inappropriate content. It is simply developmentally unsuitable and wrong. The "experts" who wrote these standards may be intellectually adept in their fields of study, but they lack all common sense that defines appropriateness. I respect that at a certain age some appropriate sexual health may need to be covered (in a tasteful and tactful way!) as part of a wellness unit, but it has no place in elementary schools. Anyone suggesting that these standards are appropriate for children have no interest in protecting the health and wellness of Nebraska students. Let our kids be little and revise these awfully written 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 *

Shauna

Last name *

Hundley

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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 *

Stephanie

Last name *

Bondi

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.)

this is a complex issue and it is not neutral opinion versus opinion. Some values have more damaging consequences we must not ignore if we are focused on healthy and equitable learning environments where all children can reach their potential. We generally urge educators to be outcome driven so let's explore the outcomes of various perspectives on the proposed health education standards.

The opinions that schools should not talk about body parts gives the power to family members to teach kids about their bodies. As a parent, I like to have that power. Yet, evidence suggests physical and sexual abuse happens at alarming rates. A primary concern of most of us is protecting children. I am therefore in favor of empowering kids to report abuse. Can we agree that protecting children from abuse should be held above all else? If evidence-based practice is to name body parts, explain what is and is not consent, and invite kids to report abuse then can we get behind these lessons to protect our kids?
Some have argued diverse gender identities and sexualities should not be discussed in schools. There are many reasons for this being valued in the public and we know people want their values to be honored by the school. This where it gets complicated. The cost of honoring those values is marginalization and invisibility of trans, non-binary and lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual, and two-spirit people.

Schools to date have failed to acknowledge the existence of gender and sexual diversity leaving youth who identify or are exploring their identities with few choices: it asks them to either go it alone in their own truth, hide who they are, or to deny who they are in order to fit within accepted norms. The identity covering maneuvers are emotionally and physically taxing, also are the going it alone which leaves youth open to bullying and isolation, all these reducing capacity for learning. Evidence also says these can be traumatic experiences having long-lasting impacts. We even lose the lives of a few youth each year who drown in isolation, stigma, and hopelessness. However, the consequences of valuing the need to acknowledge diverse gender identities and sexuality seems to be angering opponents and opening space in schools for youth who identify as LGBTQIA2S to be valued and live as their authentic selves.

The idea that people talking about diverse genders and sexuality causes youth to become gay or trans does not bear out in personal experiences or research. In fact, most of the people who have accepted their LGBTQIA2S identities in the 20 and 21st centuries have done it despite having few or no people in their lives who openly support and validate these identities. Parents of trans and queer kids will often tell of how their kids expressed their identities without these influences and some well before schooling age.
There is indeed a great deal of public pressure to have health education that reflects historical attitudes about gender and sexuality. In the past, we did not have the wealth of literature to refer to that we do now. Medical and psychology professionals have changed course to validate diverse gender and sexuality identities. Research shows that talking to kids about these things in developmentally appropriate ways is healthy and necessary. What credible up to date research suggests that ignoring the reality of our schools and communities is appropriate?

Although the public opinion is not, the evidence is clear on what should be included in the health standards. Please reinstate the removed portions of the standards to align with evidence-based education that supports the helath and wellbeing of the breadth and depth of our schools and communities in Nebraska.

Signature

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Stephanie

Last name *

Bondi

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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 *

Wally

Last name *

Graeber

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 believe our standards must be improved to include a more holistic approach at all age levels. I approve of additional guidance that gives teachers and families the tools to guide students through their health and understanding how our community can support their identity. Thank you for pushing past the resistance to create educated, compassionate, and informed children in our schools.

Grateful, Wally Graeber
former AmeriCorps/ FOODCORPS Member 2014

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Wally

Last name *

Graeber

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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 *

Marie

Last name *

Neumann

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 Marie Neumann, and I am the mother of two children in an OPS elementary school and one medically-complex toddler at home; I'm also an employee at UNMC. I am writing to express my deep concern for the school district's 2021-2022 plan that makes masks optional and ask that you mandate masks in our schools. The plan to make masks optional goes against the guidance of both the Centers for Disease Control and the American Academy of Pediatrics; ignores the science on COVID transmission in kids and on the effectiveness of masks; and fails to give our youngest kids—who are not yet vaccine eligible but will be soon—a chance to evade infection after over a year of sacrifice. All available evidence indicates that SARS-CoV-2 will spread wildly in schools without mitigation efforts—including universal masking—firmly in place. The CDC and the American Academy of Pediatrics agree; both agencies have released guidance indicating that schools should mandate masks for students, staff, and visitors. As a local leader, you should listen to them.

Though infections in our state declined in the late spring and early summer as vaccination rates increased, new variants like Delta pose a serious threat.

The science is clear on COVID and kids is clear: children can be infected with SARS-CoV-2, can get sick with and die of COVID-19, and can spread the virus to others.1-3 As of the first week of July 2021, more than 200,000 kids in the U.S. had been hospitalized and nearly 400 kids had died from COVID. A tragically disproportionate number of these kids who experienced severe illness or death were young people of color, 4 whose social and economic vulnerabilities put them at especially high risk. While kids are less likely than adults to experience severe illness or death, the long term consequences of COVID infection on neurological, lung, metabolic, and cardiovascular function are still unknown. Recent studies estimate that anywhere from 10-45% of kids under 12 who are infected with SARS-CoV-2 experience "long haul" symptoms that last more than five weeks after diagnosis5-6, even if they experience mild acute infection. This is all to say, kids have not been and will not be spared in this pandemic. Importantly, kids can also transmit COVID to their unvaccinated, immunocompromised, and otherwise vulnerable family members and friends, which further contributes to community spread and the emergence of new variants of the virus and puts the "end" of this pandemic further out of reach.

Families are depending on you to follow the science and protect the health and safety of our kids and community. Our kids deserve to go to school without worrying about getting sick and spreading the virus to their immunocompromised, unvaccinated, or otherwise vulnerable family members, friends, and neighbors. We shouldn't ask our young kids and their parents to choose between going to school and staying healthy and safe, but we may have to pull our kids out of school if there are no mask mandates in place. Young kids will be eligible for vaccines within the next few months. We should give them the opportunity to be vaccinated before asking them to enter our schools and classrooms unprotected. The science supports masks in schools. Wearing masks is a small sacrifice to make in order to ensure that our kids can remain safe while going to go to school, which we know is important for their intellectual, social, and emotional development.

I am asking you to listen to the experts, follow the science, and reject the plan to make masks optional. Masks should be required, especially for our most vulnerable unvaccinated 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 *

Marie

Last name *

Neumann

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Sarah

Last name *

Baltzer

City *

HOOPER

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 grew up in Nebraska schools and now send our 3 children to Logan View. Please do not adopt these standards. Keep public school in its place, and use school to guide students to grow in academics, not indoctrinate them with social and political agendas. Allow parents to choose how to guide their children in the areas that include sex education. Scrap the standards. Focus on academics.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Sarah

Last name *

Baltzer

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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 *

Stephanie

Last name *

Gould

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.)

It is essential to remember that not all children have safe and loving homes with parents who can properly educate them on age-appropriate facts about sexual or gender-related health. This is about science, not religion or politics. This information can keep children safe from harm and exploitation. Providing science-based health information in school does not prohibit parents from discussing these topics at home. However, not providing this information when it is known that there are many kids who do not get this type of education from their parents leaves kids confused and vulnerable. Not discussing sexual health in appropriate ways also continues to perpetuate stigmas that are harmful and potentially dangerous.

The more a child is unaware of what is expected and appropriate, the more they are vulnerable to being harmed with no idea what to do in the face of a scary or confusing situation.

It's is widely reported through science-backed agencies that:
• One in four girls and one in six boys will be sexually abused before they turn 18 years old.
• 12.3 percent of women were age 10 or younger at the time of their first rape/victimization, and 30 percent of women were between the ages of 11 and 17.

In 91% of cases, the abuse was perpetrated by a family member. Children need reliable information from trusted parties outside of their home as a resource. There is no such thing as being overly supported. With statistics like this being a reality, it is short sighted and naive to believe that every parent of every child in our state can get and is currently getting the age-appropriate education about sexual health that is essential for their safety. Please trust our schools to be a part of this solution in the same way we trust them to feed children who don't get enough food, care or other necessary support.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Stephanie

Last name *

Gould

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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 *

Andrea

Last name *

Wright

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 teach sex Ed in the class. As a single mother of a 11 year old boy. I need help with this. I know I can teach him some, but I do not have all the right info to give him, and I don't want him to fill in the gaps with information from other kids. Please take the religion and politics out of this and this about me who is just trying to raise a good man. I need help to do this. I can't do everything on my own. I try hard.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Andrea

Last name *

Wright

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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 *

Diane

Last name *

Kavanaugh

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.)

I am truly appalled at these sex standards! Why on earth would you think that our children need to be taught about masterbation!, oral sex!, anal sex! gender fluidity! If a child is confused about being male or female, a boy or a girl, get them help! It isn't normal! God made male & female only! Mankind's sin nature goes against a Holy God & wants to be god. This whole agenda is to put man first & take God & our Christian morals & values out of society.
In the Bible, 2 Corin 5:10 says " For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.
NO to your sex 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 *

Diane

Last name *

Kavanaugh

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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

Last name *

Tegtmeier

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.)

In his letter to the state's administrators, Commissioner Blomstedt describes "a crisis of confidence" which was fueled by the proposed health education standards. Despite taking "hours of comment" I would assert that the crisis of confidence in the Nebraska State Board of Education remains and may even be greater than when Mr Blomstedt wrote those words.
As the public has been made aware of the committee creating these standards and a true lack of representation by parents and parochial schools, we see an underlying agenda designed to sexualize our children and indoctrinate them with a liberal ideology toward sex that goes against what many of us teach in our homes. There enlies the crux of the problem.
The reason for my personal crisis of confidence in the board stems from the very creation of these standards. Twice the Nebraska State Legislature failed to pass a bill and subsequent resolution concerning health standards. This 49 member legislative body did not feel that health standards needed to be addressed at the state level. Sadly, this small 8 person board decided to circumvent the will of the legislature (the only entity that sits above the Nebraska State Board of Education) and write standards that they were never required by law to do.
Why? Why were these standards so critical when local districts were already teaching health and wellness in their classrooms? Why is the Nebraska State Board of Education wasting so many hours on writing, testimonies, and rewrites when our states' academic proficiency levels need to be addressed?
According to the NDE's own website, the most current proficiency data of the state's eleventh graders shows that in 2019, 58% were considered not proficient in English and 63% not proficient in Math. Let me repeat that. 58% were considered not proficient in English and 63% not proficient in Math.
According to the National School Boards Association, one of the purposes of public education is to: Prepare students for college and the workforce, including preparing them for jobs that may not even exist yet due to rapidly changing technology.
How can such low proficiency levels prepare our students for their future? Why isn't the Nebraska State Board of Education devoting the same amount of hours to improving proficiency that has been devoted to these unlegislated, unnecessary, and morally polarizing health standards?
If you want to rebuild trust, remember this. We don't entrust our children to you to be indoctrinated. We send them to school to be educated. Stay in your lane, focus on academics, and SCRAP THE 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 *

Elizabeth

Last name *

Tegtmeier

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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 *

Scott

Last name *

Klein

City *

Bellevue

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.)

State School Board Testimonial

Good morning members of the state school board and commissioner. My name is Scott Klein of Bellevue, NE and I am a husband and father of two small children ages 6 and 3. I am writing you today to speak about the proposal for the changing of the health care standards used in the education of children in K-12 here in the state of Nebraska.

At the tender age of 10 while in the fourth grade I was introduced to sex education and pornography within months of one another and my life was forever changed. The way that I looked at myself and girls was damaged. A poison was poured in through my eyes and ears, which my young and impressionable mind was not ready to take in.

I spent the next 30 years locked in a destructive addiction that robbed me of so much of my youth and adulthood. Addiction to pornography is as bad as the worst of drug addiction. It completely re-wires the neural pathways in parts of the brain. Those are facts for persons of any age, but it is even more profoundly destructive to the extremely impressionable mind of a 10-year-old boy. The concepts and the curriculum designed to meet your recommendations, curriculum books which are already in OPS and LPS libraries, will be a poisonous set up for tens of thousands of children for generations and generations to come.

If you have children or grandchildren imagine them seeing sexually graphic material at the proposed age-appropriate times laid out in your recommendations. Imagine now that you have injected them with their first drug high, because that is what this will be for so many of these boys and girls. Pornography addiction is an epidemic in this country and for some reason the school systems want to now throw fuel on the fire, as though somehow because it is in an academic setting that it will be ok. That somehow the addictive nature of sexual imagery being shown to young boys and girls won't take hold in the school setting. Respectfully that is foolish thinking, and it will lead to so many boys and girls being unnecessarily harmed in the name of a social experiment.

It is the responsibility of this board to give direction and guidance to the school districts of this state as it relates to education not indoctrination. The parents and grandparents of this great state have woken up to what is going on in the school systems and we will not be silent. We live in a representative republic where we elect peers to represent us, we don't elect our betters to dictate from on high. Leave the parenting to the parents.

God made a way for me to escape from my addiction to porn. God also made a way for you to be elected to this board. You will be held to account for what you did with this responsibility as I am for what I do with each of the responsibilities that He lays upon 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 *

Scott

Last name *

Klein

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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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Moeller

City *

Eagle

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 letter to you because I am very much opposed to Draft #2 of NDE's Health Standards. I oppose Draft #2 for three main reasons: it circumvents current boundaries, it is racist, and it opposes the requests of Nebraska parents.

First, Draft #2 circumvents current boundaries because it violates current state legislation and opposes Nebraska voters. Although modified slightly from Draft #1, Draft #2 still references Critical Race Theory (CRT). The references to CRT are a direct violation of Nebraska State Statute 79-724. This 3-page statute was recently updated with LB399, Americanism, in 2019. Section 1 requires the school board of each school district appoint a 3-member committee to be known as the Committee on American Civics. They are responsible to examine and ensure the social studies curriculum taught in their district teaches foundational knowledge in civics, history, economics, financial literacy, and geography. The curriculum must stress the services of the men and women who played a crucial role in the achievement of national independence, establishment of our constitutional government, and preservation of our union. (5b) The curricula must teach the benefits and advantages of representative government and the dangers and fallacies of forms of government that restrict individual freedoms or possess antidemocratic ideals like Nazism and communism. (7) Every school board, the State Board of Education, and the superintendent of each school district in the state shall be held directly responsible in the order named for carrying out Section 79-724. Neglect thereof by any employee may be considered a cause for dismissal. In addition to CRT, these new Health Standards are not part of your mandate from the legislative body of Nebraska. The NDE DOES NOT need to produce health standards. The legislature failed to pass mandatory sex education (CSE) in 2011 and 2013. Consequently, you are circumventing the voters of Nebraska and current legislation.

Second, Draft #2 is racist. Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards still contains CRT components which teach hate and racism, with skin color being the primary factor in determining if an individual is the oppressor or the oppressed. Character, not color, determines a person's behavior. Racism isn't eradicated by introducing one label over another. You allowed the presentation of Draft #1, and you also continue to support CRT through your "Equity Lens" and the many, many resources located on the NDE website including the 1619 Project and the Zinn Education Project, etc. These drafts and these ideologies are fundamentally racist.

Third, Draft #2 opposes the requests of Nebraska parents. As a result of Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards, I have lost my trust in NDE because you chose to include Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. It's true that Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, trust was not fostered by the NDE or the SBOE by taking four months between the April 2nd SBOE meeting and delivery of Draft #2 on July 29, 2021. It is difficult to trust an organization that takes so long to respond to parental recommendations, especially since Draft #2 seems to be a watered-down version designed to pacify opposition. For all the above, Nebraskans no longer trust the NDE and SBOE members.

In closing, I oppose Draft #2. Please scrap 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 *

Lisa

Last name *

Moeller

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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 *

Jess

Last name *

Parker

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 think it is in the best interest of Nebraska schools to have an adequate inclusive curriculum. The health standards need to include proper body part names, sexuality choice, and a wide view of family dynamics. This curriculum would help guide conversations at home with parents and guardians. It isn't a "one shoe fits all" remedy, but families are also able to opt out through their school districts by simply filling out a form to opt their child out of sex ed. With the revisions made over the past week, I feel like many LGBTQ+ students will feel like they are not recognized or heard. School should be a safe place for these students and their families.
We shouldn't have to continue to change the entire state health curriculum to make straight, old white people comfortable. The curriculum, as it stands, is doing a disservice to those in the Nebraska LGBTQ+ community.
Recognize. Educate. Include.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Jess

Last name *

Parker

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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 *

Michelle

Last name *

Schiel

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 plead that you take a stand against CRT and CSE, and ban the indoctrination of the next generation. Use your powers on the Nebraska State Board of Education.

CRT is already illegal under Section 6 of the Civil Rights act of 1964.

`Title VI, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq., was enacted as part of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1964. It prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. As President John F. Kennedy said in 1963:

Simple justice requires that public funds, to which all taxpayers of all races [colors, and national origins] contribute, not be spent in any fashion which encourages, entrenches, subsidizes or results in racial [color or national origin] discrimination. (justice.gov/crt/fcs/TitleVI-Overview)

Scrap the standards.

Draft #2 of NDE Health Standards, a continued promotion of Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards removed some of the sexually explicit examples and language, which would be taught to Nebraska's children, but the vague nature of the standards allows local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department of Education.

Scrap the standards

This is a "global campaign to promote sexualized material to grade school children which is heralded by the UN, championed by Planned Parenthood and is now making its way into Nebraska schools." I thought the great state of Nebraska promoted healthy values.

I encourage you to read the books promoted, already easily available.

Read "It's Perfectly Normal," which is available to middle school children. It teaches kids how to masturbate and is filled with nitty-gritty details (available at Grand Island Public Library).
Read more of the titles available at elementary schools, including "Introducing Teddy: A Gentle Story About Gender and Friendship," which uses a teddy bear to teach kids that gender isn't determined by biology. There is also "Sparkle Boy," about a toddler's cross-dressing tendencies, "and discusses his sister's "evolution to a place and celebration of her gender creative younger brother"- per the book's own summary.

A book called "Crank" details a disturbing rape that transpires when a young couple goes into the woods to get drunk and high on meth. "If I had known you were just going to lay there, I wouldn't have bothered," the rapist tells his victim on the car ride home.

This is a battle for the hearts and minds of our Nebraska children.
Sexually active kids make great consumers of abortion clinics, and turn into Democratic voters when they become impoverished single parents.

If you are not protecting and conserving our children of this great state, then what good are you? What is

your purpose of being on this board?

Do not allow semantics to muddle your minds, confusing equality with equity. Furthermore, allowing the confusion of knowledge with sexualization is alignment with perpetrators.

Not doing anything, or staying silent when something ABSOLUTELY WRONG is being proposed for one of the most vulnerable populations of our society—our children—is abhorrent.
I urge you to Scrap the 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 *

Michelle

Last name *

Schiel

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

Nebraska State Board of Education

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

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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 *

Corey

Last name *

Rumann

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 writing today to express my deep disappointment and sadness that the second draft of your health standards has removed important educational issues that will no longer be addressed. By watering down the standards and taking out topics like STD and pregnancy prevention, sexual orientation, gender identity, consent and our bodies, and diverse family structures you are ignoring evidence-based practices, recommendations from medical and psychological experts, and decades of research that clearly support addressing these issues with children in developmentally appropriate ways. I urge you to reinstate these elements into your next draft.

My two children who currently identify as girls – one who is seven and the other who is nine – not only deserve but have a right to be fully informed in age-appropriate ways that there are all kinds of ways that we as individuals and as families can choose to express ourselves. That also have a right to know what is or is not appropriate touching and how our sexual bodies grow and develop. Sure I can talk about these things at home with them and will but there is nothing like the educational impact of addressing these issues with their peers and other knowledgeable adults in the school. I trust that process and want my kids to grow up as informed, compassionate people who respect people's right to choose. If others do not want their children to be part of those conversations then they can opt out of those discussions.

I know you all have a difficult job and I'm certain these decision have caused a lot of stress and anxiety. However, I can't help but feel like you have given in to political pressure and the bullies in the crowd who use their power and privilege to make sure they get what they want despite the harm it causes to others. It seems ironic that a group of people who are supposed to help prevent bullying have given into it. To be honest that makes me angry and much less trusting of the system. I hope you can work toward re-instilling that public trust and the first step to doing that is reinstating the elements you took out of the first draft. Finally, it is your responsibility to protect ALL children and this decision simply does not do that. Children are being bullied and dying each and every day because of who they are and how their family chooses to live. We must protect children who are forced into silence by giving them a voice and letting them know there are people who will support, listen, and believe them when they are suffering abuse. Unfortunately your recent decisions do not demonstrate that responsibility and is in direct conflict with your own Nondiscrimination and Equitable Educational Opportunities in Schools Statement.

I apologize if the tone of my message feel disrespectful. That is not my intention and I do appreciate your service to the State of Nebraska. I wish I had addressed my concerns sooner (and am ashamed I didn't do that) because I strongly believe these are life and death decisions and we must all move forward together in humanistic, compassionate, and informed ways to bring about positive change.

Respectfully,
Corey B. Rumann

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Corey

Last name *

Rumann

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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 *

Patricia

Last name *

Legg

City *

Doniphan

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.)

My name is Patricia Legg, a 60 year old woman who remembers the day of education being taught with the three R's of reading, writing and arithmetic. Where have we gone? The good ole days you'd say were just that. As a grandmother of four unique, loving and spirited grandchildren, I cannot sit by and remain quiet. My voice, our voices, must be heard. I cannot begin to understand what reasoning would come from "sex education" being forced on these young and responsive minds. Why does gender identity meet with such elevated interest? Why should children be exposed to the concepts of oral and anal sex? Children need not live focusing on unnecessary education at the hands of our schools when curriculum is already set forth in the core subjects of which all too many struggle. These children haven't even begun puberty and yet proposed CSE could confuse them mentally and emotionally for life. I ask the question "WHY?" I propose too, the questions of who, what, when, where and why?How did we get here in 2021 and who was involved in all of this CRT and CST being brought into our state curriculum?

This "woken" attitude leads me to wonder if independent thinking will ever exist again should such concepts be taught. From the top of the educational system to our most beloved children and grandchildren, how are we supporting our citizens to think for themselves and be as leaders, not only followers. There is a weakness in the system and the introduction to such progressive ideology and the willingness of this department to keep such sexual teaching in our school systems. We need to scrap the standards...We must scrap these standards.

I hear too, about CRT-Critical Race Theory as it is referred to.. What kids don't go through times when they are judged by their peers. Critical race theory opens the door and pushes teaching our kids to hate themselves as well as others. In love we live, not hate. We are not racist driven. Do you not all have judgements in many issues of life in varying capacities but love should first and foremost, not hate. You will not be teaching one of acceptance of others or of acceptance of themselves by this branded teaching. We are born with no knowledge except what is shown or taught to us. Love and hate are taught emotions. CRT will indoctrinate our precious children and grandchildren to the lies of hatred for another and themselves. What a concept in which we offer racial divisiveness to our next generation we have born to love and protect.

in closing and prayer, I strongly support the cleansing out of these sex education standards (CSE) and critical race theory (CRT) that are now being seriously considered and amongst many other schools boards in the State of NE. We cannot in faithful conscience sit back and be silenced in our thoughts to protect our children and grandchildren. This ideology should not be forced into our children. Bring back the basics in teaching, focusing on the strength of teamwork, effective communication and resiliency. We are better when we work together in loving support. The progressive ideas of CRT and CST do not create bonding, love and peace, only division, hatred and racial violence. We are counting on your sound leadership to make the right decisions for our future generation. 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 *

Patricia

Last name *

Legg

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Nebraska State Board of Education

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Identification

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First name *

Kristi

Last name *

Bieschke

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 am disappointed to have to be sending yet another written disapproval of the Health Standards Draft 2. I had high hopes that we could pull together as adults and create something great for the children of Nebraska and put into place a from of education that is based on facts and changing times that respects all persons and beliefs.
I am firmly against the Health Standards Draft 2 and have chosen to pull my three children from the public school system and homeschool them.
I will not have my children brainwashed and exposed to pornographic content, terminology that is made up (we have two sexes male and female), critical race theories and ideologies that I believe are setting up the next generation to not fully understand history which will spiral this country into a war or end up looking like Venezuela or even Germany when Hitler was ruling.
I am sadden that this could not be addressed in a timely manner leaving many parents unsure of what to do this fall and loosing complete trust in the present public school systems across the state and nation.
I hope these issues can be resolved and we can move forward with a better agenda with keeping ALL individuals in mind and not just the "minorities".
Thank you for your time.
A concerned mother and life long Nebraskan,
Kristi

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kristi

Last name *

Bieschke

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Identification

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First name *

Dianne

Last name *

Laier

City *

Eustis

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.)

no CSE and CRT! Period

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Dianne

Last name *

Laier

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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 *

Dan and Jennifer

Last name *

Hamilton

City *

Dunbar

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 writing to express our intense disdain for the proposed sex education standards being disguised as “health standards” that you, the NDE, are pushing on our youth. The content of which you expect me to present, as a veteran educator in this state, would have been grounds for my dismissal and prosecution in the not so distant past. For crying out loud, the firewalls that protect our students from inappropriately using public school devices now won’t even allow for the disgusting subject matter you want to force me to teach. I do not care how many revisions are made, you have crossed a line by even so much as writing these abusive expectations down, let alone wanting crammed in the minds of our children.
By implementing these “standards”, you would also be overstepping your bounds when it comes to the rights of parents. They should be left to educate their own children in the way they choose when it comes to these highly personal topics. Why in the world do you think it’s appropriate for anyone other than the parent to discuss these things with THEIR children? No reasonable person, with a shred of decency or common sense would ever consider these to be “standards,” let alone insist they become the burden of a public school teacher.
My wife and I have worked in the public school system long enough to see the downward spiral youth take when faced with the consequences of poor decision making. Now you want them to listen to what so many times are the only trusted adults in their lives tell them lies like there are more than two genders? No way! I respect my students entirely too much to feed them fake, let alone damaging information leading them toward these poor decisions.
What gives you the right to force me to ignore my beliefs, my morals and my ethics in order to push your agenda? I love my job. I am good at my job and I refuse to be bullied into submission in order to keep it.
#scrapthestandards

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 and Jennifer

Last name *

Hamilton

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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 *

Suzanne

Last name *

Geist

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.)

First, I would like to thank you for reworking the Sex Education Standards. As I stated in my previous letter, my office has been inundated with concerned parents over that issue. I do realize the difficulty you face when addressing issues such as these, and I appreciate your response to parents' concerns in the redraft.

I would like to point out just two remaining concerns.
Contained within the glossary of terms are both Gender Identity, defined as Internal, deeply held thoughts and feelings about gender; Gender Roles, defined as Attitudes and behaviors that a society considers "appropriate" for males and females.

My opinion is that these issues should be addressed in a family structure, not in a public school classroom. As a mother of three and a grandmother of eight, I see our children under great pressure in our society because they are continuously bombarded with conflicting information.

Adding the proactive teaching of gender identity and gender roles only adds further confusion and stress to youths who are transitioning through puberty and the general upheaval that transition brings. I would greatly discourage the introduction of these confusing subjects in a school atmosphere verses the safety of a home atmosphere.
Again, I thank you for your work on these standards. I also thank you for considering my objections.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Senator Suzanne

Last name *

Geist

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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 *

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 a Grandma of three precious girls that will be in the public school system and I will not allow them to be taught racist ideology that is CRT! This whole thing is in opposition to the Civil Rights movement and Dr Martin Luther Kings "I have a dream" speech, when "man will be judge by the content of his character and not the color of his skin"! Schools need to stick to teaching the basics, reading, writing, math, science and history as it happened. We learn from history, we can't change it! The "be kind" rules pretty much cover how you should treat others.
We have laws against hate crimes already on the books. We don't need you indoctrinating our children.
And the CSE has no business being in the class room. It is one step in grooming our children for pedophiles and sex trafficking with the nonsense of comprehensive sexuality!
Let the kids be kids. They shouldn't have to be burdened with these heavy issues.
THIS IS NOT IN THE BEST INTEREST OF OUR CHILDREN!
Scrap these standards!!!!!
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 *

Teresa

Last name *

Carey

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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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Farmer

City *

Bellevue

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.)

State School Board Meeting

Good morning, my name is Courtney Farmer of Bellevue, NE and I am an educator for Omaha Public Schools. I am speaking today in opposition to CSE. Why alter, why dilute God's perfect love by sexualizing the innocence of children. Why distort and stain that? This is what CSE will do to our children and society. We will no longer see God's love in people, but only lust after each other in sin chasing after our own selfish desires for happiness.

Why are we pushing something that is obscene, pornographic, and calling it educational? What are we arguing if this is right to teach in school when we already have scientific evidence of the damage pornography causes on the development of a child's brain? What are we really trying to do with CSE? Is it to be heard by all voices who don't identify as man or woman? Is it to create an atmosphere to eliminate bullying? None of that will occur because the root of the problem is that people are looking to be loved and are trying to substitute it by pushing CSE into the schools. God's perfect love restores the brokenness of those confused about their gender and creates unity among all people without sexualizing children's minds or using pornography. God's love creates an atmosphere that is safe and nurturing for the mind, body, and soul. So, now what? We pray in God's love to cast out all fear and to heal the brokenness that has caused gender confusion, and we pray out hate to create unity between both parties. God's love is the answer to fix all of this and CSE is a counterfeit to that. 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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Farmer

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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 *

Courtney

Last name *

Leikam

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 a Nebraska citizen writing to urge the State Board of Education to revise the proposed Health Education Standards to include medically-accurate and evidence-based information about sexual orientation, gender diversity, and diverse family structures. By excluding these topics, we water down health education, neglecting to offer information that is much needed by today's youth.

Speaking as a Lincoln native, who attended LPS K-12, I would have greatly benefitted from learning more about these essential elements of life. Our younger generations deserve to know how to safely prevent STDs and pregnancy, while also learning that it is normal to explore aspects of identity pertaining to gender and sexuality.

Furthermore, my work in recent years within the mental health community has indicated a dire need for more education and community understanding related to topics of gender and sexuality. Misinformation about gender diversity, as well as the harmful stereotypes surrounding LGBQ people cannot inform the decision to strip our youth of the opportunity to learn about this information. Rather, I urge the State Board of Education to listen to local and national medical and educational professionals and revise the Standards to be more inclusive of these topics.

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 *

Leikam

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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 *

melvin

Last name *

Legg

City *

68832, Doniphan, NE

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, my name is Melvin Legg. I am one of many countless citizens of the fine State of Nebraska who wish to state firmly that I want it to known, to scrap the standards. My grandchildren deserve a well rounded education, full of reading, writing, arithmetic and true history. I believe this indoctrination and choosing to teach such topics as racial hatred towards self and one another and sex standards which should be left to the parents, be scrapped. What as a society are we thinking? Where is our own self standards? Is this what you fill your own lives with on your TV's and screens? Why are we taking innocent children and filling them with materials which will forever damage their inner most being and cause division where children do not see color, but hear the sound of learning through laughter, interaction, playground fun and family time.
As a loving and caring grandpa, I do not want to hear my grandchildren asking me to explain such nonsense at young ages when they should be asking if we can play ball, can you help me with my homework or I need you to help me fix something. We are losing the best gifts we've been entrusted with-the blessings of our children and for me, my grandchildren.
Do what you are elected to do and bring to us best practice as we grow our children and grandchildren to be good and moral members of our society. The time is NOW and we are
the voices that speak loud and clearly on behalf of our children.
SCRAP the STANDARDS and let's get on with education now.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Melvin

Last name *

Legg

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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 *

Paige

Last name *

Zehnacker

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 an extremely concerned mother of a third grader and kindergartener, I am reaching out to you regarding issues involving the education of our children. The first issue is with the “sex education/health standards” you are wanting to impose on the very young and impressionable children attending the public schools in Nebraska. I am appalled at what you are wanting to force on these young minds. The topics included in these proposed standards as it pertains to gender identity are absolutely inappropriate to be discussed in school. It is an EXTREMELY SENSITIVITY topic that should be discussed in the home. Going further, no child at any age should be aware of oral and anal sex. These children haven’t even begun puberty and you are attempting to damage their innocent and fragile minds with topics that are confusing and often controversial. They need to remain out of the school education program. This type of sexual information will only result in further negative outcomes as they grow and change through puberty and into adulthood.

It saddens me and deeply concerns me that you would consider harming thousands of children simply to conform to the “wokeness” that most of you seem to cater to. Your push to damage the children of Nebraska with radical sexual teachings only proves that your goal is not to properly teach and protect our children, but only to gain acceptance and popularity of your chosen political party and it’s followers. It shows a weakness on your part that you willfully follow the ridiculousness of the current culture of progressive ideology.

As for critical race theory, it is counterproductive in and of itself due to the fact that you would be teaching our impressionable children that they will be ostracized if they disagree with your backwards ideology. By pushing this into the curriculum, are striving to teach our children to hate themselves as well as others. You are actually aiming to train them to be racist. You will not be teaching them acceptance of others nor would you be teaching them acceptance of themselves. Hatred is not something that a person is born knowing, it’s is a learned emotion and by the indoctrination of CRT you will be the reason these children grow to hate themselves and others. You will be responsible for the racial division of this next generation of young adults.

I will not cease in fighting to protect the minds of my children. I am their parent. I will determine when they are at an appropriate age to have sensitive conversations. I will fight to protect the children of Nebraska from this mental onslaught of indoctrination. I implore you to hear me, and to hear me and the thousands of other parents who are fighting to defend their children from this attack on their mental health as well as their innocence.

In conclusion, I urge you to throw out the sex education standards you have on the table as well as the critical race theory garbage that you and so many other school boards are trying to sneak into curriculum. I ask you to dig down deep and realize the damage you will cause by allowing this type of ideology to be force fed to our children. I implore you to continue to protect our children, and to teach them the true history of this country because that is the only way to learn and move forward in bettering ourselves as a country, together regardless of race or religion or gender. Get back to basics in teaching our precious children, and forget about the progressive ideas that are the cause of so much division, hatred and racial violence.

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Paige

Last name *

Zehnacker

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Nebraska State Board of Education Written Public Comment August 2021

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 *

Kristal

Last name *

Davis

City *

Franklin

State *

Nebraska

Written Comment

There is a limit of 750 words.

Written Comments *

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This letter is so that my opinion can be expressed by individuals willing to speak for me MICHAEL CONNELY 2022 Candidate for Nebraska Governor.CRT and CSE, 2 topics causing outrage among Nebraska parents and millions of parents nationwide.The outrage is justified.There's no time to fully cover these topics to give understanding, comments are only superficial at best.Let me set the stage on just one.When we fill out forms for government school entry employment, we get asked what ethnicity we are.We are told to choose between Asian, Black, Hispanic, White, and sometimes a collection of subgroups within these.That is the first problem we have.We shouldn't separate people based on where their ancestors came from or based on their skin tone.Let me see how this works out with my family.Years ago I was working in a military medical lab, for the fun of it I decided to check my blood protein types.The main blood protein types are A, B, O etc.but there are HUNDREDS of minor blood proteins.I got some interesting results.Several of my blood protein types were exclusively proteins of Africans, I even had Asian blood proteins in my collection as well.I ran a few different DNA tests, I am part Asian, and part Sub Saharan African (Nigerian).It seems my ancestors got on a boat,(forcibly) and ended up in the Caribbean Islands, eventually finding themselves in North Carolina, probably when the pirate Black Beard sold his Black pirate friends to the government there in exchange for safe haven.This explains my great grandmother's name, Gracie Workman.I always wondered what kind of last name Workman was and why I couldn't find what country it originated from.WORK MAN.Got it.SO, according to CRT, my unusually long arms are victims along with the tight curls on my sideburns when they grow out.Those curly hairs from my Nigerian heritage are victims as well.My high bridged and straight nose is oppressive, and my very white skin is oppressive.Wait!My nose is from my Swedish side.The Swedish farmers who fled the oppressive king in the 1800s are oppressors.Wait.The oppressed farmers from Sweden are oppressors?!Let’s look at my very white skin.That's my Irish side who came over on ships as indentured servants.Another name for indentured servants, SLAVES.The white skin from my Irish slave ancestors, indicates those Irish indentured servants, even though they were slaves, deep down inside, were oppressors.Thinking those are possible exceptions? Forget my oppressed Swedish farmer ancestors and Irish slave ancestors.Go back to Nigeria, where Evil White men were traipsing around the jungles of African kidnapping the poor innocent Blacks for the slave market right! Wasn't the biggest most successful slave trader Nwaubani Ogogo?He was a Nigerian, with a really dark skin tone.The original slave markets selling slaves to Europe, later Americas were the Portuguese.Like the kind of brown people Portuguese?The biggest slave trader was a Black Nigerian, a victim because he is black.The big West African slave trade port run by the Portuguese?Also victims because they are brown.Swedish farmers who fled an oppressive King are oppressors, and Irish slaves, are also oppressors.Whoever is a supporter of CRT, failed thier history classes and logic classes.This is stupidity.I don't want someone like that dictating curriculum or teaching my children.Reiterating iniative no.3 ”No public educational institution in Nebraska will instruct, or have as part of the curriculum, or contained within its library any materials with any elements of CRT.Willful violation of this rule will result in the loss of all teaching certificates and licenses issued in the state of Nebraska and dismissal from any public employment position.”Michael Connely

Signature

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

Signed,

First name *

Kristal

Last name *

Davis

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Identification

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First name *

Joseph

Last name *

Gould

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.)

As astrophysicist Neil DeGrasse Tyson is fond of saying, "The beautiful thing about science is, it's true whether you believe in it or not." As a school teacher and parent, I believe strongly that we must teach - using age-appropriate language and methods - about the real world as it truly is. Science and truth are fundamental to quality education, and any attempts to edit out truths we find “icky,” or to claim that science we wish wasn’t true is simply “not settled” are dangerous. That is why I write today asking the board to reject the latest revision of the proposed state health education standards, specifically the slashed and gutted sex education portion, and urge the board to adopt the previous draft including education for our children about consent, safe sex, alternate family structures, as well as LGBT+ issues.

From watching public testimony and reading about how this process has played out over the last few months, the decision to remove these crucial topics from state health standards appears to be rooted in satisfying a public desire to keep true scientific information from reaching our children’s ears at formative ages. The prevailing argument seems to be that families should be given the freedom to keep their children ignorant of issues surrounding sexual health until it is too late, and to inflect any discussion of homosexuality with the requisite judgement and fear that such topics deserve. Bending to the will of such thinking flies in the face of the principles of education and science.

The results of the status quo have been clear and consistent for decades: children unable to recognize sexual abuse remaining in abusive situations for extended periods of time, unwanted pregnancies resulting from teens without the tools to practice safe sex, and skyrocketing depression & suicide rates among LGBT+ Americans of all ages. The state board of education has the ability to empower all of these Nebraskans with the knowledge necessary to avoid these outcomes and live fuller, more prosperous lives. Either it should do so, or stop pretending to stand for truth, education, and the well-being of Nebraska’s children.

I urge the board to revert to and adopt the previous draft of the state health 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 *

Joseph

Last name *

Gould

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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 *

Annette

Last name *

Luce

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.)

Good morning, I write to the board today with comments on the 2nd draft of the Nebraska health standards. I am currently a 2nd grade teacher in Lincoln Public Schools, but today I represent only myself and my family. I also want to advocate for many of the students, families, and educators that I have been blessed to serve with over the years.
Nebraska has a strong system for offering health education to students. The Dept. of Ed. has worked hard to align health standards with those recommended by the federal government, but also considering the needs of all Nebraskan students. After their adoption, each district has the option to use these standards or not. Even after the district has adopted standards, families have the right to opt out of lessons or units. This level of choice is so important for families to meet the needs of their children as they see fit.
The Dept. of Ed. has the much broader goal of meeting the needs of ALL the children in the state, which I believe the 2nd draft of the health standards fails to do in a meaningful way. For example, LGBTQ+ children, family members, and staff exist throughout our state, but they are not represented well in the 2nd draft. If we want to craft young children into adults that can be successful in the world, they need to know about the people they will encounter. All students benefit from seeing nontraditional family units, as well as benefit from seeing people from often marginalized groups.
Another example of how the 2nd draft is not meeting the needs of ALL students is the reduction in language about consent and accurate body part names in the lower grade levels. Students do best with reporting sexual abuse when they know the correct names and know that consent was needed.
Finally, in the lower grades, I believe there needs to be more emphasis placed on including students of color. Products used as examples in consumer health largely reflect the health needs of white students, but, for example, the hair care needs of a Black child are often different.
It is my hope that the board of education will encourage additional changes to the health standards with these issues re-addressed. Educating ALL students is a lofty goal, but I believe the Dept. of Ed. had a stronger set of standards in the first draft. 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 *

Annette

Last name *

Luce

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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 *

Melinda

Last name *

Yost

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.)

Draft #1 of NDE Health Standards caused parents to lose 100% of their trust in NDE because they included Comprehensive Sexuality Education (CSE) standards filled with sexually explicit examples, which would be taught to Nebraska's children. These standards were NOT developmentally appropriate, medically or biologically accurate. They would result in the early sexualization of Nebraska's children. Draft #2 removed some of that language for now, but how soon will the NDE want to add the sexually explicit standards back into the standards? Additionally, the vague nature of the standards allow local districts to adopt CSE with the full support of the Nebraska Department 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 *

Melinda

Last name *

Yost

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Nebraska State Legislature

SENATOR SUZANNE GEIST

District 25
State Capitol
PO Box 94604
Lincoln, Nebraska 68509-4604
(402) 471-2731
sgeist@leg.ne.gov

COMMITTEES

Chairperson - Legislative Performance Audit
Vice Chairperson - Transportation and Telecommunications
Judiciary
Executive Board
Reference

Dear members of the Nebraska State Board of Education,

First, I would like to thank you for reworking the Sex Education Standards. As I stated in my previous letter, my office has been inundated with concerned parents over that issue. I do realize the difficulty you face when addressing issues such as these, and I appreciate your response to parents' concerns in the redraft.

I would like to point out just two remaining concerns.

Contained within the glossary of terms are both Gender Identity, defined as Internal, deeply held thoughts and feelings about gender; Gender Roles, defined as Attitudes and behaviors that a society considers "appropriate" for males and females.

My opinion is that these issues should be addressed in a family structure, not in a public school classroom. As a mother of three and a grandmother of eight, I see our children under great pressure in our society because they are continuously bombarded with conflicting information. Adding the proactive teaching of gender identity and gender roles only adds further confusion and stress to youths who are transitioning through puberty and the general upheaval that transition brings. I would greatly discourage the introduction of these confusing subjects in a school atmosphere verses the safety of a home atmosphere.

Again, I thank you for your work on these standards. I also thank you for considering my objections.

All the best,

Suzanne Geist

State Senator Suzanne Geist

District 25

Matthew L. Blomstedt, Ph.D., Commissioner

NEBRASKA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

www.education.ne.gov
301 Centennial Mall South
P.O. Box 94987
Lincoln, NE 68509-4987
TEL 402.471.2295
FAX 402.471.0117

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

DATE: July 23, 2021

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

FROM: Cory Epler, Ph.D.
Academic Officer

Lacey Peters
Physical Education & Health Education Specialist

PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM: Discussion Item: Nebraska Health Education Standards Process

RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Utilizing national and Nebraska resources, along with Nebraska-specific data, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) began the work of developing the Health Education Standards in September 2019. The work utilizes a writing team comprised of Health, Physical Education, and Family & Consumer Science teachers from across Nebraska, and subject matter experts representing medical professionals (e.g. pediatricians, psychologists, nurses, physicians, etc.) university researchers, government agencies, and community organizations. The standards, "Nebraska Health Education Standards," create a framework for K-12 health education in Nebraska. The NDE intends to seek State Board approval in Fall 2021.

Public and accredited non-public schools in Nebraska are required to include health education within their instructional programs for elementary, middle, and high schools. The instructional programs are to have written guides, frameworks, or standards. Unlike reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies, public school districts and accredited non-public school systems are not required by law to adopt the state Nebraska Health Education Standards but are required to have standards in place for health education. The decision to utilize the Nebraska Health Education Standards, in whole or part, are determined by each local school district or school system.

PROPOSED BOARD MEETING (MONTH/YEAR): August 2021