**Network Nebraska Initiative—Action Items 2018-20**

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), OCIO/NITC staff

**Timeframe**: 2018-20

**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. The NNAG Participant Criteria subcommittee and OCIO staff will accommodate and enforce affiliate connections into Network Nebraska.
     1. **Measurable**: List the types and quantities of affiliate and hosted entity connections to the network.
  2. The Network Nebraska support 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. **Measurable:** Regularly present utilization statistics to NNAG and to the Network Nebraska membership in an annual report.
  3. The Network Nebraska support team will implement incident management and change control frameworks appropriate to the staffing of Network Nebraska.
     1. **Measurables:** Implementation of a ticketing system that allows interaction with supported users. Advance communication of planned outages / upgrades that affect membership. Documentation of past changes to core network systems.
  4. NNAG and CAP will guide Office of the CIO (OCIO) decisions regarding network capacity, services, and reliability.
     1. **Measurables:** NNAG co-chairs will attend monthly CAP meetings and share information. CAP liaisons will attend bi-monthly NNAG meetings and share information.

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

**Lead**: Education Council; OCIONITC Staff

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

**Timeframe:** **2018-20**

**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. Develop and implement a communications strategy.
     1. **Measurables:** Specific data and reports in an online newsletter or other form of communication to members outside of the annual fee memo. Designated representatives send timely notifications of changes in procedures affecting member relations with the Network Nebraska Support Team.
  2. Conduct an annual survey of Participants to guide direction and service development.
     1. **Measurables:** Survey is conducted, and data from the survey is compiled for sharing with NNAG, CAP, and the NITC Education Council.

1. **Action: Review the NITC IT Security Initiative and cloud computing components of the State Government IT Strategy Initiative as drafted by the NITC State Government Council.  
     
   Lead: Education Council; NNAG  
     
   Participating Entities:   
     
   Timeframe: 2018-20  
     
   Funding:** No additional funding is projected for this action item.
   1. Develop applicable practices and strategies for security and cloud applications in educational environments
      1. **Measurables:** Formulation of aStrategy document
   2. Determine how to incorporate the applicable strategies within services of Network Nebraska.
      1. **Measurables:** Additional services or security practices added to NN services list or provided by member “centers of excellence.”

NETWORK NEBRASKA—OTHER 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—Action Items 2018-20**

1. **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**: 2018-20

**Funding**: Additional funding may be required for this action item

**Targets/Deliverables:**

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

1. **Action: Expand awareness of the need to address 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**: 2018-20

**Funding**: Additional funding may be required for this action item

**Targets/Deliverables:**

2.1 Form a joint study group comprised of stakeholders from across the state to identify opportunities and actions to ensure equitable access for students.

**2.1.1 Measurable:**

2.2 Education Council will work in collaboration with the Community Council Broadband Initiative to find solutions for available, accessible, reliable, secure and affordable Internet access as related to academic success.

**2.2.1 Measurable:**

2.3 Identify and promote the use of accessible products and services in achieving equity of access.

**2.3.1 Measurable:**

DIGITAL EDUCATION—OTHER 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
* Number of K-12 students who have gained home Internet access through Digital Inclusion initiatives
* Number of public libraries that have gained faster Internet access by reaching Network Nebraska, either directly or indirectly