

Southeast Nebraska Regional Program
for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing

**Educational Programs
and Support Services Plan
2008**

Submitted to:
The Nebraska Department of Education

By:
Lincoln Public Schools
Educational Service Unit No. 4
Educational Service Unit No. 5
Educational Service Unit No. 6

April 13, 2005

(Revised: March 11, 2008)
(Reviewed: January 10, 2012)
(Reviewed: March 1, 2016)



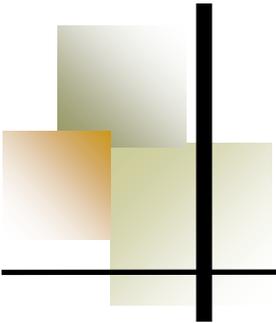
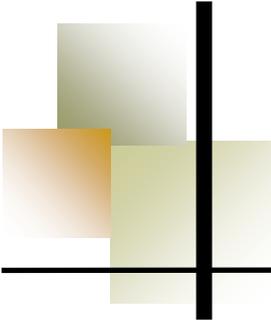


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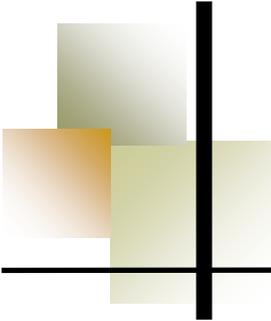
Introduction

In 1998, with the approval of the Nebraska State Board of Education, the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) Special Populations Office established the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program for Students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing (SNRP), as one of four regional programs in the state. NDE designated Lincoln Public Schools (LPS) as the lead administrative agency for SNRP, and LPS continues in that role.

To create the original regional plan, SNRP used guidelines from the State Board of Education's 1998 state plan, along with guidance from LPS administrators and an advisory committee of parents, instructors, and community members. This body, including regional district administrators and a regional advisory committee, continues to meet, providing SNRP with ongoing guidance, and ensuring the fidelity of the regional plan with the state plan.

In December 2004, the State Board of Education directed NDE to develop and publish a revised state plan, *Statewide Educational Programs and Support Services for Children who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing*. To implement the revised state plan, NDE directed regional programs to develop revised regional plans, in collaboration with local school districts and agencies. In May 2005, regional programs, including SNRP, submitted revised plans for review and approval by NDE.

The *SNRP Educational Programs and Support Services Plan, 2008* is a revision of the 2005 regional plan, which SNRP will use to develop and implement its programs, services, and budget.



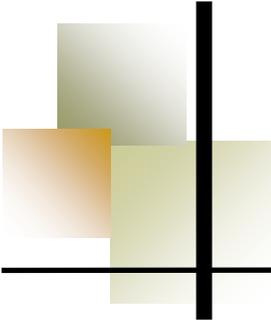
Vision and Mission Statements

Vision Statement

Students who are deaf or hard of hearing,
and who reside in the southeast region of Nebraska,
will succeed in school and in social endeavors.

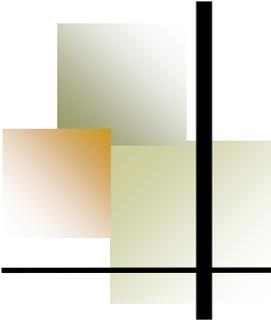
Mission Statement

The Southeast Nebraska Regional Program
will provide necessary support to students, families,
professionals, and schools in fulfillment of the vision.



Statement of Purpose

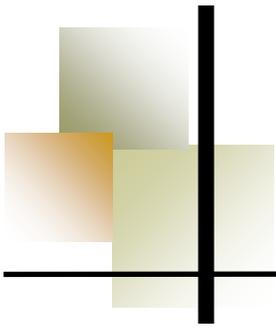
The purpose of the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program is to provide educational and support services to students who are deaf or hard of hearing, and to their families, and further, to collaborate with service providers in the region encompassed by the Lincoln Public Schools district, and Educational Service Units 4, 5, and 6. To this end, the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program will continue to provide consultation, planning, coordination, and networking of enrichment activities and services.



Goal

The goal of the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program is to assist local school districts in developing appropriate educational programs and activities for students who are deaf or hard of hearing. The activities undertaken to achieve the goal of the SNRP include the following:

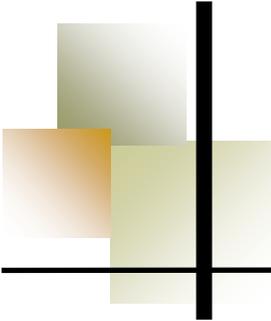
- ♦ Consulting, planning, coordinating, and networking of educational enrichment activities and services
- ♦ Helping districts to locate endorsed deaf educators for consultation in developing MDTs (multidisciplinary teams), IFSPs (individual family service plans), and IEPs (individual education programs)
- ♦ Assisting with early identification
- ♦ Providing training opportunities for teachers of students who are deaf or hard of hearing, general education teachers, and related school staff
- ♦ Providing educational sign language interpreters training opportunities consistent with Rule 51 guidelines, in order to maximize quality communication for students
- ♦ Conducting periodic needs assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of training opportunities, and to determine future training needs
- ♦ Providing and encouraging family support through informational workshops and training
- ♦ Providing students, families, and schools with resources including materials, and equipment which will support personal, academic, and social development
- ♦ Providing students opportunities to socialize and communicate with peers and appropriate role models, including individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing
- ♦ Supporting current practices including, but not limited to, research-based teaching and methodologies, use of technology, and other trends in the field of deaf education



Goal

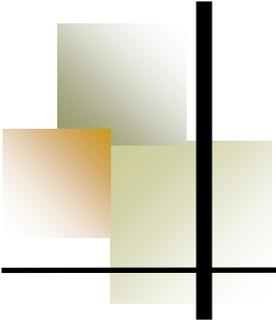
Continued activities to carry out the goal of the SNRP include the following:

- ♦ Supporting a statewide network to encourage student and family involvement in activities and summer experiences
- ♦ Providing resources for instruction in sign language and communication strategies to students, families, and educational staff
- ♦ Providing resources and equipment to support educational audiology and amplification
- ♦ Providing stakeholders with information regarding statewide initiatives and activities for students who are deaf or hard of hearing
- ♦ Continuing outreach and collaboration with community agencies and organizations
- ♦ Providing support for students and their families as they transition to career and adult life
- ♦ Participating in all regional and statewide planning meetings, to assure consistency in the implementation of the statewide plan
- ♦ Conducting meetings of the Advisory Committee, which includes family members, community members, school district personnel, agency representatives, and adult members of the deaf community
- ♦ Seeking input from, and providing input to, the Administrative Steering Committee, which includes the special education administrators from Lincoln Public Schools, and from Educational Service Units 4, 5, and 6.



Planning Process

Lincoln Public Schools will continue to be the lead administrative agency for the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program, as outlined in the original proposal to the Nebraska Department of Education. Lincoln Public Schools will continue to provide in-kind services and supervision to the Southeast Nebraska Regional Program. The use of contractual agreements with school districts will continue, as necessary. Services and personnel will continue to be provided, contingent upon funding from the Nebraska Department of Education.



2008 Plan Participants

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Nebraska Department of Education

*On April 8, 2008, this plan was presented to the
SNRP Advisory Committee for their review and input.*