

## **Agenda**

1. Call To Order  
**Speaker(s):** Board President
  - 1.1. Pledge of Allegiance  
**Speaker(s):** Board President
    - 1.1.1. Roll Call - Excuse Board Members not in attendance  
**Speaker(s):** Board President
      - 1.1.1.1. Recognize Board Members that are no longer absent.  
**Speaker(s):** Board President
  - 1.2. Public Comment Sign In Procedure
    - 1.2.1. Public Comment
  - 1.3. Consent Agenda (Action)  
**Speaker(s):** Board President
2. Board Development and Communication
  - 2.1. Board Members' Update
  - 2.2. Superintendent's Report  
**Speaker(s):** Superintendent
    - 2.2.1. Seymour Elementary School Report  
**Speaker(s):** Ms. Jody Blessen
    - 2.2.2. Legislative Relations Update  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Mark Adler
    - 2.2.3. Winter Activity Report  
**Speaker(s):** Mr. Mike Smith
    - 2.2.4. Teachpoint Demonstration  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Tiffanie Welte/Ms. Cecelia Wilken
    - 2.2.5. Option Enrollment Update  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Tiffanie Welte/Ms. Cecelia Wilken
    - 2.2.6. Instructional Time  
**Speaker(s):** Superintendent
    - 2.2.7. Enrollment Update  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Mark Adler
3. Standards Based School Improvement
4. Policy Review
  - 4.1. Policy 2020 - News Media Services at Meetings (Action)  
**Speaker(s):** Dr. Mark Adler/Mr. Jeremy Maskel
5. Executive Session Disclosure
6. Pre-Adjournment Information and Activities
  - 6.1. Announcements
  - 6.2. Board of Education Supplemental Meeting Information
  - 6.3. Future Board Calendar

## 6.4. Adjourn

Johannah Dickson  
6923 Wright Plaza  
Apartment N11  
Omaha, NE 68106  
605-280-7856  
johannah.dickson@ralstonschools.org

March 22, 2017

Dr. Michael Rupprecht  
Executive Director of Human Resources and School Improvement  
Ralston Public Schools  
8545 Park Drive  
Ralston, NE 58127

Dear Dr. Rupprecht,

Please accept this letter as notice of my resignation from my position as a kindergarten teacher at Karen Western Elementary. My resignation will be in effect after the last day of the 2016-17 school year. My husband and I will be moving to South Dakota due to the next steps my husband must take for his profession.

I have very much enjoyed my time here in the Ralston District and am very thankful for the opportunities that I have had here. It has been such a pleasure being a part of the Ralston team for the last four years. I will always look back at my time in Ralston with fondness. I have learned so much here and I believe that I am leaving Ralston a better teacher due to the wonderful example that the Ralston staff has set for me. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this amazing team.

Sincerely,

Johannah Dickson

March 21 2017

Dear Ralston Public Schools,

Please accept this letter as my regretful resignation from my position as a K-6 Deaf Educator within Ralston Public Schools at the end of the 2016-17 school year. I am deeply saddened to write this letter as I have been part of Ralston Schools for the last 11 years. Ralston Public Schools has been my home and support group over these years of service and I would not be where I am today without the district. I know that my heart will continue to be with Ralston as I adventure out, but know that I will forever have amazing friends within this district. I wish Ralston and all my colleagues the best of luck in the future. Thank you again for all you have provided for me and know that I feel so very lucky to have been a part of the Ralston Team.

Thank you,  
Kendra Peitz

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kendra Peitz". The signature is fluid and matches the typed name above it.

# Student Growth Summary Report

## Aggregate by School

Term: Winter 2016-2017  
District: Ralston School District

Norms Reference Data: 2015 Norms  
Growth Comparison Period: Fall 2016 - Winter 2017  
Weeks of Instruction: Start - 2 (Fall 2016)  
End - 16 (Winter 2017)

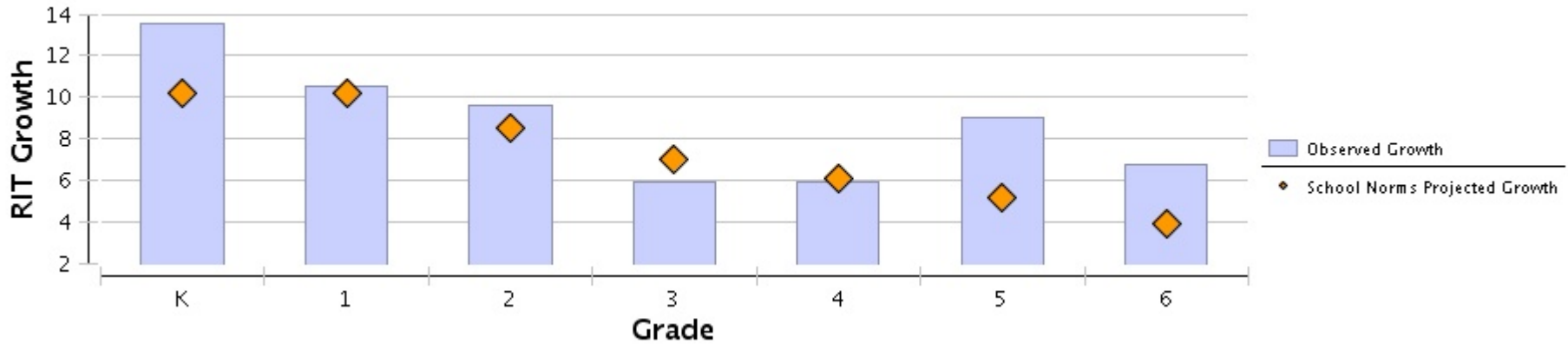
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Seymour Elementary School

#### Mathematics

Grade (Winter 2017)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against								
		Fall 2016			Winter 2017			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms			
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile
K	23	140.0	12.2	58	153.5	11.1	76	13.5	1.7	10.2	2.42	99	23	15	65	84
1	22	170.5	16.7	95	180.9	14.0	95	10.5	1.3	10.2	0.15	56	22	12	55	55
2	24	184.0	10.6	93	193.6	10.9	94	9.6	0.9	8.5	0.80	79	24	17	71	60
3	32	188.8	8.3	46	194.8	8.6	40	5.9	1.0	7.0	-0.90	18	32	18	56	52
4	27	202.5	9.3	59	208.4	8.8	58	5.9	1.0	6.1	-0.14	44	27	17	63	58
5	32	213.3	9.9	65	222.2	10.3	81	9.0	1.0	5.2	2.79	99	32	25	78	82
6	34	218.1	10.4	56	224.9	11.1	70	6.8	0.9	3.9	2.51	99	34	26	76	74

### Mathematics



#### Explanatory Notes

\*\* Calculations not provided because students have no MAP results in at least one of the terms. The Growth Count is zero.

‡Growth Count provided reflects students with MAP results in both the Start and End terms. Observed Growth calculation is based on that student data.

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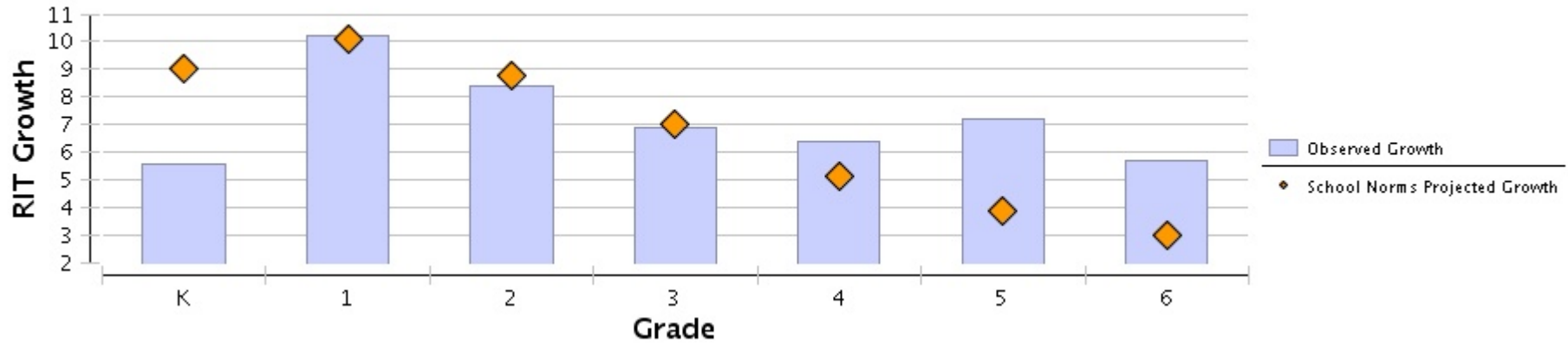
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Seymour Elementary School

#### Reading

Grade (Winter 2017)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods									Growth Evaluated Against					
		Fall 2016			Winter 2017			Growth			School Norms			Student Norms		
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile
K	23	143.2	7.9	72	148.8	9.3	49	5.6	1.1	9.0	-2.40	1	23	8	35	22
1	23	168.1	14.1	94	178.3	14.2	94	10.2	1.5	10.1	0.05	52	23	11	48	46
2	24	182.3	11.2	92	190.7	11.0	91	8.4	1.2	8.8	-0.30	38	24	12	50	46
3	32	188.1	11.4	56	195.0	9.3	55	6.9	2.0	7.0	-0.09	47	32	15	47	44
4	27	200.5	9.2	69	207.0	7.7	76	6.4	1.2	5.1	1.65	95	27	17	63	58
5	31	207.6	17.0	66	214.8	11.6	83	7.2	1.9	3.9	3.77	99	31	19	61	66
6	34	211.0	13.1	53	216.6	10.4	69	5.7	1.1	3.0	2.69	99	34	23	68	68

#### Reading



#### Explanatory Notes

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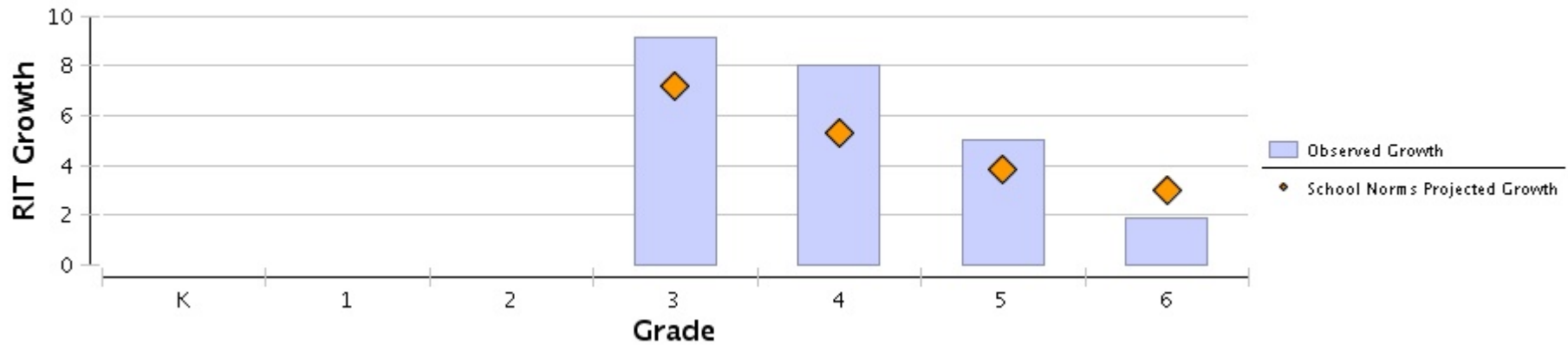
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Seymour Elementary School

#### Language Usage

Grade (Winter 2017)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against								
		Fall 2016			Winter 2017			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms			
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile
K	0	**			**			**					**			
1	0	**			**			**					**			
2	0	**			**			**					**			
3	32	184.8	12.6	29	193.8	9.5	40	9.1	1.4	7.2	1.60	94	32	21	66	62
4	27	199.9	9.8	63	208.0	7.3	79	8.0	1.4	5.3	3.23	99	27	17	63	76
5	32	207.8	13.4	69	212.8	12.1	76	5.0	1.4	3.8	1.40	92	32	17	53	56
6	34	213.1	8.9	69	215.0	9.7	62	1.9	1.1	3.0	-1.25	11	34	14	41	36

#### Language Usage



#### Explanatory Notes

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# Student Growth Summary Report

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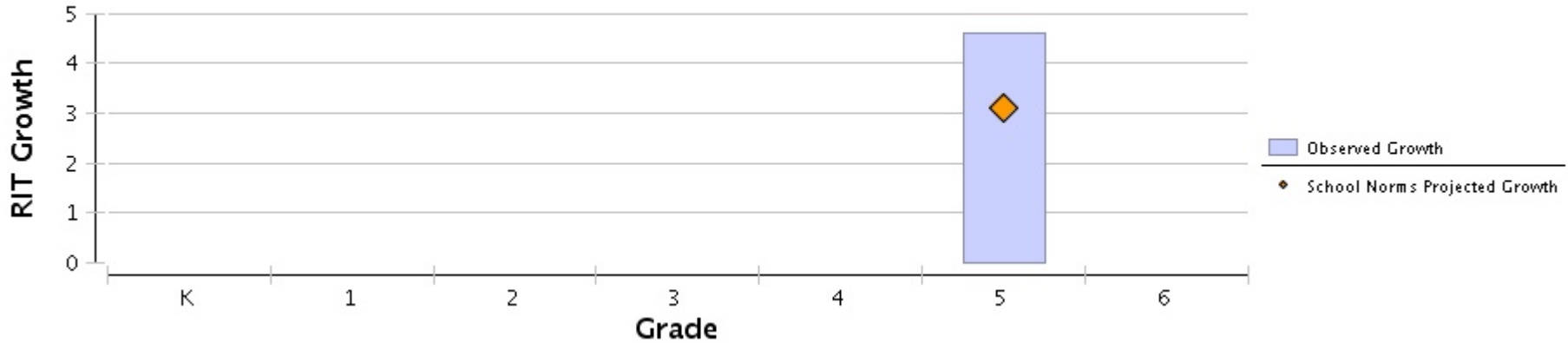
Grouping: None  
Small Group Display: No

### Seymour Elementary School

Science - General  
Science

Grade (Winter 2017)	Growth Count‡	Comparison Periods						Growth Evaluated Against									
		Fall 2016			Winter 2017			Growth		School Norms			Student Norms				
		Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Mean RIT	SD	Percentile	Observed Growth	Observed Growth SE	Projected Growth	School Conditional Growth Index	School Conditional Growth Percentile	Count with Projection	Count Met Projection	Percent Met Projection	Student Median Conditional Growth Percentile	
K	0	**			**			**						**			
1	0	**			**			**						**			
2	0	**			**			**						**			
3	0	**			**			**						**			
4	0	**			**			**						**			
5	31	202.6	9.8	71	207.2	9.2	80	4.6	1.2	3.1	1.59	94	31	20	65	62	
6	0	**			**			**						**			

### Science - General Science



#### Explanatory Notes

\*\* Calculations not provided because students have no MAP results in at least one of the terms. The Growth Count is zero.

‡Growth Count provided reflects students with MAP results in both the Start and End terms. Observed Growth calculation is based on that student data.

# School Improvement Plan

## Seymour Elementary

**Goal: 1) All students will increase growth percentage (“Observed Growth” compared to “Projected Growth”) in reading as measured by the NWEA MAP Assessment.**

- **All students will increase growth percentage in the following reading strands: (Vocabulary), (Main Idea and Supporting Details), (Infer, Draw Conclusions, Predict), (Identifying Characteristics and Features of Text), and (Identifying Bias, Purpose, Text Elements, and Devices).**

<p><b>Baseline Data:</b></p> <p>-MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Reading -IRI (Informal Reading Inventory by Fountas &amp; Pinnell)</p>	<p><b>Standardized Assessments:</b></p> <p>-MAP Reading (K-6) -NeSA Reading Assessment</p>	<p><b>Local Assessments:</b></p> <p>-StoryTown Weekly Assessment (K-6) -LLI (Leveled Literacy Intervention by Fountas &amp; Pinnell) -IRI (Informal Reading Inventory by Fountas &amp; Pinnell)</p>
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<p><b>Intervention:</b> Seymour “Walk-to-Read” Program</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All student will increase reading comprehension skills through small-group, differentiated reading instruction to address skill deficits as determined by assessment data.</li> <li>2. All students will increase reading comprehension skills by reading and responding to appropriate text that has been matched to each student’s instructional reading level.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Research/Best Practice for Intervention:</b></p> <p>*Program-Specific Professional Development for Reading Instruction (Ashlock Consulting, Inc.; 2005-present)</p> <p>*Leveled Literacy Intervention - Fountas &amp; Pinnell (Heinemann; 2009)</p> <p>*Guided Readers and Writers (Fountas &amp; Pinnell; 2001)</p>
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## Seymour Elementary School Improvement Plan

Activities to Implement the Intervention	Person(s) Accountable	Timeline		Resources	Staff Development
		Begin	End		
1.-- Introduce new staff to Walk-to-Read Program (Structured time at least 4 times per week for 30-60 minutes. Students who are below grade level will receive research-based intervention (LLI). Students who are on/above grade level will have an enrichment literacy block. All students will receive individualized instruction within guided reading for a minimum of 20 minutes 3-4 times per week (more time is allowed for students who are intensive).	Leadership team and principal	Aug. 2014 (repeat annually)	Sept. 2014 (repeat annually)	*LLI *Leveled Readers	*All Staff Training LLI
2. Guided Reading - leveled readers	All classroom teachers and resource teacher	August 2014	May 2019	*Harcourt StoryTown Leveled Guided Readers	*All Staff Training StoryTown Materials
3. Use student data (MAP) to determine flexible groupings for Walk-to-Read time	All classroom teachers and resource teachers	August 2014 (repeat annually Fall, Winter, Spring)	May 2019 (repeat annually Fall, Winter, Spring)	*NWEA MAP Reading Assessment	*All Certified Staff assign, administer, and analyze data

4. Meet regularly in PLCs to review student data and make regrouping changes as needed	All classroom and resource teachers	August 2014 (repeat monthly)	Sept. 2014 (repeat monthly)	*StoryTown Weekly Assessment *NWEA MAP Assessment *LLI & IRI data	*All Certified Staff assign, administer, and analyze data
5. Ashlock Multisyllabic/Vocabulary Connection - uses explicit direct instruction	All classroom teachers	August 2015	May 2019	Ashlock Multisyllabic/Vocabulary Connection Lesson Maps	All Certified Staff - Ashlock Program Specific Training
6. Staff will be trained on myON (digital access to books). On-going training will be provided by classroom teaching partner or designated staff.	All certified staff	Sept. 2016	Sept. 2016	myON access	All Certified Staff

## Seymour Elementary School Improvement Plan

**Goal: 2) All students will increase growth percentage (“Observed Growth” compared to “Projected Growth”) in math as measured by the NWEA MAP Assessment.**

- **All students will increase growth percentage in the following math strands: (Problem Solving), (Number Sense), (Computation), (Measurement & Geometry), (Statistics & Probability), and (Algebra).**

<p><b>Baseline Data:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) Math</li> <li>-Unit Math Assessments (Math Expressions K-5; Holt Mathematics 6th grade)</li> <li>-NeSA Math</li> </ul>	<p><b>Standardized Assessments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-MAP Math (K-6)</li> <li>-NeSA Math (3-6)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Local Assessments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Unit Math Assessments (Math Expressions K-5; Holt Mathematics 6th grade)</li> <li>-Reflex Math</li> <li>-Timed Math Assessments</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Intervention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Guided Math - Students will use number sense in guided and independent work stations.</li> <li>-Mathletics - Sequenced, direct instruction lessons that enable students to build success with grade level expectations.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Research/Best Practice for Intervention:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*Mathletics (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Gr. 1-5; 2004)</li> <li>*Math Expressions Houghton Mifflin Harcourt (Karen Fuson, 2009)</li> <li>*Holt Mathematics A Harcourt Education Company (Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2007)</li> <li>*Guided Math: A Framework for Mathematics - Laney Sammons (2010)</li> </ul>
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Reprinted (2012)

Activities to Implement the Intervention	Person(s) Accountable	Timeline		Resources	Staff Development
		Begin	End		
1. All teachers will utilize whole group math instruction.	K-6 teachers and students	August 2014	May 2019	Math Expressions or Holt Mathematics	Training on Math Expressions and Holt Mathematics material
2. Use student data (MAP) to determine flexible groupings for guided math groups.	All classroom and resource teachers HAL teachers	August 2014	May 2019 (repeat annually Fall, Winter, Spring)	Results of NWEA MAP Assessment	
3. Continue our transition to Ralston Middle School for Pre-Algebra.	5th & 6th grade teachers/ HAL teachers	August 2014	May 2019	Results of NeSA data and NWEA MAP Assessment  -Transportation to RMS	
4. Meet regularly in PLC's to review student data and make regrouping changes as needed.	All classroom and resource teachers	August 2014	May 2019 (Meet bimonthly throughout the school year.)	MAP Assessment/ Math unit assessments	
5. Provide Reflex Math training for implementation and data analysis.	All new teachers	August 2014	May 2019	Reflex Math Subscription	Reflex Math online access

Last Edited: Jan. 19, 2017

6. Guided Math instruction focus during monthly PLC meetings.	All certified staff members	Sept. 2015	May 2016	<i>Guided Math A Framework for Mathematics Instruction</i> - Laney Sammons	Book study using the book and on-going professional development at staff meetings.
7. New teachers will annually receive in-house staff development on Math Expressions or Holt Mathematics	Administration and/or mentor teacher & new teacher	August 2014	May 2019	Math Expressions or Holt Mathematics	Training on Math Expressions and Holt Mathematics material.
8. Math Vocabulary - Use the word lists in NWEA's "Match RIT to Concepts" for better understanding of math vocabulary.	All certified staff members	Sept. 2016	May 2019	NWEA "Match RIT to Concepts" lists <a href="#">Word list - click here</a> Instructional Resources from Khan Academy	NWEA online access

## Seymour Elementary School Improvement Plan

**Goal: 3) All students will be safe, respectful, and responsible.**

<b>Baseline Data:</b> 1. SIMS	<b>Standardized Assessments:</b>	<b>Local Assessments:</b> 1. Annual School Evaluation Tool (SET) Visit
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<b>Intervention:</b> *Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) - Students will practice and receive recognition for positive modeled behavior  *Boys Town Well-Managed Schools (Life Skills) - Social skills will be explicitly taught in the classroom.	<b>Research/Best Practice for Intervention:</b> 1. Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) -Todd, Lewis-Palmer, Horner, Sugai, Sampson, & Phillips School-wide Evaluation Tool Manual, Version 2.0 University of Oregon, 2012 2. Boys Town Well-Managed Schools (Life Skills) - Copyright 2015, Father Flanagan's Boys' Home
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Activities to Implement the Intervention	Person(s) Accountable	Timeline Begin	End	Resources	Staff Development Outcome
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1. Initial and review expectation stations, adjust stations as needed	PK-6 teachers and students	August 2015	May 2019	PBIS Team	Creation/Training on station expectations
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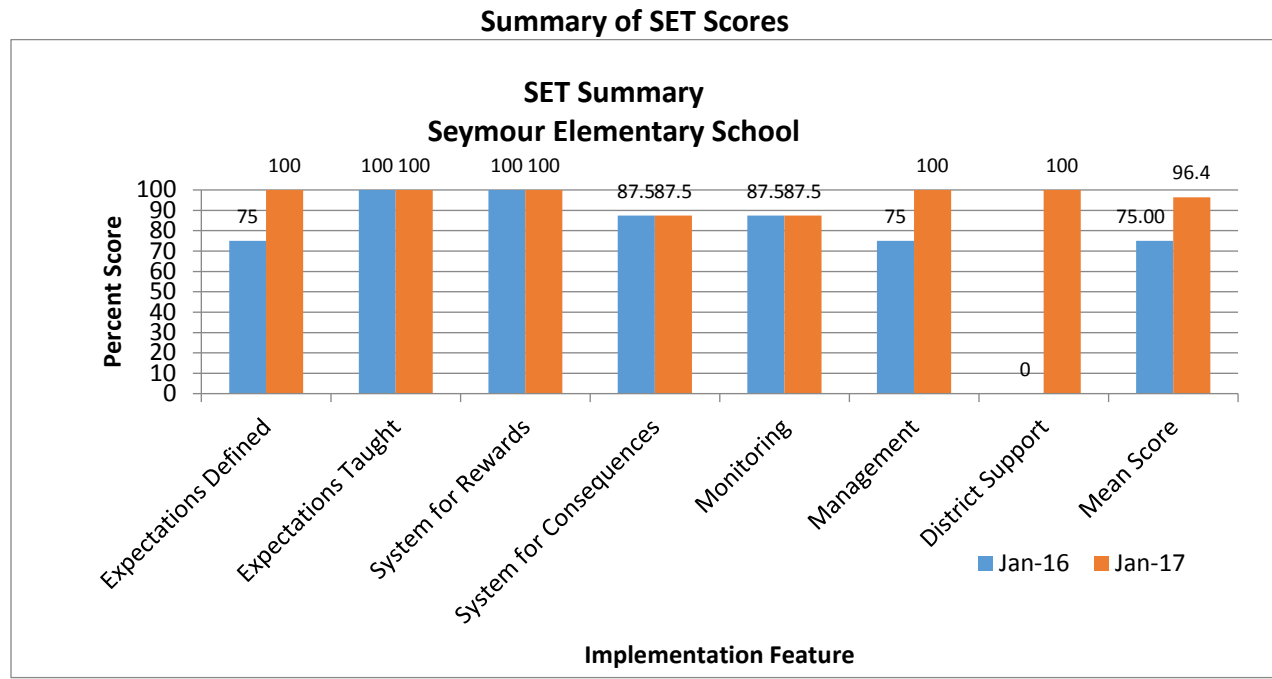
2. Celebration Assemblies / Leadership Parades	PK-6 teachers	August 2015	May 2019	Minute-to-Win-It Activities	Incorporate character education and build positive relationships
3. Develop Levels of PBiS *Level 1 (Immediate Gratification) - Tokens *Level 2 (Delayed Gratification) - Cyclone Cash *Level 3 - Note/Postcard to parents *Level 4 - Level to recognize staff - Free Jeans/Pin/Gift Card	PBiS Team	August 2016	May 2019	Community Partners	Build Relationships
4. New staff members will annually receive in-house staff development on PBiS levels	PBiS Team and Staff	August 2016	May 2019	Expectations and Levels of PBiS Explained	
5. Seymour Multi-Age Groups for Character Building <a href="#">Cyclone Circles</a>	All students and staff	October 2016	May 2019		Incorporate character education and build positive relationships
6. Boys Town Well-Managed Classroom Instruction (Social Skills)	All Staff	August 2015	May 2019	Boys Town	Staff training on explicit social skill instruction

**School-Wide Evaluation Tool Summary Report  
Seymour Elementary School**

SET Date: January 26, 2017

SET Completed by: Brian McKeivitt & Molly Meyer, University of Nebraska at Omaha

The *School-Wide Evaluation Tool* (SET) is used to provide information about the degree to which school-wide Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS) are being implemented in a school. The SET produces a summary score and a subscale score for each of the seven feature areas of PBIS. The summary SET score is a general index of school-wide implementation. The seven subscale scores provide a specific index of the implementation level for that feature area. Schools scoring 80% on the general index (Mean Score) and 80% on the specific index for teaching behavioral expectations are implementing PBIS with fidelity at a universal level (Todd et al., 2003).



<b>SET Category</b>	<b>Jan 2016</b>	<b>Jan 2017</b>
Expectations Defined and Posted	75%	100%
<b>Behavioral Expectations Taught</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
On-going System for Rewarding Behavioral Expectations	100%	100%
System for Responding to Behavioral Violations	87.5%	87.5%
Monitoring and Decision-Making	87.5%	87.5%
Management	75%	100%
District Level Support	0%	100%
<b>Summary Mean Score</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>96.4%</b>

Congratulations! Your school has met the criterion for implementing PBIS with fidelity.

## Strengths:

### **Behavioral Expectations Defined**

1. Staff has agreed to three positively stated behavioral expectations (be safe, be respectful, be responsible)
2. The school rules were publically posted in 9 out of 10 locations observed.

### **Behavioral Expectations Taught**

1. There is a documented system for teaching behavioral expectations.
2. 100% of staff interviewed indicated they have taught behavioral expectations to students this year.
3. All PBIS team members interviewed stated the school-wide program has been taught/reviewed with staff this year.
4. 100% of students interviewed could state all 3 behavioral expectations.
5. 100% of staff interviewed could name all 3 behavioral expectations.

### **On-going System for Rewarding Behavioral Expectations**

1. There is a documented system for rewarding student behavior.
2. 100% of students interviewed have been rewarded for good behavior using tokens or Cyclone cash in the last two months.
3. 100% of staff interviewed have delivered a token and/or Cyclone cash to students for expected behavior in the last two months.

### **System for Responding to Behavioral Violations**

1. There is a well-documented system for dealing with and reporting behavioral violations.
2. 100% of staff interviewed agree with the principal on what problems are office-managed and what problems are classroom-managed.
3. There is a crisis plan for responding to dangerous situations posted in 7 out of 7 locations observed.

### **Monitoring & Decision Making**

1. There is a clearly defined system for collecting and summarizing office referrals.
2. The principal reported that the PBIS team provides discipline data summaries to staff at least three times per year.
3. All PBIS team members interviewed reported that discipline data is used for making decisions about PBIS work.

### **Management**

1. The school improvement plan lists behavior support as one of the top 3 goals.
2. 90% of staff reported knowledge of a school-wide PBIS team.
3. The PBIS team is representative of school staff.
4. 100% of team members could correctly identify the team leader.
5. The principal is an active member of the PBIS team.
6. PBIS team meetings occur at least monthly.
7. The team reports progress to staff at least four times per year.
8. The PBIS team has a current action plan.

### **District-level Support**

1. The school budget has an allocated amount of money for building and maintaining school-wide behavior support.
2. The principal could identify a liaison in the district or state to support PBIS work.

## Recommendations:

### **System for Responding to Behavioral Violations**

1. 80% of staff accurately reported the procedures for handling an extreme emergency like a stranger in the building with a gun. One staff member said to call the office/police and the other said she would look at a chart on the wall. While these responses are not necessarily incorrect, emergency procedures, specifically lockdown procedures, should be knowledge that all staff members have automatically.

### **Monitoring and Decision Making**

1. The office referral form does not have all useful fields for decision making. While it has space to write a description of the problem behavior and the administrative consequence, typical referral forms have check boxes to minimize the amount of time and writing required to complete the form. Consider adding “forced choice” problem behaviors and/or consequences that teachers could use to simply check off the problem behavior or consequence rather than write a narrative about it. You can always have a line to add additional notes if needed. A field for other persons involved could also be useful.

If you have questions or would like to discuss this report, please contact Brian McKeivitt at (402) 554-2498 or email to [bmckevitt@unomaha.edu](mailto:bmckevitt@unomaha.edu).

### Reference:

Todd, A. W., Lewis-Palmer, T., Horner, R. H., Sugai, G., Sampson, N. K., & Phillips, D. (2003). School-wide Evaluation Tool Manual. University of Oregon. Eugene, OR. (Available online at <http://www.pbis.org>).

# Seymour Elementary Trout in the Classroom



This was our second year participating in the Trout in the Classroom program provided by the Nebraska Game and Parks. In mid January, we received approximately 150 rainbow trout eggs from a hatchery in Montana. Each week, students learn information about water quality, life cycle, anatomy and much more.

Each Thursday a lesson is taught to over 60 students including students with special needs whom pair up with a "buddy" for instruction and learning. The curriculum is provided at no cost by the Nebraska Game and Parks and is funded through the Nebraska Environmental Trust. Students are able to get an in depth view of wildlife and learning that many others 5th and 6th graders do not get to experience.

One of the highlights of the program is performing dissections and learning about the anatomy of a rainbow trout. We received 30 trout that were 10" long from the Grove Lake Fish Hatchery in Royal, NE. Students enjoyed the hands on approach to the dissections and enjoyed the experience. In May, we will take a field trip to Schramm State Park and will let go the trout we raised in our classroom. The day provides an opportunity for students to learn about fish in Nebraska, talk with fish biologists at the Nebraska Aquarium, and test their fishing skills at the local ponds.



Monday marked the 45<sup>th</sup> day of session, starting a full week of debate and hearings. Speaker priority bills were announced Monday and wrapped the designation of all priorities for this session. On Friday morning, the body adopted permanent rules, bringing that debate to an end for the session. With adjournment for the weekend, to date, the Governor has signed 14 bills, with 12 bills on Final Reading, 7 bills on Select, 11 bills have been withdrawn and 20 Indefinitely Postponed.

## **LEGISLATIVE ACTION**

On Monday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature debated LB 368 by Senator John Lowe, was debated until 11:45am. LB 368 is this sessions attempt to repeal the helmet law. At that time, the body moved to Select File for bills with no amendments. 11 bills were advanced from Select file to E&R Final to prepare for Final Reading.

In the afternoon, the Appropriations Committee heard testimony on the Department of Health and Human Services' Budget. Also heard that afternoon was LB 513 by Senator Bob Hilkeman that would provide a base rate increase for a certain hospital services. Senator Lynn Walz's LB 473, a bill that would require rest periods for employees, was heard by the Business Labor Committee. At the request of Senator Walz, the Committee will hold the bill. In the Education Committee, they advanced LB 595, Senator Mike Groene's bill allowing teachers to use force to subdue a violent student, on a 5-2-1 vote.

On Tuesday, March 14<sup>th</sup> LB 368 once again dominated morning debate and was subject to a cloture vote at 11:45am which ultimately was a vote short on. Senator Tyson Larson filed a motion to reconsider the vote, which the speaker has the option to file in the next five days.

In afternoon committee hearings, LB 630 was heard by the Education Committee. LB 630 is Senator Tyson Larson's bill to allow for charter schools and it packed the hearing room and over flow room. Testimony finished up after 9:00 P.M. and became heated at times as the hearing went into the evening. Appropriations committee held their 2<sup>nd</sup> day of Department of Health and Human Services budget hearings.

On Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> the Legislature took up their Select File agenda and they moved a few bills before LB 62 by Speaker Jim Scheer, which would remove a prohibition on the wearing of religious garb by teachers. LB 62 was filibustered by Senator Ernie Chambers and Senator Justin Wayne, who took the time to discuss public schools and charter schools on the floor. The filibuster debate took the morning.

In afternoon hearings, the Judiciary Committee heard testimony on LB 622 by Senator Anna Wishart – the Medical Cannabis Act. The Revenue Committee heard several bills related to the Nebraska Advantage Act and tax incentives.

On Thursday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, the Legislature advanced LB 62 to Final Reading and the body was able to move through Select File for the majority of the morning. However, LB 46, by Senator Watermeier to create Choose Life license plates, brought movement to a standstill.

In committee hearings, the Revenue Committee heard LB 592, by Senator Sue Crawford, that would change tax incentives available under the Nebraska Advantage Act. The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee heard LB 163 by Senator Tony Vargas, a bill that would require additional access to polling places prior to elections in counties of 100,000 or more.

Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, finally saw the adoption of permanent rules. The body advanced the original rules as of January 4<sup>th</sup> of this year. From there the body took up debate on LB 46, Senator Watermeier's "Choose Life" license plates.

Committee hearings on Friday wrapped up with Revenue Committee hearing LB 438 by Senator Sara Howard that would increase tobacco tax to \$2.14 for a pack of cigarettes. The Judiciary Committee received testimony on LB 562 by Senator John McCollister which would require a monthly report from the Department of Corrections. Finally, the Appropriations concluded a week of budget hearings by hearing from the agencies representing the Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Secretary of State.

Friday marked the 49<sup>th</sup> day of session and last full week of committee hearings. The final day of hearings will Thursday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Next week will be a short week with a recess day on Friday. The body will move to full day debate on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup>.

## **ITEMS OF NOTE FOR NEXT WEEK**

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 – 12-130pm – Fundraiser for Senator Mark Kolterman – Nebraska Club

Thursday, March 23, 2017 – 730-900am – Fundraiser for Senator Brett Lindstrom – Nebraska Club

Thursday, March 23, 2017 – Final Day of Committee Hearings

Friday, March 24, 2017 – Recess Day

Monday, March 27, 2017 – Recess Day

## **PRIORITIES**

The final batch of priorities has been identified by Speaker Scheer. While we attached a list of bills we have flagged for you that have also been prioritized, we are also linking to the list of all priorities here: <http://nebraskalegislature.gov/session/priority.php>.

This concludes our report for this week.

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<b>Document</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>
LB128	Groene		Health and Human Services 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Change eligibility provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
LB155	Brasch		Education 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Require successful completion of a civics examination as a prerequisite to high school graduation <i>LB155 requires that the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services be available to every student in a Nebraska high school in order that the students demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the United States history and the principles of the United States Government. Each student must successfully answer at least seventy percent of the questions on the civics test before graduation.</i>
LB308	Brasch		Education 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Change provisions relating to the committee on Americanism <i>LB308 requires that the committee on Americanism hold no fewer than three annual public meetings and keep minutes of all meetings showing the time and place, members present, and matters discussed. The committee must also ensure that any curriculum is recommended or approved by the committee on Americanism is readily accessible to the public.</i>
LB420	McCollister		Business and Labor 03/13/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Adopt the Fair Chance Hiring Act <i>LB420 adopts the Fair Chance Hiring Act. This act prohibits employers and employment agencies from asking an applicant to disclose information concerning the applicants criminal record or history unless such disclosure is needed to determine if the applicant meets the minimum employment qualifications of the position. Such positions include those in which a criminal history record information check is required by law or federal or state law specifically disqualifies an applicant with a criminal background even if such law allows for a waiver that would allow such applicant to be employed.</i>
LB438	Howard		Revenue 03/17/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Increase cigarette and tobacco taxes as prescribed and provide for the distribution of funds <i>LB438 creates the Behavioral Health Provider Rate Stabilization Fund. This fund shall be used to support reimbursement of behavioral health services providers through provider rates within the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Medical Assistance Act, the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act, and the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act. LB438 provides specific distribution guidelines for the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. LB438 also increases the tax on each package of cigarettes containing not more than twenty cigarettes to two dollars and fourteen cents per package. Beginning July 1, 2017, the State Treasurer shall place one dollar and twenty-four cents of such tax in the General Fund. Beginning July 1, 2016, and each FY thereafter, the State Treasurer shall place sixty-one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of such tax in the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i>
LB473	Walz		Business and Labor 03/13/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Require rest periods for employees <i>LB473 prohibits employers from requiring any employee to work without a rest period of at least fifteen minutes for every four hours worked. No reduction in compensation may be made for such rest period.</i>
LB503	Brewer		Business and Labor 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Prohibit certain provisions in collective-bargaining agreements <i>LB503 prohibits the deduction of wages of a public employee, either directly or indirectly, on behalf of a collective-bargaining organization except as required by a collective-bargaining agreement entered into between a public employer and a representative of its employees prior to the effective date of this act.</i>

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LB540	Stinner		Education 03/21/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for a temporary aid adjustment factor in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act</p> <p><i>LB540 requires the department, for FY2017-18, to calculate the preliminary allocated income tax fund for each local system by multiplying such local system's income tax liability by two and twenty-three hundredths percent. The allocated income tax funds distributed to each local system for such school fiscal years shall equal the preliminary allocated income tax funds minus the difference of the temporary aid adjustment factor for all school districts in the local system minus the reduction in net option funding for all school districts in the local system due to the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the allocated income tax funds shall not be less than zero for any local system.</i></p> <p><i>LB540 also establishes each school district's formula need for such school FY to be equal to the preliminary formula need minus the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the temporary aid adjustment factor shall not reduce formula need for any district by more than the sum of the preliminary allocated income tax plus the preliminary net option funding calculated.</i></p> <p><i>For FY2017-18 and FY2018-19, the department shall calculate the preliminary net option funding for each school district by multiplying the net number of option students by the statewide average basic funding per formula student. The net option funding to be distributed to each school district for such school fiscal years shall equal the preliminary net option funding minus the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the net option funding shall not be less than zero for any school district.</i></p>
LB552	Walz		Health and Human Services 03/17/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for the Children's Connection program</p> <p><i>LB552 creates a Children's Connection Program. The goals of these programs are to identify children with social and emotional difficulties and to work with parent, schools, and health care providers to provide timely, effective, and family-centered services in order to prevent child welfare or juvenile justice system involvement. These programs will be administered under the Division of Behavioral Health of DHHS. Each behavioral health region is required to develop a Program initiative with the required components. LB552 allocates two million dollars each fiscal year for the establishment of these programs.</i></p>
LB568	Erdman		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change provisions related to temporary teaching certificates</p> <p><i>LB568 allows the board, beginning August 1, 2018, to issue a temporary teaching certificate that is valid for five years to any qualified candidate. To be a qualified candidate, the applicant must be at least 21, possess a valid high school diploma, complete 24 hours of in-service training, complete 10 hours of classroom observation at each level for elementary, middle, and high school, successfully complete a course and pass an examination on the Constitution of the United States and Nebraska, submit fingerprints for a criminal history check, complete an application, and submit an application fee.</i></p>
LB581	McDonnell		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Require lobbyists to disclose conflicts of interest to principals and provide for cancellation of contracts</p> <p><i>LB581 requires every lobbyist to present a disclosure statement to their principle including: the name, permanent residence address, and office address of the lobbyist; a description of the business activity of the lobbyist; the name of every other principle represented by such lobbyists, the nature of the business of such principle, the amounts or sums given or to be given to the lobbyists as compensation and an identification of such matters on which the lobbyists expects to lobby; a description of any business association of the lobbyist; any information which the lobbyist possess that might constitute a conflict of interest; and a notice that a principle has the right to cancel the contract by mailing a written notice before midnight of the third business day after receipt. Any person violating these requirements will be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.</i></p> <p><i>LB581 also provides principles with the right to cancel a lobbying contract until midnight of the third business day after the lobbyist has presented a disclosure statement.</i></p>

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LB630	Larson		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Adopt the Independent Public Schools Act</p> <p><i>LB630 adopts the Independent Public Schools Act. The Act establishes the Independent Public School Authorizing and Accountability Commission. The commission will be composed of one member residing in each congressional district appointed by the Governor from a list submitted by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, one member residing in each congressional district appoint by the Governor from the citizenry, and two members of the State Board of Education chosen by the board. The commission must adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Act. An independent public school is part of the state's system of public education, except that is exempt from all statutes, rules and regulations, unless specifically provided otherwise in this Act.</i></p> <p><i>LB630 allows eligible persons or entities to submit an application to establish an independent public school. Independent public school means a public school operating under a compact granted by the authorized independently of any school board and managed by a board of trustees. Applications must be submitted no later than November 1 or each year for the following school year, and renewals must be submitted no later than twelve months prior to the expiration of the compact. Each of these independent public schools will be open to all students on a space-available basis and may not discriminate. No admission fee or tuition may be charged to apply to or attend an independent public school. Upon receiving a compact from the authorizer, an intendent public school will be deemed a policies sedition. It will also be considered a body politic and corporate with all the powers necessary or desirable for carrying out its compact. An independent public school may be located in all or part of an existing public school building, in space provide on a private work site, in a public building, or in any other suitable location.</i></p> <p><i>Employees of an Independent public school will be considered political subdivision employees for purposes of the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act shall apply. The school district in which an independent public school is located must provide transportation to the school for students living in such school district.</i></p>
LB650	Linehan		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change provisions for teaching certificates</p> <p><i>LB650 allow teaching certificates to be issued by the State Board of Education after passage of an appropriate subject area examination as follows: on the basis of college credit earned; to any person who presents to the board a valid doctoral degree; to any person holding a valid teaching certificate issued by a national or regional credential agency approved by the board; to any person holding a teaching certificate from another state; pursuant to an alternative certification program approved by the board; and to any person who has at least two years teaching experience. LB650 also provides the issuance of adjunct teaching certificates to any applicant who has expertise in the subject area to be taught and fulfills the requirements of the rules and regulations.</i></p>
LB663	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Require a copy of a lobbying contract for lobbyist registration as prescribed</p> <p><i>LB663 requires a copy of the lobbying contract for lobbyist registration if the principle receives public funds including taxes, fees, and grants.</i></p>
LB664	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Prohibit a political subdivision from using taxes or fees to employ a lobbyist</p> <p><i>LB664 prohibits a political subdivision from using revenue from any tax or free to employ or contract with a lobbyist.</i></p>
LB665	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Require a statement of activity regarding certain lobbying activity</p> <p><i>LB665 requires every lobbyist who is registered or required to be registered file with the Clerk of the Legislature a statement activity within 24 hours after the lobbyist's initial contact with an official in the executive branch of an official in the legislative branch regarding a legislative bill. The statement must indicate the legislative bill number, the name of the lobbyist, and the principle for whom the contact was made.</i></p>

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LB72	Schumacher	Monitor	Banking, Commerce and Insurance 02/13/2017	General File 02/16/2017 Banking, Commerce and Insurance Priority Bill	Provide for governmental unit bond priority under the Nebraska Governmental Unit Security Interest Act and rename the act  <i>LB72 renames the Nebraska Governmental Unity Security Interest Act to the Nebraska Governmental Unit Security Interest and Pledge Act. The NGUSIPA governs the perfection, priority, and enforcement of all security interests created governmental units. LB72 makes the pledge of any bond-pledged revenue source by a governmental unit to the payment of the principle, premium, and interest on bonds valid and binding and deemed continuously perfected from the time of the bonds or notes or other financing obligations are issued. Specific terms for different types of bonds are set forth in Section 5 of LB72.</i>
LB144	Friesen		Education 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017 Bostelman Priority Bill	Change agricultural and horticultural adjusted valuations for calculating state aid to schools  <i>LB144 changes agricultural and horticultural adjusted valuations for calculating state aid to schools.</i>
LB233	Smith		Revenue 01/25/2017	General File 02/02/2017 Stinner Priority Bill	Change revenue and taxation provisions  <i>LB233 eliminates a provision prohibiting licensed organizations from conducting lotteries or raffles within the boundaries of any Class 6 or Class 7 county without specific authorization through ordinance or resolution. LB233 also allocates the Nebraska affordable housing tax credit among some or all of the qualified partners, members or shareholders if it is a partnership, LLC or corporation that owes the qualified project. If such a qualified partner decides to transfer, sell, or assign all or part of their ownership interest, including their interest in the authorized tax credits, they must notify the Department of Revenue of the transfer, sale, or assignment and provide the tax identification number of the new owner prior to the end of the tax year for which the credits are to be used.</i>  <i>LB 233 requires that, for any funds returned under the homestead exemption, the county treasure must electronically file a report with the Property Tax Administrator, that indicated the amount of funds distributed to each taxing unit in the county in the year the funds were returned, any collection fee retained by the county in such year, and the amount of unused credits returned.</i>  <i>LB233 also changes the date under which a large data project or tier 4 or 6 project receives their exemption under the Nebraska Advantage act to the first January 1 after the property was placed in service. Additionally, those who file an application that described a large data center or tier 5 project that is sequential to a tier 2 large data center project for which the entitlement period has expired shall receive the exemption of all property, such as computer systems, beginning any January 1 after the date the property was placed into service.</i>
LB248	Harr	Monitor	Business and Labor 01/23/2017	General File 02/28/2017 Harr Priority Bill	Adopt the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Act  <i>LB248 adopts the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Act. The primary purpose of this act is to prepare young people to enter the workforce by developing marketable skills and competencies. This act allows employers and nonprofit corporations to apply to the commissioner for a grant in order to provide training for young people. This act also creates the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Fund. The purpose of this fund is to finance the administrative costs and provide grants under the Act.</i>

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LB263			Transportation and Telecommunications 02/07/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017 Transportation and Telecommunications Priority Bill	<p>Change provisions relating to vehicle certificates of title, registration, and license plates and provide for implementation of an electronic dealer services system by the Department of Motor Vehicles</p> <p><i>LB263 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement an electronic dealer services system. A licensed dealer may voluntarily participate in the system and provide titling and registration services. Any licensed dealer who chooses to participate may collect from a purchaser of a vehicle all appropriate certification of title fees, notation of lien fees, registration fees, motor vehicle taxes and fees, and sales taxes. All fees collected must be remitted to the appropriate authorities. Any licensed dealer who chooses to participate shall use this system to electronically submit title, registration, and lien information to the Vehicle Title and Registration System. License plates, registration certificates, and certificates of title will be delivered as provided under the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act and the Motor Vehicle Registration Act.</i></p> <p><i>LB263 limits a political subdivisions liability for any claim based on negligent issuances of a certificate of title under the Motor Vehicle Certification of Title Act and the State Boat Act when such title is issued upon an application filed electronically by an approved licensed dealer participating in the electronic dealer services system.</i></p> <p><i>LB263 also provides that, if a certificate of title is an electronic certificate of title record, the name of the owner may be changed electronically without the need to print a new certificate of title.</i></p>
LB265	Friesen		Education 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017 Briese Priority Bill	<p>Provide for a minimum amount of state aid based on the number of students in a local system</p> <p><i>LB265 requires the minimum amount to be distributed to each local system to be equal to at least: one thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2018-19; Two thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2019-20; three thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2020-21; Four thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2021-22; and Five thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2022-23 and each FY thereafter.</i></p>
LB338	Brasch	Oppose	Revenue 02/08/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Brasch Priority Bill	<p>Adopt the Agricultural Valuation Fairness Act</p> <p><i>LB338 adopts the Agricultural Valuation Fairness Act. Agricultural and horticultural land will be valued at its agricultural use value as determined by the Act regardless of any value which such land might have for other purposes. In order for land to receive agricultural use value, it must be located outside the corporate boundaries any district, city, or village and be used for agricultural or horticultural purposes. LB338 requires the county assessor to use an income-approach calculation to determine the agricultural use value for each year.</i></p> <p><i>LB338 also requires the Property Tax Administration to establish capitalization rates to be applied to each class or subclass of agricultural and horticultural land in each county.</i></p>
LB409	Groene	Oppose	Education 03/06/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Education Priority Bill	<p>Change the base limitation and local effort rate for school districts</p> <p><i>LB409 makes the base limitation for school districts for school fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19 to be zero. LB409 makes provisions applicable to school fiscal years 2017-2018 and 2018-19. LB409 also eliminates provisions that applied to school fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13.</i></p>

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LB415	Kolterman		Nebraska Retirement Systems 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Nebraska Retirement Systems Priority Bill	<p>Provide and change notification requirements and duties and benefits for certain retirement system members, change certain annuity and disability benefit provisions, and provide duties for school districts and the Public Employees Retirement Board relating to retirement</p> <p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for county employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity with the same or another county which participates in the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in an retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i></p> <p><i>On or after July 1, 2017, a retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the County Employees Retirement Act.</i></p> <p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for School employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity within 180 days with the same or another county which participates in the School Employees Retirement Act; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in an retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i></p>

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					<p><i>A retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the School Employees Retirement Act.</i></p>
					<p><i>An employer is required to notify the board and the State Department of Education of the date upon which the termination of employment has occurred and provide such information as the board deems necessary. A member hired on or after July 1, 2017, or a member who has taken a refund or retirement and is rehired may retire if the member is at least 60 years of age and the sum of the member's attained age and creditable service totals ninety, or if the member is at least 65 and has completed at least five years of credible service. If the annuity of such a member begins at a time when the sum of the member's attained age and credible service totals ninety and the member is at least 60, the annuity will not be reduced. However, this only applies to members who have acquired the equivalent of five years of service or more as a school employee under the retirement system.</i></p>
					<p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for Nebraska State Patrol members does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity within 180 days with the same or another county which participates in the School Employees Retirement Act; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in a retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services in any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems. The employer involved in the termination of the employment and the officer shall certify that, prior to retirement, there was no prearranged agreement to return to work in any capacity. A retired officer of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired officer that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act.</i></p>

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					<p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for State employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity with the same or another county which participates in the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in an retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i></p> <p><i>On or after July 1, 2017, a retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the State Employees Retirement Act.</i></p>
LB427	Vargas		Education 01/30/2017	General File 02/27/2017 Vargas Priority Bill	<p>Require breastfeeding accommodations for student-parents</p> <p><i>LB427 requires schools to provide private or appropriate facilities for accommodation for milk expression and storage for breast feeding student-mothers.</i></p>
LB432	Erdman		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017 Erdman Priority Bill	<p>Eliminate provisions of the Nebraska Budget Act relating to allowances for delinquent taxes and anticipated litigation</p> <p><i>LB432 eliminates provisions that allowed governing bodies, when certifying the amount needed for a budget, to make allowances for delinquent taxes not exceeding five percent of the amount required plus the actual percentage of delinquent taxes for the preceding tax year and for any estimated tax loss from any pending or anticipated litigation which involves taxation. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i></p>

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LB484	Kolowski	Support	Education 03/06/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017 Kolowski Priority Bill	<p>Create the School Financing Review Commission</p> <p><i>LB484 creates the School Financing Review Commission. The commission shall consist of twenty members, including: (a) Three members of the Legislature, including one member of the Revenue Committee of the Legislature, one member of the Education Committee of the Legislature, and one member of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council; (b) the Property Tax Administrator or his or her designee, who shall be a nonvoting, ex officio member; (c) the council director of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council; (d) the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee; (e) a representative of the Governor selected by the Governor; (f) two members representing postsecondary education with expertise in the area of school finance; (g) two members who reside in a Class II school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (h) two members who reside in a Class III school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (i) two members who reside in a Class IV school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (j) two members who reside in a Class V school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; and (k) three members from the state at large, one from each congressional district, who reside in school districts of varied sizes and with varying percentages of limited English proficiency students and poverty students. At least one of the members appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall have experience in the teaching profession in public schools, at least one shall have experience in business, and at least one shall have experience in agriculture-related business.</i></p> <p><i>The Commission is to conduct an in-depth review of the financing of the public elementary and secondary schools. On or before July 1 of each even-numbered year beginning 2020, the Commission must report to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Legislature on the adequacy of school funding sources.</i></p>
LB496	Stinner		Urban Affairs 02/28/2017	General File 03/08/2017 Williams Priority Bill	<p>Define and redefine terms under the Community Development Law</p> <p><i>LB496 includes the construction of workforce housing, in cities of the first and second class and villages, into the definition of redevelopment project under the Community Development Law. LB496 also includes a definition for workforce housing. Workforce housing means single-family or multi-family housing for which the municipality receives a housing study that is current, prepares an incentive plan for construction targeted to house existing or new workers, holds a public hearing on such incentive plan with notice, and after the public hearing finds that such incentive plan is necessary to prevent the spread of blight and substandard conditions within the municipality.</i></p>
LB512			Education 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Education Priority Bill	<p>Change provisions related to education</p> <p><i>LB512 eliminates outdated provisions. LB512 provides the State Board of Education the authority to administer any state or federal career and technical education laws and funding as directed. LB512 also permits the treasurer, or a person delegated by the school board, of a school district to draw and sign orders upon the treasurer for all money to be disbursed by the district. LB512 also eliminates best practices allowances. For any adjustment or payments caused by the failure of a school district to meet federal spending requirements under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may be used by the department to reimburse the United States Department of Education in the amount of the federal funds awarded to such school district or the amount of the adjustment, whichever is less.</i></p>

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LB595	Groene		Education 02/07/2017	In Committee 01/24/2017 Groene Priority Bill	<p>Provide for the use of physical force or physical restrain or removal from a class in response to student behavior</p> <p><i>LB595 allows a teacher or administrator to use necessary physical force or restraint if a student become physically violent or exhibits destructive behavior. Such force or restraint may only be used as long as the student presents a danger to themselves or others.</i></p> <p><i>LB595 also allows a teacher to remove a student from a class if the teacher has either documented that such student has repeatedly interfered with the teachers ability to communicate effectively with the other students, determines that such student's behavior is so disruptive that is seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to effectively communicate with other students, or determines that such student has committed other disruptive acts that merit discipline under the Student Discipline Act.</i></p> <p><i>A student removed according to these guidelines may be placed into another appropriate classroom, in-school suspension, or alternative education program.</i></p>
LB640	Groene	Oppose	Revenue 02/16/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Friesen Priority Bill	<p>Change provisions of the Property Tax Credit Act and provide school district property tax relief</p> <p><i>LB640 limits the maximum levy of school districts to one dollar per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation for tax year 2018 and each tax year thereafter. LB640 qualifies local systems for school district property tax relief aid when the general fund property tax receipts exceed sixty percent of the total general fund revenue for such local school systems. The property tax gap for such qualifying systems will equal the general fund property tax receipts minus sixty percent of the total general fund revenue. LB640 requires that, for tax years 2018 and after, the Department of Revenue must transfer an amount equal to the statewide increase in state aid from the Property Tax Credit Fund to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Fund to pay such increases in state aid to local systems.</i></p> <p><i>LB640 limits the amount of relief granted under this act to two hundred twenty-four million dollars in the form of a property tax credit. For tax year 2018 and after, the amount available to be dispersed to counties will equal the two hundred twenty-four million minus the amount to be distributed to local systems as school district property tax relief and the amount transfer to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Fund. The amount disbursed to each county will be equal to the amount available to be disbursed multiplied by a ration of the credit allocation valuation in the county to the credit allocation valuation by the state.</i></p> <p><i>LB640 requires any school district receiving property tax relief aid to reduce budged expenditures by twenty-five percent of the property tax cap calculated unless the school board passes an override of such reduction at least thirty days prior to approving the annual budget.</i></p>
LB651	Linehan	Monitor	Education 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Linehan Priority Bill	<p>Adopt the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act</p> <p><i>LB651 adopts the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act. The Act requires school districts to offer an accelerated reading intervention program for the purpose of ensuring that students can read at or above grade level by the end of the third grade. Any student that exhibits a reading deficiency at any time will receive an individual reading plan no later than thirty days after the identification. The school must also notify the parents of the child.</i></p> <p><i>LB651 also requires schools to provide summer reading camps to all third grad students scoring below grade level on the third-grade statewide reading assessment.</i></p>

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LB22	Scheer		Appropriations 01/17/2017	Approved by Governor (E- Clause) 02/15/2017	To provide, change, and eliminate provisions relating to appropriations and to reduce appropriations <i>LB22 is the Governor's budget reduction bill for the remainder of FY2016-17.</i>
LB27	Murante		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/19/2017	In Committee 01/09/2017	Change requirements for state agency contracts and powers and duties of the Auditor of Public Accounts as prescribed <i>LB27 requires that all information requested by the auditor be received by September 20. Information not received by this date shall be deemed delinquent, and the auditor may assess the political subdivision a late fee of twenty dollars per day. Political subdivisions that fail to provide the requested information by September 20 will also be subject to an audit, based on the auditor's discretion. LB27 also adds a restriction that state agency contracts may not be amended to extend the duration of the contract for a period of more than fifty percent of the initial contract term. Purchasing or lease contracts entered into by the state purchasing bureau may also not be amended to extend the duration of the contract for a period of more than fifty percent of the initial contract term. LB27 also creates a duty of the Auditor of Public Accounts to assess a fourteen percent interest rate on delinquent payments of any fees for audits and services owed to the Auditor of Public Accounts. LB27 also allowed the Auditor of Public Accounts to share working papers with certain agencies during either an ongoing audit or after the completion of an audit.</i>
LB58	Kintner		Education 01/30/2017	In Committee 01/09/2017	Change provisions relating to participation in extracurricular activities <i>LB58 prohibits students who withdrawn from a public school to enroll in a school that elected to not meet accreditation or approval requirements from participating in extracurricular activities for three hundred sixty-five days after the date of withdrawal. LB58 also requires school boards to establish policies and procedures that allow the participation of any student from a school which elects to not meet accreditation or approval requirements.</i>
LB62	Scheer		Education 01/17/2017	Select File 02/23/2017	Eliminate prohibition on teachers wearing religious garb <i>LB62 repeals sections 79-898 and 79-899, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska.</i>
LB63	Scheer		Revenue 01/20/2017	General File 01/30/2017	Eliminate a sales and use tax exemption relating to political events <i>LB63 eliminates a sales and use tax exemption on prepared food and food ingredients sold at political events by ballot question committees, candidate committees, independent committees, and political party committees as defined in the Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act or fees and admissions charged for such political event.</i>
LB72	Schumacher	Monitor	Banking, Commerce and Insurance 02/13/2017	General File 02/16/2017 Banking, Commerce and Insurance Priority Bill	Provide for governmental unit bond priority under the Nebraska Governmental Unit Security Interest Act and rename the act <i>LB72 renames the Nebraska Governmental Unity Security Interest Act to the Nebraska Governmental Unit Security Interest and Pledge Act. The NGUSIPA governs the perfection, priority, and enforcement of all security interests created governmental units. LB72 makes the pledge of any bond-pledged revenue source by a governmental unit to the payment of the principle, premium, and interest on bonds valid and binding and deemed continuously perfected from the time of the bonds or notes or other financing obligations are issued. Specific terms for different types of bonds are set forth in Section 5 of LB72.</i>
LB89	Hughes		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/19/2017	General File 02/02/2017	Change published notice of hearing requirements under the Nebraska Budget Act as prescribed <i>LB89 changes the requirement for notice of a public hearing from five days to four calendar days. Four calendar days will include the date of publication but not the day of the hearing.</i>
LB90	Hughes		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/19/2017	In Committee 01/09/2017	Require public entity provide accommodations where Auditor of Public Accounts employee conducts audit or examination <i>LB90 requires public entities to provide suitable accommodations when any employee of the Auditor of Public Accounts conducts an audit or examination of them.</i>

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LB95	Crawford		Urban Affairs 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/09/2017	<p>Change provisions relating to the Community Development Law and tax-increment financing</p> <p><i>LB95 requires that each city which has approved one or more redevelopment plans which are financed in whole or in part through the use of tax-increment financing to establish an auditing plan to provide for regular review of each such redevelopment plan. The Auditor of Public Accounts has the power to audit, or cause to be audited, any authority established when the Auditor determines such an audit is necessary or when requested by the governing body.</i></p> <p><i>LB95 also requires that, prior to declaring an area in need of development, the governing body must conduct a study or analysis on whether the area is substandard and blighted. A public hearing will also be conducted on this question, with proper notice given to the community. Each neighborhood association that desires to receive such notice must register with their city's planning department the area they would wish to be notified on.</i></p> <p><i>LB95 requires that redevelopment plans that include the use of tax-increment financing shall not provide for the reimbursement of costs incurred prior to the approval of the redevelopment plan, except those costs related to the preparation of the redevelopment plan, the substandard and blighted study, or the cost-benefit analysis.</i></p> <p><i>Redevelopment plans which include the use of tax-increment financing must, after five years and every five years thereafter, conduct a review and update of a cost-benefit analysis. This report should include tax shifts, public infrastructure and community public service needs impacts, impacts on employers and employees, impacts on student populations of school districts, and other impacts determined to be relevant. Each city approving such a redevelopment plan must retain copies of all such redevelopment plans and supporting documents associated with that plan for a period of time required under applicable records retention schedules.</i></p> <p><i>LB95 also allows for redevelopment contracts for plans that include the use of tax-increment financing to include a provision requiring that all ad valorem taxes levied upon real property in a redevelopment project be paid on time in order for such redevelopment project to received tax-increment financing. To the extent that a redevelopment plan divides the ad valorem taxes levied upon only a portion of the real property in a redevelopment project, such portion shall be clearly related to the redevelopment plan.</i></p>
LB103	Murante		Education 01/23/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	<p>Change provisions relating to accelerated or differentiated curriculum and require establishment of focus groups</p> <p><i>LB103 includes legislative findings on the importance of school districts offering programs for individual student needs and the development of extraordinary ability and potential. LB103 requires that each school district within a learning community that provides an approved accelerated or differentiated curriculum program to establish a high-ability learners' focus group. This focus group will include parents of high ability learners, teachers from the accelerated or differentiated program, and administrators with related responsibilities. The focus groups will explore ways for parents and students to play an integral role in the accelerated program, annually receive and review data, annually review the expenditure of funds, and study any issues related to the education of learners with high ability that is deemed appropriate. Each school district, if a member of a learning community, annually provide information concerning identifying criteria to the school district's high-ability-learners' focus group.</i></p>
LB109	Blood		Education 01/23/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	<p>Provide for a temporary teaching certificate or permit for military spouses</p> <p><i>LB109 requires the board to issue to military spouses temporary teaching certificates or permits once the spouse provides the required information.</i></p>

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LB118	Hilkemann		Revenue 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Adopt the Education Savings Account Act and provide income tax adjustments <i>LB118 adopts the Education Savings Account Act. The act allows for the parent or legal guardian of a student attending an eligible school to establish an account with a financial institution and designate the account as an education savings account. Up to two thousand dollars a year may be contributed to the account, and may further be invested at the direction of the account owner. Distributions from the account may only be used to pay for the qualified education expenses of the designated beneficiary, and the balance of the account must be fully distributed before the designated beneficiary graduates from high school.</i>  <i>LB118 also reduces Federal adjusted gross income by contributions to an account established under the Education Savings Account Act.</i>
LB119	Groene		Education 01/17/2017	Approved by Governor (E- Clause) 02/15/2017	Change dates related to certifications and distributions of state aid to schools <i>LB119 changes the date in which the department shall determine the amounts to be distributed to each local system and each district to one or before June 1, 2017 and one or before March 1 of each year thereafter.</i>
LB127	Groene		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/02/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Change notice requirements under Open Meetings Act <i>LB 127 provides for a change in the open meetings law, in Sec. 84-1411 of the statute. It strikes language for political subdivisions to publicize meeting designated by each political body and requires them to publish such notice in a newspaper of general circulation in each county within the public entities jurisdiction as well as any other method designated by the public body. The newspaper notice does not have to be published in every county but must have a general circulation within the county. This proposal is also not intended to apply to state agencies but just political subdivision.</i>
LB128	Groene		Health and Human Services 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Change eligibility provisions relating to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program
LB144	Friesen		Education 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017 Bostelman Priority Bill	Change agricultural and horticultural adjusted valuations for calculating state aid to schools <i>LB144 changes agricultural and horticultural adjusted valuations for calculating state aid to schools.</i>
LB151	Stinner		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/19/2017	General File 02/27/2017	Change and provide for duties of the Auditor of Public Accounts and certain audited entities <i>LB151 requires any entity that is audited or examined to provide to the Auditor of Public Accounts a detailed written description of any corrective action to be taken in response to the audit on or before six months after the issuance of a report by the Auditor of Public Accounts. The Auditor of Public accounts must then electronically submit a report of any findings of such investigation to the Governor, the appropriate standing committee, and the Appropriations of the Committee. LB151 also eliminates the duty of Auditor of Public Accounts to conduct all audits and examinations in a timely manner and in accordance with the standards for audits of government organizations, program, activities, and functions published by the Comptroller General of the United States.</i>
LB155	Brasch		Education 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/10/2017	Require successful completion of a civics examination as a prerequisite to high school graduation <i>LB155 requires that the civics portion of the naturalization test used by the United States Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services be available to every student in a Nebraska high school in order that the students demonstrate a knowledge and understanding of the fundamentals of the United States history and the principles of the United States Government. Each student must successfully answer at least seventy percent of the questions on the civics test before graduation.</i>

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LB174	Morfeld		Revenue 02/01/2017	In Committee 01/12/2017	Adopt the Apprenticeship Training Program Tax Credit Act <i>LB174 allows for taxpayers who employ one or more apprentices as part of a qualified apprenticeship program may apply to receive tax credits under this Act. The tax credit will be equal to one dollar times the total number of hours expected to be worked by the apprentices.</i>
LB175	Morfeld		Education 01/31/2017	In Committee 01/12/2017	Adopt the Student Online Personal Protection Act <i>LB175 prohibits the operator of a school website from participating in targeted advertising on the site, using covered student information to amass a profile about the student, to sell or rent a student's covered information, or disclose covered information unless disclosure is to further the school purpose of the site.</i>
LB214	Halloran		Education 01/31/2017	In Committee 01/12/2017	Terminate the Master Teacher Program <i>LB214 terminates the Master Teacher Program on July 1, 2017.</i>
LB227	Wishart		Health and Human Services 02/03/2017	In Committee 01/12/2017	Create the Brain Injury Council and Brain Injury Trust Fund <i>LB227 creates the Brain Injury Council and Brain Injury Trust Fund. The purpose of the council and fund are to provide assistance to Nebraskans who are suffering from brain injuries.</i>
LB232	Kolterman		Revenue 02/23/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Provide a property tax exemption for property leased to the state or a governmental subdivision <i>LB232 includes property leased to the state or to a governmental subdivision by the person or entity holding legal title to the property within the definition of property of the state and its governmental subdivisions. Therefore, this leased property is exempt from property taxes.</i>
LB233	Smith		Revenue 01/25/2017	General File 02/02/2017 Stinner Priority Bill	Change revenue and taxation provisions <i>LB233 eliminates a provision prohibiting licensed organizations from conducting lotteries or raffles within the boundaries of any Class 6 or Class 7 county without specific authorization through ordinance or resolution. LB233 also allocates the Nebraska affordable housing tax credit among some or all of the qualified partners, members or shareholders if it is a partnership, LLC or corporation that owes the qualified project. If such a qualified partner decides to transfer, sell, or assign all or part of their ownership interest, including their interest in the authorized tax credits, they must notify the Department of Revenue of the transfer, sale, or assignment and provide the tax identification number of the new owner prior to the end of the tax year for which the credits are to be used.</i>  <i>LB 233 requires that, for any funds returned under the homestead exemption, the county treasure must electronically file a report with the Property Tax Administrator, that indicated the amount of funds distributed to each taxing unit in the county in the year the funds were returned, any collection fee retained by the county in such year, and the amount of unused credits returned.</i>  <i>LB233 also changes the date under which a large data project or tier 4 or 6 project receives their exemption under the Nebraska Advantage act to the first January 1 after the property was placed in service. Additionally, those who file an application that described a large data center or tier 5 project that is sequential to a tier 2 large data center project for which the entitlement period has expired shall receive the exemption of all property, such as computer systems, beginning any January 1 after the date the property was placed into service.</i>
LB235	Walz	Support	Education 01/23/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Clarify grant requirements for the Summer Food Service Program <i>LB235 clarifies that grants awarded may be expended up to the full cost of the qualifying expense incurred by the sponsors of the Summer Food Service Program in initiating or expanding the services. If the funds are expended solely for the benefit of child nutrition programs administered by the Department of Education, there will be no proration of the expense required.</i>

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LB237	Erdman	Monitor	Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/16/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Change filing requirements of official bonds for school districts <i>LB237 requires that any official bonds for school districts be filed in the school district officer.</i>
LB238	Erdman		Revenue 02/23/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Change provisions of the Nebraska Budget Act relating to certifying taxable values <i>LB238 allows the certification of taxable values to be provided to the governing body or board either by mail, electronically, or by notifying such governing body or board of the place on the county assessor's website where the current taxable values are located.</i>
LB240	Baker		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/25/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Provide for videoconferencing and telephone conferences for school board meetings <i>LB240 allows for school board meetings to be held by means of videoconferencing or telephone conference.</i>
LB246	Morfeld	Support	Education 02/14/2017	Introduced 01/11/2017	Provide a budget exception for expanded learning opportunity programs <i>LB246 allows for school districts to exceed their budget authority for expanded learnings opportunity programs or for other school-based or school-linked activities and programs that utilize school-community partnerships to expand opportunities for students to participate in educational activities outside the normal classroom. For districts with more than one thousand students, expenditures may exceed up to one hundred thousand dollars. For districts with less than one thousand students, expenditures may exceed up to fifty thousand dollars.</i>
LB247	Morfeld	Monitor	Education 02/14/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Provide for school district levy and bonding authority for cybersecurity <i>LB247 allows for school boards to levy additional property taxes if necessary to address an actual or potential cybersecurity vulnerability.</i>
LB248	Harr	Monitor	Business and Labor 01/23/2017	General File 02/28/2017 Harr Priority Bill	Adopt the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Act <i>LB248 adopts the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Act. The primary purpose of this act is to prepare young people to enter the workforce by developing marketable skills and competencies. This act allows employers and nonprofit corporations to apply to the commissioner for a grant in order to provide training for young people. This act also creates the Youth Opportunities in Learning and Occupations Fund. The purpose of this fund is to finance the administrative costs and provide grants under the Act.</i>
LB249	Harr		Revenue 02/23/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Expand business inventory property tax exemption <i>LB249 expands business inventory property tax exemptions to personal property that is equipment useable for construction, agriculture, or manufacturing.</i>
LB251	Harr		Revenue 02/16/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Redefine agricultural or horticultural purposes for revenue and taxation purposes <i>LB251 requires that, when determining whether a parcel of land is primarily used for agricultural or horticultural purposes, no regard may be given to whether some or all of the parcel is platted and subdivided into separate lots or developed with improvements such as streets, sidewalks, curbs, gutters, sewer lines, water lines, or utility lines.</i>
LB262	Groene		Urban Affairs 02/21/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Change provisions relating to undeveloped vacant land under the Community Development Law <i>LB262 prohibits tax-increment financing from being used for the acquisition, planning, and preparation for development or disposal of undeveloped vacant land. LB262 also prohibits undeveloped vacant land from being declared or designated blighted and substandard in order to qualify for the use of tax-increment financing unless such land meets the definition of a blighted area.</i>

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LB263			Transportation and Telecommunications 02/07/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017 Transportation and Telecommunications Priority Bill	<p>Change provisions relating to vehicle certificates of title, registration, and license plates and provide for implementation of an electronic dealer services system by the Department of Motor Vehicles</p> <p><i>LB263 requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to implement an electronic dealer services system. A licensed dealer may voluntarily participate in the system and provide titling and registration services. Any licensed dealer who chooses to participate may collect from a purchaser of a vehicle all appropriate certification of title fees, notation of lien fees, registration fees, motor vehicle taxes and fees, and sales taxes. All fees collected must be remitted to the appropriate authorities. Any licensed dealer who chooses to participate shall use this system to electronically submit title, registration, and lien information to the Vehicle Title and Registration System. License plates, registration certificates, and certificates of title will be delivered as provided under the Motor Vehicle Certificate of Title Act and the Motor Vehicle Registration Act.</i></p> <p><i>LB263 limits a political subdivisions liability for any claim based on negligent issuances of a certificate of title under the Motor Vehicle Certification of Title Act and the State Boat Act when such title is issued upon an application filed electronically by an approved licensed dealer participating in the electronic dealer services system.</i></p> <p><i>LB263 also provides that, if a certificate of title is an electronic certificate of title record, the name of the owner may be changed electronically without the need to print a new certificate of title.</i></p>
LB265	Friesen		Education 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017 Briese Priority Bill	<p>Provide for a minimum amount of state aid based on the number of students in a local system</p> <p><i>LB265 requires the minimum amount to be distributed to each local system to be equal to at least: one thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2018-19; Two thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2019-20; three thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2020-21; Four thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2021-22; and Five thousand five hundred dollars per formula student for school FY2022-23 and each FY thereafter.</i></p>
LB266	Friesen	Monitor	Revenue 02/16/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	<p>Change the valuation of agricultural land and horticultural land</p> <p><i>LB266 requires that, for the purposes of school district taxation, agricultural and horticultural land be taxed at a percentage of its actual value. For the 2018 tax year, the percentage will be fifty. For the 2019 tax year, the percentage will be forty. For the 2020 tax year and years after, the percentage will be thirty.</i></p> <p><i>LB266 also allows for the commission to increase or decrease the value of real property. For the purpose of school district taxation, agricultural and horticultural tax ranges may be: 44 to 50 for tax year 2018; 34-40 for tax year 2019; and 24-30 for tax years 2020 and after.</i></p> <p><i>State aid means, for agricultural and horticultural land, a percentage of the actual value of the land. For tax year 2018, 47%, for tax year 2019, 37%, and for tax years 2020 and after, 27%.</i></p>
LB270	Kolowski	Monitor	Appropriations 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	<p>Appropriate funds to the State Department of Education</p> <p><i>LB270 appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund for FY2017-18 and \$750,000 from the General Fund for FY2018-19 to the State Department of Education to carry out the Expanded Learning Opportunity Grant Program Act.</i></p>
LB277	Wayne		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	<p>Change population requirements for election precincts</p> <p><i>LB277 lowers the population requirements for election precincts from one thousand seven hundred fifty registered voters to one thousand registered voters.</i></p>

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LB278	Kolterman	Monitor	Nebraska Retirement Systems 02/03/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Redefine disability and change disability retirement application and medical examination provisions for various retirement acts <i>LB278 requires, in order for disability retirement applications, that the member of the state, county or school retirement plan be initially diagnosed with a physical or mental impairment, or become disabled while the member was an active participant in the plan. LB278 also requires a medical examination prior to a member being retired as a result of disability and the expense of the board. LB278 also allows for the board to require any disability beneficiary under the age of fifty-five to undergo annual medical examinations.</i>
LB279	Hilkemann		Transportation and Telecommunications 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Require lap-shoulder belts on school buses as prescribed <i>LB279 requires each school bus manufactured on or after the effective date of this act to be equipped with lap-shoulder belts sufficient to allow each passenger to use a separate belt.</i>
LB282	Riepe		Health and Human Services 03/08/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Change telehealth provisions relating to children's behavioral health <i>LB282 eliminates provisions that excluded services provided by means of telecommunications technology, other than telehealth behavioral health services, received by a child if the child has access to a comparable service within thirty miles of his or her place of residence.</i>
LB295	Smith		Revenue 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/13/2017	Adopt the Opportunity Scholarships Act and provide tax credits <i>LB295 adopts the Opportunity Scholarships Act. The purpose of this act is to provide tax credits to organizations that financially assist parents and legal guardians who want to enroll their children in privately operated elementary and secondary schools. The act allows certain organizations to apply to become certified as scholarship-granting organizations under the act. Taxpayers, organizations, or qualified businesses who make one or more cash contributions to such an organization will be eligible for an income tax credit equal to the total amount of contributions for the tax year. The annual limit on the total amount of tax credits for a tax year shall be ten million dollars. LB295 also requires each scholarship-granting organization to annually submit an audited financial information report.</i>
LB296	McCollister		Judiciary 01/26/2017	General File 03/01/2017	Change immunity provisions with respect to asthma and allergic reactions <i>LB296 makes any physician or health care professional who prescribes and any pharmacists who dispenses non-patient-specific medication to a school, educational service unit, or program for the purpose of implementing an emergency response to life-threatening asthma or allergic reactions immune from civil liability for any act or omission which results in damage or injury, unless such damage or injury was caused by the willful or wanton act or omission of such individual.</i>
LB298	Baker		Health and Human Services 02/23/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Change provisions relating to the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act and a task force <i>LB298 clarifies that the immediate and public dissemination of a current picture and information about a child who is missing from a foster or out-of-home placement is not restricted by certain confidentiality requirements. However, the disseminated information may not include the fact that the child is in the care, custody, or control of the Department of Health and Human Services or the Officer of Probation Administration. LB298, beginning July 1, 2017, makes the Normalcy Task Force the Nebraska Strengthening Families Act Committee. This committee shall monitor and make recommendations regarding the implementation in Nebraska of the federal Preventing Sex Trafficking and Strengthening Families Act. LB298 also clarifies the Legislatures intent to recognize the importance of parental rights and the different rights that exists dependent on a variety of factors.</i>  <i>LB298 also requires the department or officer to ensure the presence of a written normalcy plan describing how the department or office will ensure all children have access to age or developmentally appropriate activities.</i>

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LB299	Ebke		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/24/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	<p>Adopt the Occupational Board Reform Act and change procedures for rules and regulations</p> <p><i>LB299 adopts the Occupational Board Reform Act. The purpose of this act is to require occupational boards to respect the fundamental right of an individual to pursue an occupation and to ensure that occupational boards and individual members of occupational boards avoid liability under federal antitrust laws. The act allows for individuals with criminal history to petition the relevant occupational board to determine if such criminal history would disqualify them from certification. An individual's criminal history will only disqualify them for a felony conviction, that felony conviction is expressly listed as a disqualifying offense, and the occupational board concludes that the state has an important interest in protecting public safety.</i></p> <p><i>LB299 also creates the Office of Supervision of Occupational Boards. The purpose of this board is to monitor occupational boards and ensure compliance with the act.</i></p> <p><i>LB299 also creates the Legislative Office of Occupational Regulations. The duties and responsibilities of the Office as specified in Section 23 of the act.</i></p>
LB300	Krist		Judiciary 02/24/2017	General File 03/07/2017	<p>Eliminate the statute of limitations on civil actions for sexual assault of a child</p> <p><i>LB300 eliminates the statute of limitations for civil actions arising from sexual assault of a child.</i></p>
LB305	Crawford		Business and Labor 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	<p>Adopt the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Act</p> <p><i>LB305 adopts the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Act. The act allows for covered individuals to take paid family medical leave to care for a new child, because the covered individual has a serious health condition, to care for a family member, to care for a covered service member, or for other qualifying exigencies. The weekly benefits to be paid, for a covered individual whose individual average weekly wage is not more than 20% of the state average, an amount equal to 95% of the individuals average weekly wage. For individuals, whose weekly wage is more than 20% of the state average, the weekly benefits will be equal to 90% of such individuals average weekly wage. Claims for family medical leave benefits must be filed with the commissioner.</i></p> <p><i>LB305 also creates the Paid Family Medical Leave Insurance Fund. On the operative date of this act, the State Treasurer shall transfer four million dollars from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund to this fund to pay the upfront administrative costs. The four million dollars will be paid back from the Fund according to the outlined payment schedule. Every year on December 31, from 2021 to 2024, \$800,000 will be paid back from the Fund.</i></p> <p><i>LB305 also allows for covered individuals to take intermittent leave, and mandates that covered employees returning from leave be restored to the position held prior to the leave.</i></p>
LB308	Brasch		Education 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	<p>Change provisions relating to the committee on Americanism</p> <p><i>LB308 requires that the committee on Americanism hold no fewer than three annual public meetings and keep minutes of all meetings showing the time and place, members present, and matters discussed. The committee must also ensure that any curriculum is recommended or approved by the committee on Americanism is readily accessible to the public.</i></p>
LB313	Briese		Revenue 02/22/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	<p>Change the sales tax rate and the earned income tax credit and provide property tax credits</p> <p><i>LB313 changes the sales tax rate to six and one-half percent on the operative date of this act. LB313 also allows for a refundable tax credit of 17% of the federal credit allowed for taxable years beginning or deemed to begin on or after January 1, 2018. LB313 also creates the Excess Revenue Property Tax Credit Fund. This fund shall be used to provide a property tax credit to owners of real property.</i></p>

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LB321	Lowe		Judiciary 02/02/2017	General File 02/06/2017	Change provisions relating to unlawful possession of a firearm at a school <i>LB321 expand an exemption an allows for firearms to be lawfully possessed on a school campus by a member of any college of university team, within the scope of such person's duties as a member of that team.</i>
LB326	Kolowski	Support	Revenue 03/02/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Provide additional budget and tax levy authority for certain school districts <i>LB326 allows for school districts for which the calculation of total disbursements divided by the average daily membership for the most recently available complete data year is below the statewide median of such calculation for all school districts to levy up to an additional three cents per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation of property subject to the levy if such additional levy is approved by a two-thirds majority of the school board after a public hearing.</i>  <i>LB326 requires the department to determine the total disbursements divided by the average daily membership for the most recently available complete data year for each school district and the statewide median of such calculation for all school districts. Then, the department must certify such amounts to the Director of Administrative Services, the Auditor of Public Accounts, and each school district.</i>
LB338	Brasch	Oppose	Revenue 02/08/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Brasch Priority Bill	Adopt the Agricultural Valuation Fairness Act <i>LB338 adopts the Agricultural Valuation Fairness Act. Agricultural and horticultural land will be valued at its agricultural use value as determined by the Act regardless of any value which such land might have for other purposes. In order for land to receive agricultural use value, it must be located outside the corporate boundaries any district, city, or village and be used for agricultural or horticultural purposes. LB338 requires the county assessor to use an income-approach calculation to determine the agricultural use value for each year.</i>  <i>LB338 also requires the Property Tax Administration to establish capitalization rates to be applied to each class or subclass of agricultural and horticultural land in each county.</i>
LB347	Geist		Transportation and Telecommunications 01/31/2017	General File 02/10/2017	Change provisions relating to school bus permits and qualifications <i>LB347 eliminates the requirement that operators of school busses submit themselves to an examination to determine their qualifications to operate a bus.</i>
LB353	Baker		Judiciary 02/01/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Change claim, award, and judgment payment provisions under the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act <i>LB353 requires that any claim, award, or judgment pursuant to the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act be paid in the same manner as other claims, awards, or judgments against the political subdivision.</i>
LB354	Kolowski		Business and Labor 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Adopt the Wage Disclosure Act <i>LB354 adopts the Wage Disclosure Act. This act makes it unlawful for an employer to screen job applicants based on their current or prior wages, request or require that a job applicant disclose his or her current or prior wages, or seek information regarding an applicant's current or prior wages. Violations of this act will be a Class IV misdemeanor.</i>
LB355	Bolz		Transportation and Telecommunications 02/07/2017	General File 02/21/2017	Provide for Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates <i>LB355 requires the department to design license plates to be known as Native American Cultural Awareness and History Plates. This design is to reflect the unique culture and history of Native Americans historically and currently located in Nebraska. Beginning October 1, 2017, a person may apply to the department for this license plate in lieu of their regular plate.</i>

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LB365	Blood		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/02/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Change provisions relating to access to public records and provide for fees <i>LB365 makes, for nonresidents of Nebraska, the actual added cost used as the basis for the calculation of a fee for records include a charge for the existing salary or pay obligation to the public officers or employees, including a charge for the services of an attorney to review the requested public records.</i>
LB377			Education 01/31/2017	General File 02/27/2017	Change provisions relating to classification of school districts
LB385	Lindstrom		Revenue 03/01/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Change provisions relating to the burden of proof and who may appeal under the Tax Equalization and Review Commission Act <i>LB385 allows those with a relationship to the taxpayer to execute an appeal on behalf of the taxpayer. The specific relationships are: A person or entity with a contract executed by the taxpayer, a person with the power of attorney, a person with a durable power of attorney, and a person who is a trustee of an estate. LB385 requires the county board of equalization, in appeals regarding the assessed value of the property that has been increased by more than 5%, to prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the assessed value reflects the property's actual value.</i>
LB398	Wayne		Education 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Provide for certification of certain swimming instructors and lifeguards as prescribed <i>LB398 requires every person employed as a swimming instructor or lifeguard in a public-school district be certified in swimming instruction, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and drowning risk prevention.</i>
LB409	Groene	Oppose	Education 03/06/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Education Priority Bill	Change the base limitation and local effort rate for school districts <i>LB409 makes the base limitation for school districts for school fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19 to be zero. LB409 makes provisions applicable to school fiscal years 2017-2018 and 2018-19. LB409 also eliminates provisions that applied to school fiscal years 2011-12 and 2012-13.</i>
LB415	Kolterman		Nebraska Retirement Systems 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017 Nebraska Retirement Systems Priority Bill	Provide and change notification requirements and duties and benefits for certain retirement system members, change certain annuity and disability benefit provisions, and provide duties for school districts and the Public Employees Retirement Board relating to retirement <i>Under LB415, termination of employment for county employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity with the same or another county which participates in the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in a retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i>

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					<p><i>On or after July 1, 2017, a retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the County Employees Retirement Act.</i></p>
					<p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for School employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity within 180 days with the same or another county which participates in the School Employees Retirement Act; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in a retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i></p>
					<p><i>A retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as a new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and earned after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the School Employees Retirement Act.</i></p>
					<p><i>An employer is required to notify the board and the State Department of Education of the date upon which the termination of employment has occurred and provide such information as the board deems necessary. A member hired on or after July 1, 2017, or a member who has taken a refund or retirement and is rehired may retire if the member is at least 60 years of age and the sum of the member's attained age and creditable service totals ninety, or if the member is at least 65 and has completed at least five years of creditable service. If the annuity of such a member begins at a time when the sum of the member's attained age and creditable service totals ninety and the member is at least 60, the annuity will not be reduced. However, this only applies to members who have acquired the equivalent of five years of service or more as a school employee under the retirement system.</i></p>

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					<p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for Nebraska State Patrol members does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity within 180 days with the same or another county which participates in the School Employees Retirement Act; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in a retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems. The employer involved in the termination of the employment and the officer shall certify that, prior to retirement, there was no prearranged agreement to return to work in any capacity. A retired officer of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired officer that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and eared after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act.</i></p>
					<p><i>Under LB415, termination of employment for State employees does not occur if: an employee enters into an employer-employee relationship in any capacity with the same or another county which participates in the Retirement System for Nebraska Counties; if the employee provides services to an employer participating in a retirement system provided for in the Class V School Employees Retirement Act, the Nebraska State Patrol Retirement Act, the School Employees Retirement Act, or the State Employees Retirement Act; or if the member accepted an early retirement incentive and, within three years after accepting and ceasing such employment, subsequently provides services any capacity to an employer participating in the above mentioned retirement systems.</i></p>
					<p><i>On or after July 1, 2017, a retired member of a retirement system who is hired or rehired in any capacity by an employer participating in the above-mentioned retirement plans must: certify under oath that, prior to retirement, they did not have a prearranged agreement to work after retirement with that employer; and meet the requirements for termination of employment as defined. Any retired member that complies with these requirements will participate in the retirement system as s new member and make contributions to the retirement system commencing upon reemployment. Upon termination of such new employment, the member will receive, in addition to the retirement benefit which commenced at the time of the previous retirement: if the member has accrued ten year or more of vesting credit after their return to employment, a retirement benefit shall be calculated solely on the basis of the vesting credit accrued and eared after the member's return to employment and as adjusted to reflect any payment in other than the normal form; or if the member has not accrued ten or more years of vesting credit after their return to employment, a refund equal to the member's accumulated contributions which were credited to the member after the return to employment. A member's vesting credit which was accrued prior to a previous employment may not be considered as part of the member's vesting credit after their return to employment for any purpose of the State Employees Retirement Act.</i></p>

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LB420	McCollister		Business and Labor 03/13/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Adopt the Fair Chance Hiring Act <i>LB420 adopts the Fair Chance Hiring Act. This act prohibits employers and employment agencies from asking an applicant to disclose information concerning the applicants criminal record or history unless such disclosure it needed to determine if the applicant meets the minimum employment qualifications of the position. Such positions include those in which a criminal history record information check is required by law or federal or state law specifically disqualifies an applicant with a criminal background even if such law allows for a waiver that would allow such applicant to be employed.</i>
LB427	Vargas		Education 01/30/2017	General File 02/27/2017 Vargas Priority Bill	Require breastfeeding accommodations for student-parents <i>LB427 requires schools to provide private or appropriate facilities for accommodation for milk expression and storage for breast feeding student-mothers.</i>
LB428	Vargas		Education 01/30/2017	In Committee 01/17/2017	Require schools and the State Department of Education to adopt policies relating to pregnant and parenting students <i>LB428 requires that, beginning May 1, 2018, each school district must adopt a written policy which provides for standards and guidelines to accommodate pregnant and parenting students.</i>
LB431	Erdman		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Change provisions relating to cash reserves under the Nebraska Budget Act <i>LB431 prohibits governing bodies from referencing cash reserves in their actual and estimated revenue that exceed fifty percent of the total amount received from personal and real property taxation. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law</i>
LB432	Erdman		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017 Erdman Priority Bill	Eliminate provisions of the Nebraska Budget Act relating to allowances for delinquent taxes and anticipated litigation <i>LB432 eliminates provisions that allowed governing bodies, when certifying the amount needed for a budget, to make allowances for delinquent taxes not exceeding five percent of the amount required plus the actual percentage of delinquent taxes for the preceding tax year and for any estimated tax loss from any pending or anticipated litigation which involves taxation. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i>
LB437	Craighead		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/08/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Change requirements for independent instrumentalities under the Taxpayer Transparency Act <i>LB437 includes a definition for independent instrumentalities. Independent instrumentality means a body created by the laws of this state which may sue and be sued and with respect to which the state, by law, does not provide indemnification. LB437 allows, in lieu of providing copies of each active contract, an independent instrumentality may provide a link to copies of such contracts that are stored on a severed owned or managed by it. LB437 also allows independent instrumentalities to provide information that is necessary to accomplish the purposes of the Taxpayer Transparency Act by providing the State Treasurer with a link to a web site or document containing such information that is stored on a server owned or managed by the independent instrumentality. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i>

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LB438	Howard		Revenue 03/17/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Increase cigarette and tobacco taxes as prescribed and provide for the distribution of funds <i>LB438 creates the Behavioral Health Provider Rate Stabilization Fund. This fund shall be used to support reimbursement of behavioral health services providers through provider rates within the Children's Health Insurance Program, the Medical Assistance Act, the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act, and the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act. LB438 provides specific distribution guidelines for the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. LB438 also increases the tax on each package of cigarettes containing not more than twenty cigarettes to two dollars and fourteen cents per package. Beginning July 1, 2017, the State Treasurer shall place one dollar and twenty-four cents of such tax in the General Fund. Beginning July 1, 2016, and each FY thereafter, the State Treasurer shall place sixty-one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars of such tax in the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i>
LB445	Chambers		Executive Board 02/02/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Prohibit lobbyist-provided meals and beverages for legislators during session in the State Capitol <i>LB445 prohibits meals and beverage from being provided anywhere in the State Capitol building to members of the Legislature by any lobbyist while the Legislature is in session.</i>
LB457	Briese		Education 01/31/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Change exceptions to school district levy and budget exceptions for voluntary termination agreements <i>LB457 ends the exclusion of amounts levied to pay for sums agreed to be paid by a school district to employees in exchange for a voluntary termination of employment on the effective date of the act. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when passed and approved according to law.</i>
LB464	Watermeier		Executive Board 01/26/2017	General File 02/02/2017	Change provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act relating to rules and regulations <i>LB464 requires that, when an agency proposes or is required to make changes to existing rules and regulations and such changes include an amendment or repeal of the rule or regulation, the agency must adopt and promulgate such rules and regulations within one year after the required public hearing. The agency must hold the public hearing within one year of the proposed or required change to existing rules and regulations. Thirty days before the public hearing, the agency is required to send notice to the Legislative committee with subject matter jurisdiction over the issue. If such change is not made within three years after the time the agency should have or was required to make the change, the committee of the Legislature with subject matter jurisdiction over the issue included in the proposed or required change shall hold a public hearing to determine why such rules and regulations have not been enacted.</i>
LB465	Watermeier	Monitor	Appropriations 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Appropriate funds to the State Department of Education <i>LB465 appropriates \$500,000 from the General Fund for FY2017-18 and \$500,000 from the General Fund for FY2018-19 to the State Department of Education, to aid in carrying out the Nebraska Information Technology Initiative under the Center for Student Leadership and Expanded Learning Act.</i>
LB473	Walz		Business and Labor 03/13/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Require rest periods for employees <i>LB473 prohibits employers from requiring any employee to work without a rest period of at least fifteen minutes for every four hours worked. No reduction in compensation may be made for such rest period.</i>
LB479	Groene		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 01/26/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Change public hearing provisions and redefine a term under the Nebraska Budget Act <i>LB479 adds joint entity created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act that receives tax funds to the definition of Governing Body for the Nebraska Budget Act. LB479 also requires governing bodies to hold public hearings on proposed budgets on a separate day from any regularly scheduled meeting. At such hearing, the governing body must make a detailed presentation and make available a written copy of the budget.</i>

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LB482	Smith		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/24/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Adopt the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act <i>LB482 adopts the Government Neutrality in Contracting Act. The purpose of this act is to provide for the efficient procurement of goods and services by governmental units and to promote the economical, nondiscriminatory, and efficient administration and completion of construction projects funded, assisted, or awarded by a governmental entity. The Act requires that a governmental unit ensure that any requests for proposals or bid specification for a public contract do not contain a term that requires, prohibits, encourages, or discourages bidders, contractors, or subcontractors from entering into a collective-bargaining agreement or a term that discriminates based on status as a party or nonparty to, or the willingness or refusal to enter into, a collective-bargaining agreement relating to construction under a public contract.</i>
LB484	Kolowski	Support	Education 03/06/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017 Kolowski Priority Bill	Create the School Financing Review Commission <i>LB484 creates the School Financing Review Commission. The commission shall consist of twenty members, including: (a) Three members of the Legislature, including one member of the Revenue Committee of the Legislature, one member of the Education Committee of the Legislature, and one member of the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature, appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council; (b) the Property Tax Administrator or his or her designee, who shall be a nonvoting, ex officio member; (c) the council director of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council; (d) the Commissioner of Education or his or her designee; (e) a representative of the Governor selected by the Governor; (f) two members representing postsecondary education with expertise in the area of school finance; (g) two members who reside in a Class II school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (h) two members who reside in a Class III school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (i) two members who reside in a Class IV school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; (j) two members who reside in a Class V school district, one of whom shall be a school administrator and one of whom shall be a school board member; and (k) three members from the state at large, one from each congressional district, who reside in school districts of varied sizes and with varying percentages of limited English proficiency students and poverty students. At least one of the members appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall have experience in the teaching profession in public schools, at least one shall have experience in business, and at least one shall have experience in agriculture-related business.</i>  <i>The Commission is to conduct an in-depth review of the financing of the public elementary and secondary schools. On or before July 1 of each even-numbered year beginning 2020, the Commission must report to the Governor, the State Board of Education, and the Legislature on the adequacy of school funding sources.</i>
LB489	Groene		Urban Affairs 02/21/2017	In Committee 01/19/2017	Redefine development project under the Community Development Law <i>LB489 removes other improvements in accordance with the development plan from the definition of development project under the Community Development Law.</i>
LB496	Stinner		Urban Affairs 02/28/2017	General File 03/08/2017 Williams Priority Bill	Define and redefine terms under the Community Development Law <i>LB496 includes the construction of workforce housing, in cities of the first and second class and villages, into the definition of redevelopment project under the Community Development Law. LB496 also includes a definition for workforce housing. Workforce housing means single-family or multi-family housing for which the municipality receives a housing study that is current, prepares an incentive plan for construction targeted to house existing or new workers, holds a public hearing on such incentive plan with notice, and after the public hearing finds that such incentive plan is necessary to prevent the spread of blight and substandard conditions within the municipality.</i>

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<b>Document</b>	<b>Senator</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Description</b>
LB501	Brewer		Judiciary 03/08/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Change prohibition on locations where permitholder may carry a concealed weapon <i>LB501 requires that, in order for a permit holder to violate the section, there must be a posted conspicuous notice that carrying a concealed handgun is prohibited and the property owner must make a request that the permitholder leave, which the permitholder defies. LB501 also makes this violation a Class II misdemeanor.</i>
LB503	Brewer		Business and Labor 03/20/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Prohibit certain provisions in collective-bargaining agreements <i>LB503 prohibits the deduction of wages of a public employee, either directly or indirectly, on behalf of a collective-bargaining organization except as required by a collective-bargaining agreement entered into between a public employer and a representative of its employees prior to the effective date of this act.</i>
LB510	Ebke		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/08/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Provide a restriction on installment contracts for the purchase of real or personal property by political subdivisions <i>LB510 prohibits political subdivisions from entering into installment contracts for the purchase of real or personal property that require a total outstanding obligation exceeding twenty-five million dollars.</i>
LB511			Education 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Change provisions for payment of educational costs for state wards and students in residential settings <i>LB511 requires the resident school district to pay the cost of education and any required transportation associated with education for any student who is a ward of the state or resident in certain residential settings except as provided. DHHS shall pay the costs of education and transportation for a student who is a ward of the state, does not reside in a foster family home, and is placed in a school district other than the school district in which they resided at the time they became a ward of the state. DHHS shall pay the costs of education and transportation for any student that is a ward of the state and is placed in an institution which maintains an approved special education program. DHHS shall pay the costs of education and transportation for a student who is a ward of the state, is eighteen years of age or younger, and is placed in a county detention home.</i>  <i>LB511 also requires that, except as provided in the Nebraska Indian Child Welfare Act, a child shall continue to attend the same school as prior to placement outside their home unless a determination is made that continued attendance at such school would not be in the best interests of the child.</i>
LB512			Education 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Education Priority Bill	Change provisions related to education <i>LB512 eliminates outdated provisions. LB512 provides the State Board of Education the authority to administer any state or federal career and technical education laws and funding as directed. LB512 also permits the treasurer, or a person delegated by the school board, of a school district to draw and sign orders upon the treasurer for all money to be disbursed by the district. LB512 also eliminates best practices allowances. For any adjustment or payments caused by the failure of a school district to meet federal spending requirements under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act may be used by the department to reimburse the United States Department of Education in the amount of the federal funds awarded to such school district or the amount of the adjustment, whichever is less.</i>

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LB515	Bolz	Monitor	Business and Labor 02/13/2017	General File 03/03/2017	<p>Create the Nebraska Integrated Education and Training Grant Program</p> <p><i>LB515 creates the Nebraska Integrated Education and Training Grant Program. The purpose of this program is to develop educational programs in high-demand fields and use community colleges in Nebraska to establish innovative approaches to developing credentials with meaning in the work force that meet educational demand. The Grant Program will provide grants to community colleges for the purpose of developing and implementing local programs of integrated education and training. The program will be administered by the Nebraska Community College Student Performance and Occupational Education Grant Committee. The committee will allocate grants of up to three years to community colleges through a competitive process. Applications containing the required information must be submitted to the committee in order to be eligible for grants. The Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education must develop an annual evaluation of the Grant Program that includes certain information. It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate funds to carry out the Grant Program from the General Fund. Up to 15% of such funds may be retained by the commission for administering grants, providing technical assistance, and conducting annual evaluations.</i></p>
LB521	Walz	Support	Education 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change provisions related to early childhood education in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act</p> <p><i>LB521 includes in the definition of adjusted general fund operating expenditures, for FY2018-19, the difference of the general fund operating expenditures increased by the cost growth factor minus the transportation allowance, social receipts allowance, poverty allowance, limited English proficiency allowance, distance education and telecommunications allowance, elementary site allowance, summer school allowance, early childhood education allowance, best practices allowance, and focus school and program allowance.</i></p> <p><i>LB521 also updates the definition for qualified early childhood education average daily membership for school fiscal years prior to school fiscal year 2018-2019. LB521 also updates the definition for qualified early childhood fall membership to for aid calculated for school fiscal years prior to school fiscal year 2018-19.</i></p> <p><i>LB521 also provides a way to calculate early childhood education for each district in section 3.</i></p>
LB525	Morfeld	Support	Education 02/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change funding provisions related to the Education Innovation Fund</p> <p><i>LB525 allocates, from the remainder of the Nebraska Education Improvement Fund after payment of any learning community transition, seventeen percent for FY2016-17 and sixteen percent for FY2017-18 to the Department of Education Innovation Grant Fund. LB525 also allocates, from the same remainder, one percent beginning FY2017-18.</i></p>

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LB540	Stinner		Education 03/21/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for a temporary aid adjustment factor in the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act</p> <p><i>LB540 requires the department, for FY2017-18, to calculate the preliminary allocated income tax fund for each local system by multiplying such local system's income tax liability by two and twenty-three hundredths percent. The allocated income tax funds distributed to each local system for such school fiscal years shall equal the preliminary allocated income tax funds minus the difference of the temporary aid adjustment factor for all school districts in the local system minus the reduction in net option funding for all school districts in the local system due to the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the allocated income tax funds shall not be less than zero for any local system.</i></p> <p><i>LB540 also establishes each school district's formula need for such school FY to be equal to the preliminary formula need minus the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the temporary aid adjustment factor shall not reduce formula need for any district by more than the sum of the preliminary allocated income tax plus the preliminary net option funding calculated.</i></p> <p><i>For FY2017-18 and FY2018-19, the department shall calculate the preliminary net option funding for each school district by multiplying the net number of option students by the statewide average basic funding per formula student. The net option funding to be distributed to each school district for such school fiscal years shall equal the preliminary net option funding minus the temporary aid adjustment factor, except that the net option funding shall not be less than zero for any school district.</i></p>
LB545	Watermeier		Appropriations 03/03/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for fund transfers relating to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund</p> <p><i>LB545 requires the State Treasurer to transfer from the General Fund to the Property Tax Credit Cash Fund: Four hundred twenty-four million dollars for tax year 2018; Six hundred twenty-four million dollars for tax year 2019; Eight hundred twenty-four million dollars for tax year 2020.</i></p>
LB548	Lindstrom		Nebraska Retirement Systems 02/23/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for the consolidation of the Class V school employees' retirement system and the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska</p> <p><i>LB548 states that, beginning July 1, 2020, all active, inactive and retired members of the retirement system established under the Class V School Employees Retirement Act are transferred to and become members of the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska. The benefits under the School Employees Retirement System of the State of Nebraska will be calculated and paid by in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Class V School Employees Retirement Act. No future benefits will be impaired or diminished because of this consolidation.</i></p>
LB552	Walz		Health and Human Services 03/17/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for the Children's Connection program</p> <p><i>LB552 creates a Children's Connection Program. The goals of these programs are to identify children with social and emotional difficulties and to work with parent, schools, and health care providers to provide timely, effective, and family-centered services in order to prevent child welfare or juvenile justice system involvement. These programs will be administered under the Division of Behavioral Health of DHHS. Each behavioral health region is required to develop a Program initiative with the required components. LB552 allocates two million dollars each fiscal year for the establishment of these programs.</i></p>
LB554	Smith	Monitor	Education 02/07/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Provide for a financial transparency web site for schools, school districts, and educational service units</p> <p><i>LB554 requires the State Board of Education to issue a request for proposals and contracts for the creation of a web site that translates the expenditures for each major category of expenditures for schools, school districts, and educational service units into a format that is readable by a layperson.</i></p>

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LB559	Schumacher		Banking, Commerce and Insurance 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Prohibit the collection of interchange fees on specified taxes and fees relating to electronic payment transactions <i>LB559 excludes the from the amount of an interchange fee charged for an electronic payment transaction the amount of any tax or fee imposed by state or local government that is calculated as a percentage of an electronic payment transaction amount and listed separately on the payment invoice. This act will apply to electronic payment transactions processed on or after October 1, 2017.</i>
LB568	Erdman		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Change provisions related to temporary teaching certificates <i>LB568 allows the board, beginning August 1, 2018, to issue a temporary teaching certificate that is valid for five years to any qualified candidate. To be a qualified candidate, the applicant must be at least 21, possess a valid high school diploma, complete 24 hours of in-service training, complete 10 hours of classroom observation at each level for elementary, middle, and high school, successfully complete a course and pass an examination on the Constitution of the United States and Nebraska, submit fingerprints for a criminal history check, complete an application, and submit an application fee.</i>
LB569	Friesen		Education 02/27/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Establish the Community College Task Force and sunset community college levies <i>LB569 creates the Community College Task Force for the purpose of evaluating duplication of educational services and funding sources for community colleges. The task force shall develop a report outlining findings related to duplication of educational services, the cost of funding duplicate services, and the cost of outstanding bond obligations. The task force shall terminate January 1, 2020.</i>  <i>LB569 also sunsets community college levies on January 1, 2020.</i>
LB570	Friesen		Revenue 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Provide a property tax exemption for all tangible personal property <i>LB570 exempts all tangible personal property from property tax beginning January 1, 2019.</i>
LB571	Friesen		Education 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Change state aid provisions relating to allocated income tax funds <i>LB571 requires that, for school fiscal year 2018-19 and each school fiscal year thereafter: an amount equal to 20% of the aggregate statewide income tax liability of all resident individuals shall be disbursed as option payments as determined under section 79-1009 and as allocated income tax funds; and, using the data certified by the Tax Commissioner, the department shall calculate the allocation percentage and each local system's allocated income tax funds.</i>
LB572	Friesen	Oppose	Revenue 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Provide termination dates for the Property Tax Credit Act and the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act and change application deadlines under the Nebraska Advantage Act <i>LB572 terminates the Property Tax Credit Act and the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Act on January 1, 2020. LB572 also prohibits new applications under the Nebraska Advantage Act after December 31, 2019.</i>
LB575	Kolowski	Monitor	Education 02/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Provide funding for schools offering certain programs and courses as prescribed <i>LB575 requires the department to reimburse the school district for each student who successfully completes a program of excellence. Fund received through these reimbursements are to be considered special grant funds. Each year, the Commissioner of Education must report to the Legislature the statistics associated with these reimbursements. LB575 also appropriates from the General Fund two million dollars for each fiscal year beginning with FY2018-19 through FY2020-21 for these reimbursements.</i>
LB576	Brewer	Oppose	Revenue 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Limit increases in property tax bills <i>LB576 prohibits an owner's property tax bill for 2017 and 2018 from exceeding their property tax bill for 2016.</i>

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LB581	McDonnell		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Require lobbyists to disclose conflicts of interest to principals and provide for cancellation of contracts</p> <p><i>LB581 requires every lobbyist to present a disclosure statement to their principle including: the name, permanent residence address, and office address of the lobbyist; a description of the business activity of the lobbyist; the name of every other principle represented by such lobbyists, the nature of the business of such principle, the amounts or sums given or to be given to the lobbyists as compensation and an identification of such matters on which the lobbyists expects to lobby; a description of any business association of the lobbyist; any information which the lobbyist possess that might constitute a conflict of interest; and a notice that a principle has the right to cancel the contract by mailing a written notice before midnight of the third business day after receipt. Any person violating these requirements will be guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.</i></p> <p><i>LB581 also provides principles with the right to cancel a lobbying contract until midnight of the third business day after the lobbyist has presented a disclosure statement.</i></p>
LB587	Crawford		Transportation and Telecommunications 02/28/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change provisions relating to school permits</p> <p><i>LB587 eliminates the requirement that such an applicant for a school permit reside outside a city of the metropolitan, primary, or first class or attends a school which is outside a city of the metropolitan, primary, or first class</i></p>
LB595	Groene		Education 02/07/2017	In Committee 01/24/2017 Groene Priority Bill	<p>Provide for the use of physical force or physical restrain or removal from a class in response to student behavior</p> <p><i>LB595 allows a teacher or administrator to use necessary physical force or restraint if a student become physically violent or exhibits destructive behavior. Such force or restraint may only be used as long as the student presents a danger to themselves or others.</i></p> <p><i>LB595 also allows a teacher to remove a student from a class if the teacher has either documented that such student has repeatedly interfered with the teachers ability to communicate effectively with the other students, determines that such student's behavior is so disruptive that is seriously interferes with the teacher's ability to effectively communicate with other students, or determines that such student has committed other disruptive acts that merit discipline under the Student Discipline Act.</i></p> <p><i>A student removed according to these guidelines may be placed into another appropriate classroom, in-school suspension, or alternative education program.</i></p>
LB597	Groene		Urban Affairs 02/21/2017	IPP (Killed) 03/09/2017	<p>Provide for application process through county assessor and Tax Commissioner prior to using tax-increment financing</p> <p><i>LB597 requires any governing body that seeks to use tax-increment financing to submit an application to the county assessor. This application must include the information reasonably required to determine the eligibility of the governing body, the redevelopment plan, and the parcel or parcels for such tax-increment financing. This application will be forward by the county assessor to the Tax Commissioner if the county assessor determines that the certain requirements of the application have been met. The Tax Commissioner will then review the application to ensure all provision of the Constitution of Nebraska, the Community Development Law, and tax-increment financing have been satisfied.</i></p>
LB599	Groene		Revenue 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Exempt certain improvements on land from taxes as prescribed</p> <p><i>LB599 exempts from personal property tax any improvements on land of infrastructure, redevelopment, or new construction intended for business or housing purposes until occupied, sold, or leased.</i></p>

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LB602	Erdman		Revenue 02/24/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change and eliminate provisions relating to the valuation of agricultural land</p> <p><i>LB602 states that the actual value of agricultural and horticultural land for purposes of taxation means the capitalized net earning capacity that the land produced without regard to any value that the land might have for other purposes or uses.</i></p> <p><i>LB602 requires that agricultural and horticultural land used primarily for those purposes will constitute a separate and distinct class of property for purposes of property taxation. LB600 prohibits the following from being classified as agricultural or horticultural land: farm home sites and land used for grazing of animals kept primarily for personal use. LB602 requires that any agricultural and horticultural land that qualifies for valuation using the capitalized net income approach be valued upon the basis of the agricultural income. Any agricultural or horticultural land assessment values will be based upon an eight-year Olympic average of crop income derived from the reported income from each county's productivity information chart.</i></p>
LB607	Kintner		Revenue	IPP (Killed) 02/21/2017	<p>Provide a homestead exemption for certain first responders</p> <p><i>LB607 provides homestead exemptions for first responders who are drawing compensation from the state or a political subdivision or is receiving workers' compensation benefits because of a one hundred percent disability received in the line of duty.</i></p>
LB608	Linehan	Oppose	Education 02/13/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Adopt the Parental Choice Scholarship Program</p> <p><i>LB608 adopts the Parental Choice Scholarship Program Act. Beginning with the 2018-19 school year, any eligible student shall qualify for a scholarship to enroll in and attend a participating school until their graduation or 21st birthday. Each participating student will be counted in the enrollment figures for their resident school district for the purposes of calculating aid pursuant to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act. Each resident school district is also required to establish a property tax relief fund that can only be used to lower property taxes for the following school fiscal year.</i></p>
LB623	Wishart		Judiciary 03/03/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Change and eliminate provisions and penalties relating to assault on an officer, certain employees, or a health care professional</p> <p><i>LB623 eliminates provisions that specify assaults on officials and replaces them with the term "public officer."</i></p>

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LB630	Larson		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Adopt the Independent Public Schools Act</p> <p><i>LB630 adopts the Independent Public Schools Act. The Act establishes the Independent Public School Authorizing and Accountability Commission. The commission will be composed of one member residing in each congressional district appointed by the Governor from a list submitted by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council, one member residing in each congressional district appoint by the Governor from the citizenry, and two members of the State Board of Education chosen by the board. The commission must adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to carry out the Act. An independent public school is part of the state's system of public education, except that is exempt from all statutes, rules and regulations, unless specifically provided otherwise in this Act.</i></p> <p><i>LB630 allows eligible persons or entities to submit an application to establish an independent public school. Independent public school means a public school operating under a compact granted by the authorized independently of any school board and managed by a board of trustees. Applications must be submitted no later than November 1 or each year for the following school year, and renewals must be submitted no later than twelve months prior to the expiration of the compact. Each of these independent public schools will be open to all students on a space-available basis and may not discriminate. No admission fee or tuition may be charged to apply to or attend an independent public school. Upon receiving a compact from the authorizer, an independent public school will be deemed a political subdivision. It will also be considered a body politic and corporate with all the powers necessary or desirable for carrying out its compact. An independent public school may be located in all or part of an existing public school building, in space provide on a private work site, in a public building, or in any other suitable location.</i></p> <p><i>Employees of an Independent public school will be considered political subdivision employees for purposes of the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and the Class V School Employees Retirement Act shall apply. The school district in which an independent public school is located must provide transportation to the school for students living in such school district.</i></p>
LB633	Kolowski	Support	Revenue 03/02/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Authorize school districts to levy a tax and exceed budget authority for school security measures and student technology</p> <p><i>LB633 allows school districts, upon a two-thirds vote, levy a maximum of one cent on each one hundred dollars of taxable property subject to the levy for school security measures and student technology expenditures. If a school district makes a levy for school security measures, the school board or board of education must establish a school security fund for the proceeds of such levy to be used only for school security measures. If a school district makes a levy for school technology, the school board or board of education must establish a student technology fund to be used only for student technology expenditures.</i></p>

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LB634	Wayne	Monitor	Education 03/06/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Include virtual school students in the state aid to schools formula</p> <p><i>LB634 requires the superintendent to include the number of classes a student is required to enroll in for full-time, the definition of a class used by the district for purposes of determining full-time enrollment, and the number of classes completed by each virtual school student in their annual statistical summary, and the fall school district membership report. The department must also include that information in their fall learning community membership report. A virtual school student is a student who is a resident of Nebraska enrolled in and attending a virtual school on at least a part-time basis.</i></p> <p><i>For purposes of the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Act fall membership, the proportion share of students enrolled in a public school instructional program on less than a full-time basis means the number of classes for which such students enrolled in a public school instructional program in the school district on the last Friday in September divided by the number of classes such student would be required to enroll in for full-time enrollment in the district. For the purposes of average daily membership, proportionate share means the number of classes in a public school instructional program in the school district completed by such students during the school year divided by the number of classes such students would have been required to enroll in for full-time enrollment.</i></p>
LB640	Groene	Oppose	Revenue 02/16/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Friesen Priority Bill	<p>Change provisions of the Property Tax Credit Act and provide school district property tax relief</p> <p><i>LB640 limits the maximum levy of school districts to one dollar per one hundred dollars of taxable valuation for tax year 2018 and each tax year thereafter. LB640 qualifies local systems for school district property tax relief aid when the general fund property tax receipts exceed sixty percent of the total general fund revenue for such local school systems. The property tax gap for such qualifying systems will equal the general fund property tax receipts minus sixty percent of the total general fund revenue. LB640 requires that, for tax years 2018 and after, the Department of Revenue must transfer an amount equal to the statewide increase in state aid from the Property Tax Credit Fund to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Fund to pay such increases in state aid to local systems.</i></p> <p><i>LB640 limits the amount of relief granted under this act to two hundred twenty-four million dollars in the form of a property tax credit. For tax year 2018 and after, the amount available to be dispersed to counties will equal the two hundred twenty-four million minus the amount to be distributed to local systems as school district property tax relief and the amount transfer to the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Fund. The amount disbursed to each county will be equal to the amount available to be disbursed multiplied by a ratio of the credit allocation valuation in the county to the credit allocation valuation by the state.</i></p> <p><i>LB640 requires any school district receiving property tax relief aid to reduce budgeted expenditures by twenty-five percent of the property tax cap calculated unless the school board passes an override of such reduction at least thirty days prior to approving the annual budget.</i></p>
LB645	Pansing Brooks	Neutral	Education 02/07/2017	General File 02/27/2017	<p>Add dyslexia for purposes of special education</p> <p><i>LB645 adds a definition of dyslexia for purposes of special education.</i></p>
LB648	Pansing Brooks		Executive Board 02/06/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	<p>Create the New Machine Age Task Force</p> <p><i>LB648 creates the New Machine Age Task Force. This Task Force will examine the interaction between Nebraska policies, programs, and initiatives, particularly in the area of economic development, business, labor, and education. A preliminary report must be submitted on or before December 15, 2017 and a final report will be submitted by December 14, 2018.</i></p>

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LB650	Linehan		Education 03/14/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Change provisions for teaching certificates <i>LB650 allow teaching certificates to be issued by the State Board of Education after passage of an appropriate subject area examination as follows: on the basis of college credit earned; to any person who presents to the board a valid doctoral degree; to any person holding a valid teaching certificate issued by a national or regional credential agency approved by the board; to any person holding a teaching certificate from another state; pursuant to an alternative certification program approved by the board; and to any person who has at least two years teaching experience. LB650 also provides the issuance of adjunct teaching certificates to any applicant who has expertise in the subject area to be taught and fulfills the requirements of the rules and regulations.</i>
LB651	Linehan	Monitor	Education 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017 Linehan Priority Bill	Adopt the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act <i>LB651 adopts the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act. The Act requires school districts to offer an accelerated reading intervention program for the purpose of ensuring that students can read at or above grade level by the end of the third grade. Any student that exhibits a reading deficiency at any time will receive an individual reading plan no later than thirty days after the identification. The school must also notify the parents of the child.</i>  <i>LB651 also requires schools to provide summer reading camps to all third grad students scoring below grade level on the third-grade statewide reading assessment.</i>
LB655	Murante		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 02/08/2017	General File 02/27/2017	Authorize state employees to volunteer at public schools and certain nonprofit organizations <i>LB655 permits state employees to participate in volunteer activities at a public elementary, middle, or high school or a nonprofit organization that focuses on such education. Volunteering will be permitted during normal work hours without loss of pay, vacation, sick leave, or earned overtime accumulation.</i>
LB656	Baker		Judiciary 03/09/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Provide for claims against the state by persons wrongfully incarcerated <i>LB656 makes a successful claimant one who had a claim against a political subdivision arising from their wrongful incarceration or conviction, which claim was precluded by the provisions of the State Tort Claims Act or the Political Subdivisions Tort Claims Act and who obtained a final judgment against such political subdivision from a federal court under 42 U.S.C. 1983 for a violation of their rights protected by the Constitution and arising out of such wrongful incarceration. A successful claimant and the political subdivision against which the claimant obtained final judgment may file a claim with the State Claims Board for full payment of such judgment, or any part of such judgment, which exceeds the available financial resources and revenue of the political subdivision required for its ordinary purpose.</i>
LB662	Linehan	Oppose	Education 03/07/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Establish a grading system for schools and school districts <i>LB662 requires the State Board of Education to establish an accountability system with a scale measuring performance for schools and districts by August 1, 2020. The grading system will consist of letter grades A-F. The schools grade is based on: the percent of students scoring at proficient or higher on statewide assessments; the percentage of students making growth to proficiency; the percent of students making growth to proficiency for the lowers performing twenty-five percent of students in the school; for high schools, the percent of students earning a high school diploma in four years; and the department shall assign school grades based on the balance of overall student achievement and growth.</i>
LB663	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Require a copy of a lobbying contract for lobbyist registration as prescribed <i>LB663 requires a copy of the lobbying contract for lobbyist registration if the principle receives public funds including taxes, fees, and grants.</i>
LB664	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Prohibit a political subdivision from using taxes or fees to employ a lobbyist <i>LB664 prohibits a political subdivision from using revenue from any tax or free to employ or contract with a lobbyist.</i>

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LB665	Kuehn		Government, Military and Veterans Affairs 03/22/2017	In Committee 01/20/2017	Require a statement of activity regarding certain lobbying activity <i>LB665 requires every lobbyist who is registered or required to be registered file with the Clerk of the Legislature a statement activity within 24 hours after the lobbyist's initial contact with an official in the executive branch of an official in the legislative branch regarding a legislative bill. The statement must indicate the legislative bill number, the name of the lobbyist, and the principle for whom the contact was made.</i>

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# RHS Activity Report

Winter 2017

General Information, AD Information, Sports, Clubs,  
Activities



## General Information

Winter practice started on November 14<sup>th</sup> and the season runs through the boys state tournament on March 11<sup>th</sup>, however, spring practice started on February 27<sup>th</sup>.

There were approximately 210 calendar events during the winter season. That does not include clubs and activities meetings and events.

The activities for winter include, wrestling, boys and girls basketball, swimming and diving, the show choir season, drama, debate, and speech.

### Did You Know?

Ralston hosted the following events during the winter season:

A3 wrestling districts, RCC swim and dive, C-1-1 Basketball district final, The Jim McGrath wrestling invite, The "50 years of wrestling celebration," Ramageddon, The Larry Hill Relays, The Skutt Swimming Invite, The Ralston Dive Invite, The Ralston Debate Invite, The Ralston Freshman/Sophomore Wrestling Invite, Debate National Qualifying Tournament, District Vocal and Instrumental Concerts, Metro FCA Conference, Youth Wrestling Tournament

# AD Information

Ralston moved from the 33<sup>rd</sup> largest school for classification purposes to 35<sup>th</sup> for 2017-2018. The way football will be classified will be determined at the representative assembly in April. There is now an activities newsletter that comes out every Monday and is linked to the RPS website.

## Things we are working on:

1. Philosophy and expectations of coaches
2. Continued monthly coaches meetings;
3. Meetings with youth sports organizations;
4. Improving the quality of our clubs and activities by gathering data;
5. Continuing to improve the use of the weight room;
6. Finding ways to promote and recognize activities (pep rallies, marching kids through hallway, take a picture with me, newsletter, good news)

# RCC

The RCC continues to meet once a month at Applewood Hy-Vee. We continue to look at how we oversee athletics and activities, update formats, discuss current issues in activities, share information, and make decisions on what we think is best for kids.

Recently we updated formats for spring sports, we are now done with all formats. We just did a makeover of the music format using input form vocal and instrumental sponsors in the conference



# Boys Basketball

Levels: 5 (Varsity, JV, Sophomore, Freshman x 2)

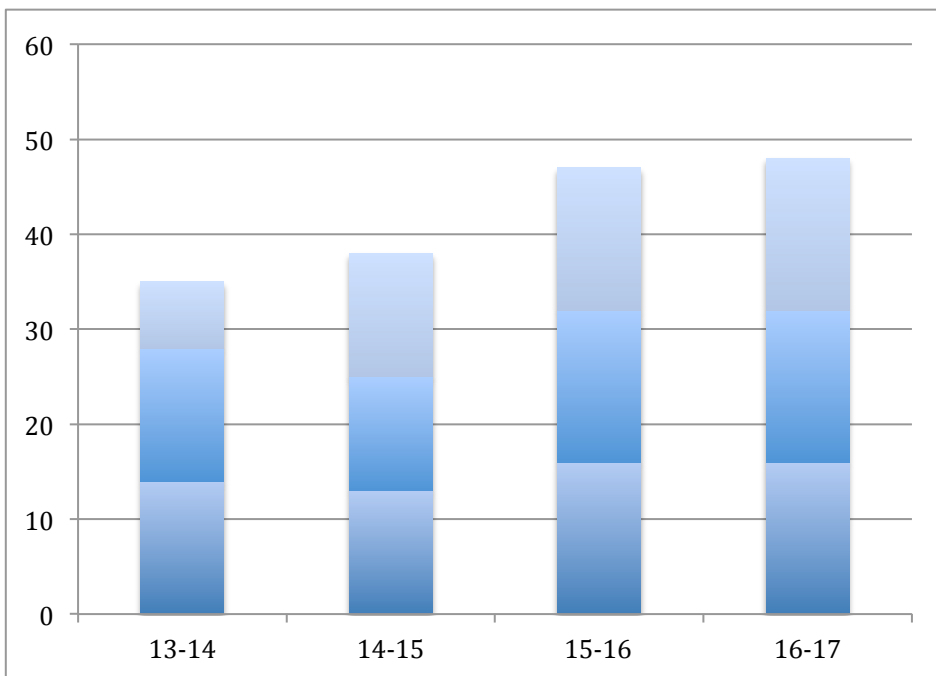
Coaches: Jason Jackson, Zach Wimmer, Matt Henry, Colin Britain, Ryan Lowry

Varsity Record: 6 win and 19 losses

Blue Cards Issued: 91

Games missed due to Blue Cards: 35

Participation numbers:



Special Events: RHS hosted the C1-1 basketball district final between Louisville and Boys Town. Ralston also hosts a freshman tournament and a sophomore (reserve) tournament. Teams participating are Bishop Nuemann, Lewis Central, Fremont, Gross, Bryan and Omaha South. The boys varsity travels to Doane over the holidays to play in a tournament. The boy also played in the arena vs Bennington which is always a great event.

Donovan Warren surpassed the 1,000 career points in a career.

Donovan also was selected first team all conference.

Jadyn Flowers broke the 30 point mark in two separate games. He was honorable mention all conference.

Armando Jackson was selected as honorable mention all conference.

Jared Remar and Trevor Stutzman were selected as academic all state players.

Jared Remar, Trevor Stutzman, Isaac Dannehl, and Jordan Padilla were all academic all conference

# Girls Basketball

Levels of play: 3 (Varsity, JV, and Reserve)

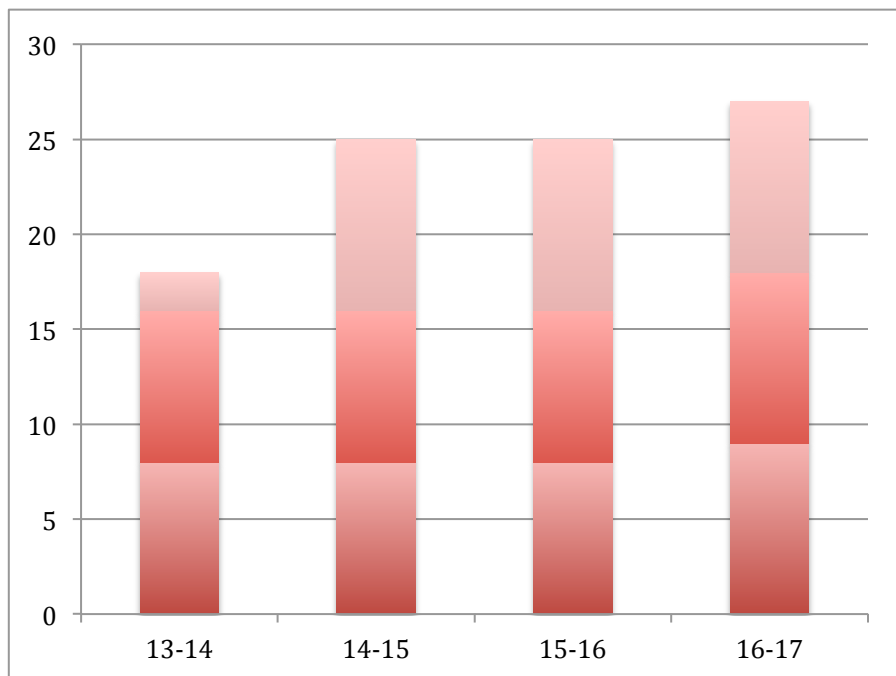
Coaches: Paul Markley, Tim Winters, Tommy Siske, and Krissy Thoma

Varsity Record: 2 wins and 21 losses

Blue cards issued: 31

Games missed due to blue cards: 4

Participation numbers below.



Jaden Santoni set a new single game three point record by making 8 three pointers vs Schuyler (she also scored 32 points)

Jaden Santoni was selected as honorable mention all conference.

Sam Slizoski and Nevaeh Hall were selected academic all state.

Navaeh Hall, Sam Slizoski, Alisa Anderson, Jaden Santoni, Taylor Garris, and Ellen Tomayo were all academic all conference.

Special Events: the girls traveled together to watch some MS basketball games. They also had several team dinners and bonding activities. The reserve team participates in the Duchesne tournament. The varsity travels to Doane to play in a Holiday tournament. The girls jv and varsity teams also played very good games in the arena vs Duchesne.

# Wrestling

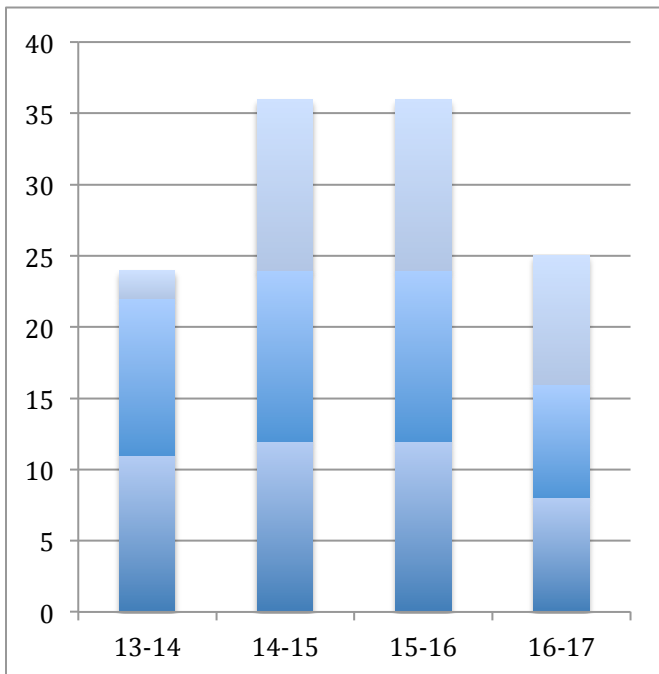
Levels: 3 (Varsity, JV, Reserve)

Coaches: Jason Fink, Clint Williams, Dana Schuett, Brandon Thoene

Varsity Record: 5 and 2 in duals, 1<sup>st</sup> at the Roncalli Invite, 2<sup>nd</sup> at Wisner Pilger, 3<sup>rd</sup> at the conference meet.

Blue cards issued: 29

Matches sat: 6



Kainan Bowyer broke the record for least escapes. The new record is 0.

Wrestling state qualifiers: Kainan Bowyer, Alex Cruz, Dajour Willis, Shane Kildow, Clayton Harvey, Jacob Cutsor, Rob Jensen

Ralston finished third as a team at the RCC meet.

RCC wrestling results: Kainan Bowyer – 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alex Cruz – 3<sup>rd</sup>, Alex Everhart - 2<sup>nd</sup>, Jared Gaspar - 3<sup>rd</sup>, Dajour Willis - 2<sup>nd</sup>, Trey Talmadge – 3<sup>rd</sup>, Rob Jensen – 1<sup>st</sup>

Alex Everhart and Kainan Bowyer were selected as academic all state.

Kainan Bowyer, Trey Talmadge, and Alex Everhart were academic all conference.

Special Events: The wrestlers ring bells every holiday season down at Hy-Vee. They also helped with the Iron Man youth wrestling group as well as help at the youth wrestling tournament and districts. The A3 districts were held at RHS this year. We have also learned how to use the gym lights more effectively at home events. Ralston hosts the Jim McGrath Invite every year and next year will host conference wrestling. Ralston had a “50 years of wrestling” celebration during the dual with Elkhorn. Many former RHS students made their way back to Ralston and the 50 year team was announced. It was a great night.

# Swimming and Diving

Levels: 2 (Varsity and JV)

Coaches: Docker Hartfield, Rich Draper, Charlie Petrosik (diving), and Richard Rider

Blue cards issued: 27, 14

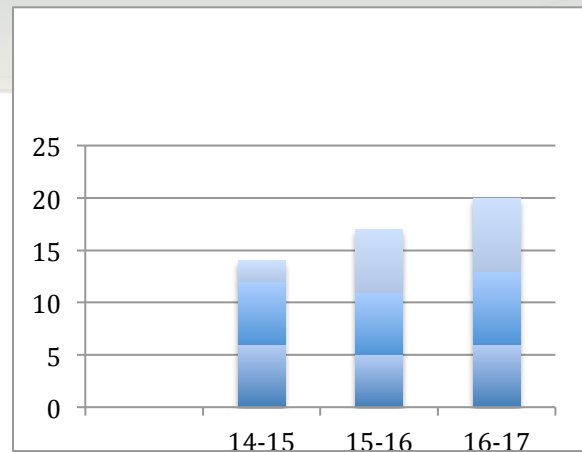
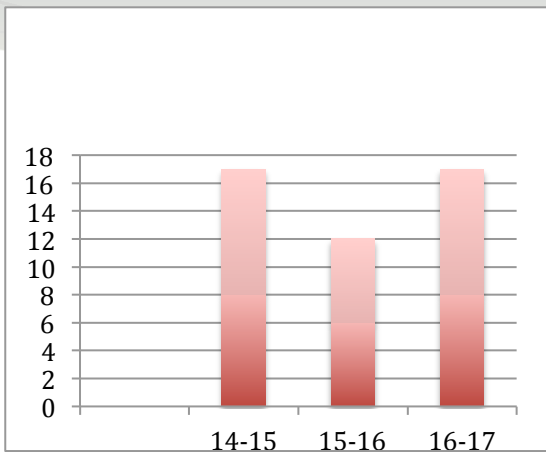
Events missed: 10, 3



The boys swim team won the RCC meet for the 21<sup>st</sup> year in a row. The girls were second

Academic all state: Thomas Webster, Robbie McEvoy, Anna Ryan, Emily Jacobson

Academic all conference selections were Thomas Webster, Emily Jacobsen, Robbie McEvoy, Anna Ryan, Emma Budzinski, Gina Petersen, and Elliot Wagner



Divers who went to state: Emma Budzinski , Maya Shiroyama, Beau Larsen, Robbie McEvoy  
 Swimmers that went to state: Ashley Black, Anna Ryan, Alissa Wagner, Gina Peterson, Emily Jacobsen, Marina Cote, Nick Bowles, Mckoy Fink, Preston Greiner, James Haase, Lukas Hezel, James Kolbo, Caleb Noah, Thomas Webster, and Dylan Wonder.

**RCC Champions Swim and Dive: Beau Larsen, Lukas Hezel (4), Caleb Noah (3), Thomas Webster (2), James Haase, James Kolbo (3), Dylan Wonder (2), Nick Bowles (2), Preston Greiner Maya Shiroyama, Ashley Black (3), Emily Jacobsen (4), Samantha Mora (2), Anna Ryan (2), Marina Cote, Gina Petersen**

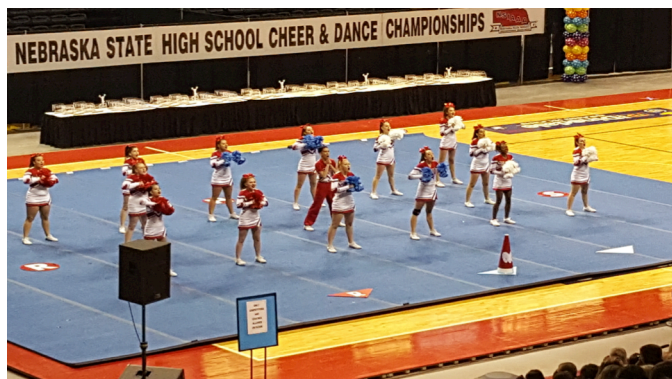
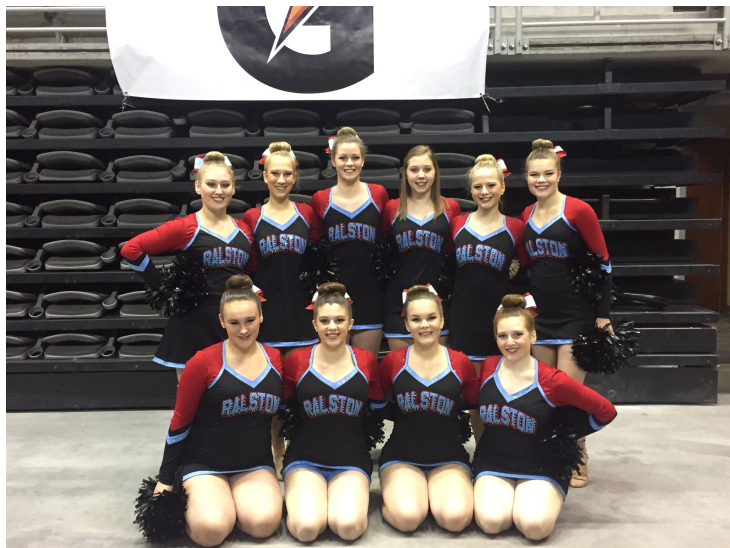
**NEW SCHOOL RECORDS:** Emily Jacobsen set school records in the 100 Fly and 200 Free during the RCC Championships!

# Cheer and Dance

Coaches: Jordan Engel, Kaitlyn Bergman,  
Elissa Newman, Chelsea Vorland

Blue Cards Issued: 72

Events missed: 20



Varsity dance and cheer traveled to Chicago in January for regional competition. The varsity team finished 4<sup>th</sup> in Pom and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Hip Hop.

Dance finished third in the competition at UNO.

The varsity cheer team placed FIRST in the class B division at the Skutt Invite and was second overall.

The varsity cheer team also won the Midland Competition in January.

The dance team held their annual youth dance clinic at halftime of the boys game vs Columbus.

The varsity cheer team took third at state and the dance team finished 5<sup>th</sup> in Hip Hop.

The cheer and dance team sponsored and planned the pep rally for spring sports. Student who have signed to play sports in college were highlighted. In addition, show choir (RUSH) performed at a pep rally for the first time ever!

The cheer and dance team sponsored the Snowball Dance in January. The Snowball King and Queen were Jared Remar and Adele Bourke.

# Activity Highlights

**Debate:** Madison and Megan McAleer finished 2nd out of 31 teams who competed in the Public Forum event at the Elkhorn South GOLD Debate Tournament. Madison also was awarded 3rd best overall speaker and Megan was 10th best overall speaker. Sitara Bobodzhanova was 5th overall speaker in Lincoln Douglas Debate.

The following students earned membership with the National Speech and Debate Association (cumulative 25 points over their career): Christopher Bayliss; Zachary Thomas; Madison McAleer; and Megan McAleer. The following students earned an “Honor” degree with the National Speech and Debate Association (cumulative 75 points over their career): Chadwick Myers; Adia Johnson; and Cameron Brown

Debate hosted a large debate tournament in January. There were over 300 kids competing at RHS.

Debate also hosted a very large qualifying debate tournament in March. Shane Adams and Jeff Garst deserve special recognition for their hard work in organizing this event.

**Speech:** Speech had increased numbers to around 15 kids. As the season progressed we lost some as other activities were in full swing (drama and show choir particularly).

In speech, Megan and Madison McAleer finished 2nd in Policy Debate. Noelle Miscinski received a first place ribbon in her first round of poetry. Katelyn Moenning received a third place ribbon in her first round at Creighton Prep in December.

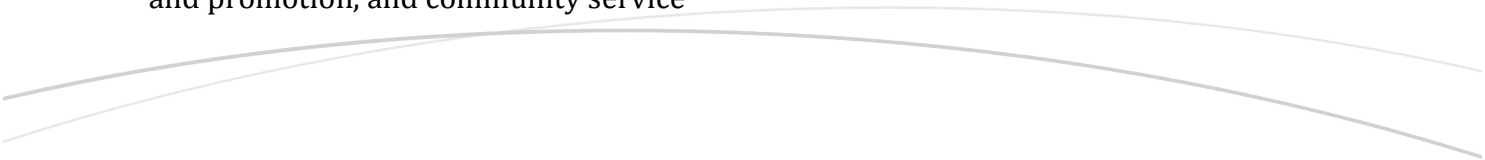
At the speech gold tournament at Papillion/LaVista in February, Illianna Resendiz placed 6th in entertainment.

Speech sent two students to compete at the RCC's.

RHS sent one member to district speech, Sitara Bobodzhanova.

**DECA:** DECA competed in the metro competition at Millard South in early January. Mark Roy placed second in Sports Marketing. Sitara Bobodzhanova finished in 4th place in Marketing Communications. Ashley Turner placed 5th in Food Marketing.

RHS DECA is one of only 7 schools in Nebraska to be awarded three qualifying spots to the International DECA Conference Thrive Leadership Academy. This was the result of extensive work in the areas of school outreach, community outreach, alumni participation and promotion, and community service



# More Highlights



## DECA con't

DECA took 6 students to state over spring break March 16-18. There were about 800 total students that competed at state DECA. RHS Finalists were Edgar Montoya, 2nd place overall in Apparel and Accessories Marketing, Ashley Turner, 3rd place overall in Food Marketing, and Mark Roy, 8th place overall in Sports and Entertainment Marketing. Each student takes a written exam and completes two role-plays in their category. Individuals are recognized for placing 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in the written and role-play categories. This year individual categories had anywhere from 22-75 competitors. RHS Individual test winners included Spencer Gause, 1st in Written (Quick Serve Restaurant Marketing), Kyle Letak, 1st in Written (Retail Merchandising), Ashley Turner was 1st in Written (Food Marketing), Mark Roy was 3rd in Written (Sports and Entertainment Marketing), and Edgar Montoya was 2nd in Written and 3rd on both role plays (Apparel and Accessories Marketing). A team goal before state was to improve written test scores; DECA definitely reached its goal! Edgar and Ashley will be competing at the International Career Development Conference in Anaheim, CA April 25-30 and with Ralston DECA's promotion and community service campaign award spots Sitora Bobodzhanova, Mark Roy, and Kyle Letak will participate in the ICDC Thrive Leadership Academy. Congratulations to the outstanding achievement of these Ralston Rams lead by their Chapter Advisor, Tracy Hinchcliff-Smith.

HOSA: Deb Zeigler was chosen as Outstanding HOSA Advisor of the year for Nebraska!

Writing Club: Writing Club is growing. 1st semester there were 4 regular members. Now we have 7 and 12 total. "I know that's small potatoes compared to other clubs, but considering that all but 1 of our members graduated last year, I think this is great progress."



# Show Choir

Sponsor: Jenna McKain

Levels: 3 (Rush, Runway, Rampage)

Number of kids participating: 128

Number of Competitions: 5



Results of Competitions:

Gretna – 4<sup>th</sup> runner up

M. North – 3<sup>rd</sup> runner up

O. South – 2<sup>nd</sup> runner up

O. North – 5<sup>th</sup> runner up

RHS was awarded “Best Crew” at Omaha South

Tyler Richards was awarded “Ralston’s Best Male Performer” at Millard North

Other Events:

Hands Helping Jazz Hands

Ramageddon (our own competition with lots of volunteers, parental help, student help, and lots of work by the sponsors)

Show Choir Exchange (with Omaha South)

Show Choir Premier

Show Choir Concert (this Friday)

Some members sang at the Firefighters Banquet

Some members will sing at Barnes and Nobles this summer

Performed at the Thanksgiving Luncheon

Performed at the Spring Pep Rally

# Other Things

The Rambassadors traveled to South Sioux City in January and met with students to discuss ways to increase kindness and good will in school.

Students in instrumental music and vocal music took part in the RCC music festival at SSC on the same day the Ramabassadors were there (there was also a basketball game).

The Jazz Band performed at the Chamber Awards night.

The Jazz Band played at the Fountainview Retirement Home and the Ralston House in December.

Key Club Members rang bells for the Salvation Army.

Band held their winter concert in the theatre in mid-December.

The Student Council sponsored the GlowCo Dance in mid-January.

The Jazz Band participated in the Midland University Jazz Festival again this year

RHS hosted the district instrumental and vocal concerts in March.



# BOE Overview Framework for Teaching, Supervision & Evaluation



## Core Beliefs

Ralston Public Schools believes that an effective teacher supervision and evaluation system must support teacher growth and performance while simultaneously enhancing student learning. This evaluation system must be fair, accurate, reliable, transparent and built on a foundation of empowerment and trust. The effective implementation of the evaluation system can only occur in an atmosphere that encourages collaborative dialogue and enhanced professional practice of all educators in our schools. Ralston Public Schools believes that professionals who have demonstrated professional competency through their probationary phases of evaluation and exhibit a growth mindset in developing their craft are trusted to explore and direct their own professional development.

## Teacher Evaluation Plan Cycle

	Probationary / Experienced Formal Years P1, P2, P3, CADRE / E3	Experienced Self-Directed Growth Years E1, E2
<b>Purpose</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1, P2, P3, CADRE - To provide support to the probationary staff member who is learning and achieving the performance standards of the profession and the District.</li> <li>E3 - To provide experienced staff a structured, supportive, and collaborative environment for enhancing their on-going personal professional growth, while ensuring that all staff continue to meet the standards for professional practice.</li> </ul>	To provide tools that help guide experienced teachers to reflect on classroom data and instruction in order to develop an actionable goal for professional growth. The action plan, then, serves as a catalyst for collaboration and self-assessment that positively impacts student learning.
<b>Intended Staff Participants</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1, P2, P3, CADRE - Staff in their first three years of employment</li> <li>E3 - Staff in their sixth year of continuous employment and every third year thereafter</li> </ul>	Teachers who are experienced and continuing as experienced teachers with the district on a 3-year evaluation cycle
<b>Description of Evaluation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>P1, P2, P3, CADRE - Annual assessment that includes reflection, observation, artifact examination, and collaboration during the first three years of employment with the district.</li> <li>E3 - Assessment every 3rd year of employment with the district (or more often as determined by evaluator), that includes reflection, observation, artifact examination, and collaboration.</li> </ul>	Self-directed action plan created in collaboration with evaluator, based on previous year's self-assessment and aimed at continuous professional growth.

	<b>Probationary / Experienced Formal Years</b> <b>P1, P2, P3, CADRE / E3</b>	<b>Experienced Self-Directed Years</b> <b>E1, E2</b>
<b>Observation Requirements Each Semester</b>	<p><b>Fall (due December 15)</b>  1 formal observation  additional informal or walkthrough observations (as determined by evaluator)</p> <p><b>Spring (due April 15)</b>  1 formal observation (P1, P2, P3, CADRE ONLY)  1 informal observation (E3 ONLY)  additional informal observations or walkthroughs (as determined by evaluator)</p>	<p><b>Fall (due December 15)</b>  1 walkthrough observation  additional informal observations or walkthroughs (as determined by evaluator or built into action plan)</p> <p><b>Spring (due April 15)</b>  1 walkthrough observation  additional walkthrough observations (as determined by evaluator or built into action plan)</p>
<b>Year-in-Review Overview / Timeline of Process</b>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> Complete a <i>Probationary Year 1 Self-Assessment &amp; Goal Setting</i> document (P1 &amp; CADRE) <b>due by September 15</b>. Share with evaluator prior to first formal observation. All other staff (P2, P3, &amp; E3) should review the <i>End of the Year Self-Assessment</i> from May due <b>by September 15</b>.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> Collect evidence throughout the year on all components via observations. Evidence collection includes, but is not limited to, lesson plans, observations, and artifact examinations. Fall observations are <b>due by December 15</b>. Spring observations are <b>due by April 15</b>.</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> Complete <i>End of the Year Self-Assessment</i> <b>due by May 1</b>. Initiate and engage in a reflective summative evaluation conversation with evaluator <b>due by May 1</b>. Summative evaluation from evaluator <b>due by May 15</b>.</p>	<p><b>Step 1:</b> Staff should review the <i>End of the Year Self-Assessment</i> and develop the Self-Directed Action Plan <b>by September 15</b>.</p> <p><b>Step 2:</b> Collect evidence throughout the year on all components via observations. Evidence collection includes, but is not limited to, lesson plans, observations, and artifact examinations. Fall observations are <b>due by December 15</b>. Spring observations are <b>due by April 15</b>.</p> <p><b>Step 3:</b> Complete reflective portion of the <i>Self-Directed Action Plan Reflection &amp; Summative Evaluation</i> document <b>due by May 1</b>. Initiate and engage in a reflective summative evaluation conversation with evaluator <b>due by May 1</b>. Summative evaluation from evaluator <b>due by May 15</b>.</p>



## Option Enrollment Board Report

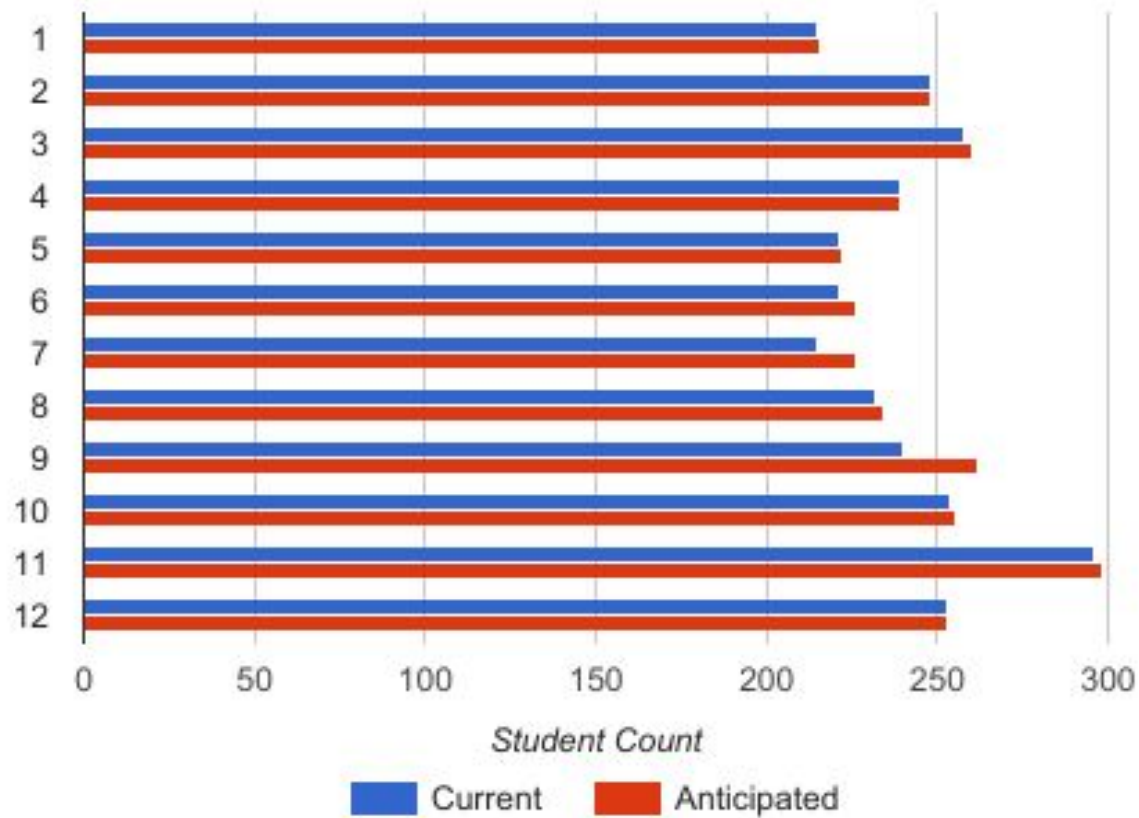
### March 28, 2017

Grade	Enrollment as of January 2017	Anticipated Enrollment as of March 15, 2017	Grade	Enrollment as of January 2017	Anticipated Enrollment as of March 15, 2017
Kindergarten	In process	In process (28)	7th Grade	215	226*(11)
1st Grade	215	216 (1)	8th Grade	232	234 (2)
2nd Grade	248	248 (0)	9th Grade	240	262* (22)
3rd Grade	258	260 (2)	10th Grade	254	255 (1)
4th Grade	239	239 (0)	11th Grade	296	298 (2)
5th Grade	221	222 (1)	12th Grade	253	253 (0)
6th Grade	221	226 (5)	<b>TOTAL (1st-12th)</b>	2892	2939

*\*Anticipated enrollment does not include students from St. Gerald's who live in the district.*



## Projected Enrollment for 2017-2018



**Achievement . Character . Technology**  
*A community dedicated to achieving excellence through purposeful instruction  
and nurturing a climate of hope*

## Instructional Time

Grade Level	State Required Minimum	Instructional Time Per Day ( ) Days Per Week	Ralston Current Instructional Time Total	Balance Above State Minimum (HRS)	Balance Above State Minimum (Days)
3 Year Old Program	NA	3.25 (4)	211	NA	NA
4 Year Old Program	450	7 (4)	959	+509	+72.14
KG	400	6.75 (4) 4.75 (1)	1117.60	+717.60	+106.31
1 – 6	1032	6.75 (4) 4.75 (1)	1117.60	+85.60	+12.68
RMS	1080	6.85 (4) 6.35 (1)	7 <sup>th</sup> 1182.28 8 <sup>th</sup> 1177.78	7 <sup>th</sup> +102.28 8 <sup>th</sup> +97.78	+14.27
RHS	1080	6.78 (4) 6.12 (1)	9 <sup>th</sup> 1167.08 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> 1162.58	9 <sup>th</sup> +87.08 10 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup> +82.58	+12.17

### Key Elements:

- Students last day will be on May 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM
- Ralston Current Instructional Time includes 2 lost days for inclement weather
- Ralston Current Teacher Contract includes 3 lost days for inclement weather
- Staff will be expected to work 3 contract days to make up for the inclement weather days
- Staff will be expected to make up 1.5 contract days during the week of May 22-26, 2017
- Staff will be expected to complete 1.5 contract days during the week of August 7-11, 2017 for additional room preparation time and professional development for the 2017-2018 school year
- Updated 3-20-2017

## Instructional Time

Grade Level	State Required Minimum	Ralston Potential Instructional Time	Instructional Time Per Day ( ) Days Per Week	Ralston Current Instructional Time Total	Balance Above State Minimum (HRS)	Balance Above State Minimum (Days)
3 Year Old Program	450	455	3.25 (4)	448.5	-1.5	
4 Year Old Program	450	931	7 (4)	917	+924.5	
KG	400	1108	6.75 (4) 4.75 (1)	1117.60	+717.60	+106.29
1 – 6	1032	1114	6.75 (4) 4.75 (1)	1117.60	+85.60	+12.68
RMS	1080	1190	6.85 (4) 6.35 (1)	1180.02	+100.02	+14.60
RHS	1080	1177	6.78 (4) 6.12 (1)	1165.33	+75.33	+11.11

### Key Elements:

- Students last day will be on May 25th at 11:30 AM
- Ralston Current Instructional Time includes 2 lost days for inclement weather
- Staff will be expected to work 2 contract days to make up for the inclement weather days
- Staff will be expected to make up 1 contract days during the week of May 23-27, 2016
- One staff day will be added on August 4, 2016 for additional room preparation time for the 2016-2017 school year
- Updated 3-14-2016

# Student / Staff Count 2016-2017 School Year

Elem. School	Grade																	
	PS		KG		1		2		3		4		5		6		Total *Student / Staff	
	All Student Counts Are Actual SIMS Enrollment Figures																	
	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff*	Students *
BLUM	2	41	2	49	3	63	2	47	3	53	2	51	2	45	2	45	18	353
KW	1	16	2	31	2	30	2	33	1	21	1	17	1	25	1	21	11	178
MEAD	1	18	2	41	2	38	2	52	2	40	2	45	2	37	2	33	15	286
MOCK	2	36	3	56	3	55	3	57	3	59	2	48	2	45	2	40	18	360
SEY	1	24	1	26	2	26	2	25	2	35	2	27	2	33	2	37	11	209
WW	2	36	2	39	2	37	2	44	2	32	2	37	2	36	2	40	14	265
Totals By Gr	9	171	12	242	14	249	13	258	13	240	11	225	11	221	11	216	87	1651
*Does not include PS																		
Blum. & Sey. SPED staff & KW Hearing Impaired for K-6 is added to staff Total																		
Sec. School	7		8		9		10		11		12		TOTAL					
	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud	Staff	Stud		
RMS		242		246									0	488				
RHS						259		296		260		244	0	1059				
Totals	*Staff	*Stud	Ratio	*Stud 15-16	Change for 16-17													
BLUM	20	394	20/1	397	-3		*Includes PS											
KW	12	194	16/1	180	14													
MEAD	16	304	19/1	300	4													
MOCK	20	396	20/1	386	10													
SEY	12	233	19/1	228	5													
WW	16	301	19/1	304	-3													
Elem. Totals	96	1822	19/1	1795	27													
RMS	40	488	12/1	505	-17													
RHS	66	1059	16/1	946	113													
Sec. Totals	106	1547	15/1	1451	96													
Dist. Totals	202	3369	17/1	3246	123													
March 23 2017																		
9:30 AM																		

**Ralston Public Schools**  
**Monthly Administrative Update**  
**Food Service - February 2017**

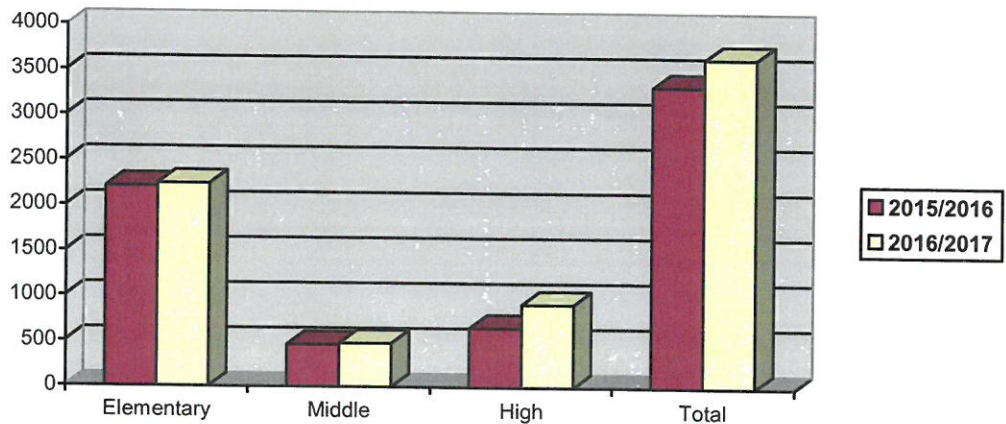
	16/17 Budget		16/17 Actual		15/16 Actual	
	Financial	Financial	Cost/Meal	Financial	Cost/Meal	
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>202,856</b>	<b>210,208</b>	<b>2.89</b>	<b>168,413</b>	<b>2.78</b>	
Food	91,186	94,148	1.29	70,483	1.16	
VDA/Rebates	+8000	+13,057	+ .18	+12,473	+ .21	
Labor (RPS and Sodexo)	64,486	63,409	.87	56,277	.93	
Controllables	17,573	16,162	.22	6807	.11	
Non-Controllables	17,687	14,108	.19	12,343	.20	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>182,932</b>	<b>174,770</b>	<b>2.39</b>	<b>133,437</b>	<b>2.19</b>	
<b>Return after Direct Expenses</b>	<b>19,924</b>	<b>35,438</b>	<b>.50</b>	<b>34,976</b>	<b>.59</b>	
RPS Direct/Indirect Expenses				220	.003	
<b>Net Return</b>	<b>19,924</b>	<b>35,438</b>	<b>.50</b>	<b>34,756</b>	<b>.59</b>	

Year to Date	16/17 Budget	16/17 Actual	Cost Per Meal	15/16 Actual
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>1,428,219</b>	<b>1,434,326</b>	<b>2.77</b>	<b>1,354,736</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>1,371,165</b>	<b>1,284,060</b>	<b>2.48</b>	<b>1,283,544</b>
<b>Net Return</b>	<b>57,054</b>	<b>150,266</b>	<b>.29</b>	<b>71,192</b>

	16/17 TOTAL MEALS SERVED	16/17 MEALS PER DAY	15/16 TOTAL MEALS SERVED	15/16 MEALS PER DAY
<b>Elementary</b>				
Breakfast	16,608	923	14,814	871
Lunch	23,768	1320	22,747	1338
<b>RMS</b>				
Breakfast	1508	84	1059	62
Lunch	7118	395	6838	402
<b>RHS</b>				
Breakfast	6279	349	1898	112
Lunch	9640	567	8665	542
<b>RPS Total</b>				
Breakfast	24,395	1356	17,771	1045
Lunch	40,526	2282	38,250	2282

**Meals Per Day Served**

**RPS**  
**Free & Reduced**  
**60.2%**



## February Events:

In February, 2017, an orange tasting was held at RMS, featuring navel, mandarin, and blood oranges.

A – Z salad bar continued in all elementary schools.

Judy spoke to all students at the middle school and all culinary students at the high school to encourage participation in Kids Can Cook to be held in March.

Regular monthly training – fire safety and safe food receiving and storage.

Total foodservice training time: 20 hours

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