

Contact: Jean Friedrich

**AGREEMENTS WITH THE NEBRASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the agreements with the Nebraska Department of Education as summarized below.

**Executive Summary:** Academic Year Agreement – Renewal of the education services agreement with the Nebraska Department of Education for FY 2015 at the rate of \$94,016 per Nebraska student (\$54,403 for educational and related program services and \$39,613 for residential services as necessary) – giving an increase of +\$3,597 (4.0%) for combined services (+\$2,766 for educational and related program services and +\$831 for residential services). Costs vary by projected budget and number of students.

In May 1998, the Board of Regents and the Nebraska Department of Education entered into an agreement for the Iowa School for the Deaf to provide educational services to Nebraska students with hearing impairments. The agreement was modified on September 9, 2010 to base costs on projected budget and the number of Iowa students. This educational arrangement has been working well for both ISD and Nebraska since FY 1999. The agreements allow for renewal by mutual consent and written notification by both parties.

Last year, both parties provided intent notice to renew this agreement for FY 2015. ISD and the Board Office recommend that the contract be renewed for FY 2015 with the new tuition rate of \$54,403 and the room and board rate of \$39,613 for a combined charge of \$94,016 per student. The Nebraska Department of Education has received the proposed rates and will take action at its next meeting.

Summer School Agreement – Renewal of the Nebraska Summer School agreement for the summer school program of 2014 with a weekly charge of \$543 per Nebraska student (an increase of \$21); \$277 for educational and related program services (an increase of \$11) and \$266 for residential services (an increase of \$10).

The academic year agreement between the Board of Regents and the Nebraska Department of Education specifically excludes services related to the summer school program.

In May 1999, the Board approved an agreement for the Iowa School for the Deaf to provide summer school programming for Nebraska students with hearing impairments. Iowa School for the Deaf generally offers a multi-week summer school program, and students may attend as many weeks of the program as available. Because of the manner in which the ISD summer program is operated with activities well past the evening meal hour, it is preferable that students be in residence during the week(s) that they participate in the summer program.

Both Agreements – Notification of the Board's intent to renew each agreement with the Nebraska Department of Education for FY 2016, pursuant to the provisions of the agreements.

It is recommended that the Board, on behalf of the Iowa School for the Deaf, notify the Nebraska Department of Education of its intent to renew the agreements for FY 2016.

Copies of the proposed contract renewal and notifications are available at the Board Office.