

Vision for Education in Nebraska

The Education Committee has developed the following draft of a common vision for education. Hearings will be held to listen to Nebraskan's reactions on October 6, 2014 at Gallup in Omaha; October 15, 2014 at Northeast Community College's Lifelong Learning Center in Norfolk; and October 16th at Broken Bow high school auditorium in Broken Bow. All hearings will be at 1:30pm. The Committee will consider the input provided as they finalize the common vision for education in Nebraska. Please attend the nearest public hearing to share your thoughts.

Vision:

Every Nebraskan educated for success

Mission:

Provide Nebraskans the opportunity to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to be productive individuals.

Goals:

1. Provide quality educational opportunities that engage and prepare Nebraskans for success in learning.
2. Establish high expectations for all educators, parents, students and educational institutions.
3. Create positive, safe, and successful learning environments.
4. Develop collaborative educational relationships with the entire community, including individuals, families, businesses, and organizations.

Objectives:

Goal 1: Provide quality educational opportunities that engage and prepare Nebraskans for success in learning.

- 1) By 20__, for at least the school year prior to kindergarten, every child will have equitable access to high-quality and

developmentally appropriate preschool programs that help prepare them for school.

- 2) By 20__, children from backgrounds that put them at greater risk will have access to additional early childhood

educational opportunities.

- 3) By 20__, all children in grades K-12 will have equitable access to high-quality educational opportunities that will,

to the extent possible, prepare them to be college, career, or job ready when they graduate from high school.

4) By 20__, all high school graduates will have equitable and affordable access to high-quality postsecondary educational opportunities.

Goal 2: Establish high expectations for all educators, parents, students and educational institutions.

1) By 20__, increase the percentage of students who meet the performance standard in all grades tested in reading,

writing, and math and reduce the gaps in such percentages among demographic groups.

2) By 20__, see an increase in the overall high school graduation rate and reduce the gaps in such rates among

demographic groups.

3) By 20__, provide an opportunity for all public high school students to take the college entrance exam most

commonly used in our state.

4) By 20__, significantly increase the number of students who meet the college readiness benchmarks in all subject

areas set by that college entrance exam.

5) By 20__, increase the percentage of high school graduates pursuing postsecondary education and reduce the gaps

in such percentages among demographic groups.

6) By 20__, increase the percentage of postsecondary education students who complete their program of study within

the expected degree completion period and reduce the gaps in such percentages among demographic groups.

7) By 20__, create systems of support for parents to assist their children with educational expectations.

Goal 3: Create positive, safe and successful learning environments.

1) By 20__, all school districts and public postsecondary institutions will have safe and secure facilities with positive

learning environments.

2) By 20__, all school districts and public postsecondary institutions will have strong policies that prohibit any type

of harassment or bullying.

3) By 20__, support developmentally appropriate continuing education for teachers, instructors, and professors

designed to enhance student learning.

Goal 4: Develop collaborative educational relationships with the entire community, including individuals,

families, businesses and organizations.

1) By 20__, support alignment of educational programs and experiences with workforce needs.

2) By 20__, help students and families overcome barriers to education.

3) By 20__, increase the shared use of facilities and staff.

4) By 20__, build seamless strategies which align objectives throughout a student's educational career.

5) By 20__, increase collaborations to bring research-based best practices into educational environments.

6) By 20__, increase collaboration between education entities and families to enhance opportunities for student

development and success.

Thank you for your involvement in the initial survey and the committee looks forward to listening to you in October at the public hearings.

Sincerely, Senator Kate Sullivan, Chair

On behalf of the Education Committee

Education Committee Members: Senators Kate Sullivan (C), Jim Scheer (VC), Bill Avery, Tanya Cook, Al Davis, Ken Haar, Rick Kolowski, and Les Seiler