

Network Nebraska Initiative—2015-17 Action Items

1. **Action: Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network that shall meet the demand of state agencies, local governments, and educational entities as defined in section 79-1201.01.**

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP); Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG)

Timeframe: 2015-17

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, which is a participant-funded budget.

Targets/Deliverables:

- 1.1. The NNAG Participant Criteria subcommittee will develop a strategy to accommodate community affiliate connections into Network Nebraska.
- 1.2. The UNCSN team will use automated tools to monitor network utilization and uptime and develop a web-based graphic for real-time depiction of WAN circuits, backbone and Internet.
- 1.3. UNCSN will implement incident management and change control frameworks appropriate to the staffing of Network Nebraska.
- 1.4. NNAG and CAP will guide Office of the CIO (OCIO) decisions regarding network capacity, services, and reliability.
- 1.5. Review and update existing security services and practices and develop a strategy for potential services.

2. **Action: The Education Council and NITC staff will serve as the communication hub for existing and potential new Network Nebraska Participants.**

Lead: Education Council/NITC Staff

Participating Entities: Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP); Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG)

Timeframe: 2015-17

Funding: Additional funding and/or resources will be required for this action item out of the Network Nebraska Participation Fee, which is a participant-funded budget.

Targets/Deliverables:

- 2.1. Develop and implement a communications strategy.
- 2.2. Conduct an annual survey of Participants to guide direction and service development.

NETWORK NEBRASKA--RECOMMENDED MEASURABLES:

- Network Nebraska backbone uptime
- Network Nebraska Internet access uptime
- Network Nebraska backbone bandwidth utilization (actual)
- Network Nebraska membership growth
- Network Nebraska Internet growth (purchased and actual)
- Network Nebraska unit cost of Internet
- Number of public and non-profit, non-education entities (e.g., libraries) connected to Network Nebraska

Digital Education Initiative—2015-17 Action Items

1. **Action: Create Professional development opportunities for all Nebraska educators to maximize student success through the innovative uses of technology in teaching.**

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: K-12 and Higher Education professional and advisory groups

Timeframe: 2015-17

Funding: Additional funding may be required for this action item

Targets/Deliverables:

- 1.1 Partner with K-20 entities and organizations to establish communities of practice for curriculum development, effective pedagogical practices and shared experiences using multiple delivery modalities across all levels of education in Nebraska.

2. **Action: Address technical challenges for students in the transition from secondary to post-secondary education.**

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: K-12 and Higher Education professional and advisory groups

Timeframe: 2015-17

Funding: Additional funding may be required for this action item

Targets/Deliverables:

- 2.1 Conduct a collaborative research project to identify existing infrastructure and pedagogical efforts in both secondary and post-secondary institutions.
- 2.2 Based on the results of the research project and other available resources, identify opportunities for collaboration to ease transition for students.
- 2.3 Identify key challenges for transitioning students and conduct an environmental scan to identify successful approaches to mitigate those challenges.
- 2.4 Create a guide for effective practices in the use of flexible learning technologies.
- 2.5 Develop a strategy to encourage vendors to implement data exchange standards in their products and services.

3. Action: Expand awareness and address the need for equity of access as it relates to digital education.

Lead: Education Council

Participating Entities: NITC Community Council, K-12 and Higher Education professional and advisory groups

Timeframe: 2015-17

Funding: Additional funding may be required for this action item

Targets/Deliverables:

- 3.1 Form a joint study group comprised of stakeholders from across the state to identify opportunities and actions to ensure equitable access for students.
- 3.2 Education Council will work in collaboration with other Nebraska stakeholders, such as the Community Council Broadband Initiative to find solutions for available, accessible, reliable, secure and affordable Internet access as related to academic success.
- 3.3 Identify and promote the use of accessible products and services in achieving equity of access.

DIGITAL EDUCATION--RECOMMENDED MEASURABLES:

- Number of professional development opportunities provided
- Number of educators impacted by professional development opportunities
- Published research regarding infrastructure, pedagogy, equity of access, and impact on learning.