

**Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools' Claims
20-Jun-11**

General Fund

Check #	Vendor	Amount	Description
028857	MCI Communications Services, Inc.	\$ 110.38	All Areas: Long Dist Service
028858	Mead Lumber Co.	\$ 437.61	Maintenance:Supplies
028859	Metal Doors And Hardware	\$ 92.00	Maintenance: Supplies
028860	AUL Special Pay Trust	\$ 40,000.00	Health Reimbursement
028861	NASCO (Aristotle Corporation)	\$ 678.23	Instruction: Supplies
028862	National Center for Youth Issues	\$ 22.95	ASAP: Supplies
028863	NCS Pearson/The Psychological Corp	\$ 47.00	Speech Therapy: Supplies
028864	Nebraska Council of School Admin.	\$ 1,304.00	Admin Membership Dues
028865	Nebraska Scientific	\$ 281.40	Instruction: Supplies
028866	Nebraska Coaches Assn	\$ 1,840.00	General: Coaches Clinic
028867	Nicholson & Associates	\$ 89.10	All Areas: Employee Screen
028868	Herff Jones Inc.	\$ 1,587.96	Elem Instruct: Maps & Globes
028869	Odyssey Ware	\$ 600.00	Instruction: Software License
028870	Office Depot Corporate Accounts	\$ 59.98	Custodial: Supplies
028871	Omaha Paper Co Inc	\$ 6,364.00	Instruction: Copy Paper
028872	Omaha World Herald	\$ 273.68	Mshs Princ: Adv. and Printing
028873	One Source, Inc	\$ 94.00	Empl. Background Check
028874	Omaha Public Power District	\$ 9,710.74	All Areas: Electricity
028875	Perry, Guthery, Haase & Gessf	\$ 584.50	Admin: Legal Services
028876	Pitney Bowes	\$ 135.12	Gen Business: Supplies
028877	Pitsco Inc	\$ 222.43	REACH Instruction :Supplies
028878	Plak Smaker	\$ 345.70	Nurse: Supplies
028879	Platte Valley Sanitation Inc	\$ 325.00	Custodial: Waste Removal
028880	Quill Corp	\$ 251.67	Elem Instruction: Supplies
028881	Really Good Stuff	\$ 577.12	Elem Instruction: Supplies
028882	Rigby Education/Harcourt	\$ 446.22	ASAP Instruction : Books
028883	Saddleback Educational Publishing Inc	\$ 131.60	MS Special Ed: Supplies
028884	Scholastic Inc.	\$ 383.31	ASAP Instruction: Books
028885	School Specialty	\$ 3,820.83	Custom Wall Pads/Instr. Supplies
028886	Shiffler Equipment Sales, Inc.	\$ 181.80	Custodial: Supplies
028887	Simplex Grinnell LP	\$ 826.00	Custodial: Fire Sprinkler Rep
028888	Skyline Physical Therapy, Inc	\$ 807.40	Physical Therapy
028889	Sparkling Klean	\$ 5,696.60	Custodial: Cleaning Services
028890	Steve Spangler Science	\$ 154.88	REACH Instruction: Supplies
028891	Super Duper Publications	\$ 454.89	Speech Therapy: Supplies
028892	Teacher's Discovery	\$ 832.55	Instruction: Supplies
028893	United Electrical Supply Co Inc.	\$ 4,543.77	Maintenance:Electrical Supplies
028894	US Mechanical Service Inc	\$ 2,456.75	Repair HS AC Unit
028895	Voss Construction Inc	\$ 4,725.00	Maint:Playground Concrete Work
028896	Voyager Fleet Systems, Inc.	\$ 4,633.68	All Areas: Fuel
028897	Wahoo-Waverly-Ashland Newspapers	\$ 300.92	Board of Ed: Adv & Printing
028898	Beverly Wlggs	\$ 1,839.30	Occupational Therapy
028899	William V Macgill & Co	\$ 458.11	Nurse: Supplies
028900	Yutan Public Schools	\$ 5,488.20	Pupil Support:2011 Baseball Fees
028901	Barnes & Noble Bookstore	\$ 197.24	REACH: Books
028902	Cummins Central Power, LLC	\$ 201.57	Maint: Remote Emerg Stop
028903	Father Flanagan's Boys' Home	\$ 4,721.50	Monthly Tuition
028904	Frey Scientific-School Specialty Inc	\$ 88.67	Science Instruction: Supplies
028905	Hillyard/Sioux Falls	\$ 1,946.68	Custodial: Supplies
028907	Lincoln Family Med. Group	\$ 133.00	Transp: Empl Physical

Ashland-Greenwood Public Schools' Claims
20-Jun-11

General Fund

Check #	Vendor	Amount	Description
028808	Ashland-Greenwood Payroll Account	\$ 272,566.77	Net Payroll
028809	AGEA	\$ 2,129.24	Employee Dues
028810	Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Nebraska	\$ 77,110.15	Payroll Employee Health Ins
028811	Centennial Bank	\$ 9,616.44	Payroll Section 125 Deduct
028812	Guardian	\$ 896.13	Payroll Employee Life Prem
028813	Guardian	\$ 644.66	Employee Vision Plan
028814	National Insurance Service	\$ 1,040.32	Payroll LTD Insurance Prem
028815	MidAmerica 403b	\$ 1,840.00	Payroll Annuity Deduction
028816	Ashland-Greenwood Payroll Account	\$ 12,868.86	Payroll State Tax Wthhldg
028817	Ashland Greenwood Payroll Account	\$ 227.00	Employee Child Support Paymt
028818	Ashland-Greenwood Payroll	\$ 85,052.92	Payroll Federal Tax Wthhldg
028819	Retirement	\$ 60,885.56	Payroll Retirement Wthhldg
028820	Ashland-Greenwood Booster Club	\$ 1,743.63	Pupil Support: Ticket Taking
028821	AmSan LLC	\$ 2,563.76	Custodial: Cleaning Supplies
028822	Ashland Disposal Service	\$ 215.00	Custodial: Waste Removal
028823	Barnes & Noble Bookstore	\$ 43.28	Title IV: Supplies
028824	Bennington Equipment, Inc.	\$ 62.85	Maintenance: Tires & Parts
028825	Maris Buller	\$ 140.00	Elem SPED: Respiratory Service
028826	Calloway House Inc	\$ 124.77	Elem instruction: Supplies
028827	Carlex	\$ 166.65	Elem Instruction: Supplies
028828	Carson-Dellosa Publishing	\$ 229.73	Elem Instruction: Supplies
028829	CLARITUS	\$ 189.96	HS Principal: Supplies
028830	DATAVISION LLC	\$ 1,102.50	Inst. Tech.: Comp. Serv.
028831	Delta Education	\$ 24.80	Elem Instruction: Bulbs
028832	Dick Blick Company	\$ 304.97	Instruction: Supplies
028833	Dietze Music House	\$ 2,194.00	Instrumental Music: Baritones
028834	Discount School Supply	\$ 196.84	Elem Guidance: Supplies
028835	Eakes Office Plus	\$ 234.75	Admin: Copier Use
028836	Esu #2	\$ 1,747.00	Sped: SRS Fees 2011-12
028837	Esu #3	\$ 35.00	Sped: Workshop
028838	Father Flanagan's Boys' Home	\$ 4,970.00	Sped: Student Tuition
028839	Fitness Finders Inc	\$ 323.35	Nurse: Supplies
028840	Flinn Scientific Inc	\$ 948.87	Instruction: Science Supplies
028841	Gopher Sports	\$ 720.86	PE Instruction: Supplies
028842	GovConnection Inc.	\$ 5,784.50	Elem: Telephone UPS
028843	Grainger	\$ 185.45	Maintenance: Utility Pump
028844	Hamilton Equipment	\$ 313.50	Maintenance: Rental-Leases
028845	Heartland Foundation/School	\$ 292.00	Sped: Student Tuition
028846	Henry Doorly Zoo	\$ 413.25	Instruction: Zoo Entry Fees
028847	Hillyard/Sioux Falls	\$ 531.30	Custodial: Equipment
028848	Hometown Leasing	\$ 118.00	Copier Lease
028849	Cascio Music Co., Inc./Interstate Music	\$ 1,069.96	Band: Equipment xylophone
028850	Iowa School For The Deaf	\$ 321.12	Sped Transportation Serv
028851	Johnstone Supply	\$ 170.43	Maintenance: Flow Switch
028852	Jostens Diploma Division	\$ 641.83	Instruction: Graduation Mater
028853	Lakeshore Learning Materials	\$ 351.74	Elem Instruction: Suppl
028854	Lincoln Family Med. Group	\$ 635.00	Transportation: Empl Physicals
028855	Matheson Tri-Gas, Inc/Linweld	\$ 11.70	Voc Ag: Supplies
028856	Lyons Music Products	\$ 492.00	Music: recorders-xylophone

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General Fund

Check #	Vendor	Amount	Description
028908	Metal Doors And Hardware	\$ 2,572.00	Maintenance: Doors & Frames
028909	Midwest Turf & Irrigation	\$ 103.84	Maint: Irrigation System Equip
028910	Nebraska Council of School Administrato	\$ 430.00	Reg. Inst.: HS Conf. Reg.
028911	NF Foods LLC	\$ 58.78	All AreasSupplies
028912	Office Depot Corporate Accounts	\$ 160.97	Supt Off: Chair/ Supplies
028913	Pitney Bowes Postage By Phone	\$ 500.00	All Areas: Postage
028914	Pitney Bowes Global Financial Serv LLC	\$ 216.00	Postage Machine Rental
028915	School Specialty	\$ 1,076.35	Instruction: Supplies
028916	Servant Moving Co/George von Rentzell	\$ 437.50	Elem Furniture Moving
028917	Social Studies School Service	\$ 128.71	HS Instruction: Supplies
028918	Softchoice	\$ 3,368.88	Instruction: Software License
028919	SurveyMonkey.com, LLC	\$ 299.00	Inst Tech-Title II: Annual Ren
028920	VISA	\$ 240.42	Shipping, Supplies
028921	Voss Electric Co	\$ 41.64	Maintenance: Light Bulbs
028922	Windstream	\$ 1,117.28	Local Telephone Service
028923	PayFlex Systems USA Inc	\$ 317.20	Employee Benefit
028924	Administration Operations Acct	\$ 538.15	Fees, Mileage, Supplies

Incompletes

City of Ashland			Water and Sewer
Loftus Septic	\$ 315.00		Maint: Rentals
NWEA	\$ 8,002.50		Instruct: MAP License Renewal
Open Text	\$ 3,582.77		FirstClass License Renewal
Pearson	\$ 7,905.50		PowerSchool License Renewal
Protech			Softball Lights
School Speciality	\$ 252.24		Sped Instruct: Supplies
Scott Smith	\$ 800.00		Door Installation
Todd Valley	\$ 22.21		Maint: Supplies
Tyler Williams dba No Limits	\$ 1,940.00		Tree Removal & Cleanup

Authorized by:

Board Report

June 20, 2011

Jill Finkey – Curriculum Supervisor

Summer 2011 - Professional Development Work and Activities

June – Teaching American History Grant Program

Phil Onwiler

Week of June 6th – Test Item Review and Development – for NeSA-R (State Reading Test) -
Lincoln

Connie Willadsen

June 8th – *The Art and Science of Teaching* workshop – Dr. Bob Marzano – Lincoln

Mary Hall, Trisha Nicholson, Kendra Craven, Renee Kucera, Janice Jacobs, Vicki Washburn, Brad Jacobsen, Jill Finkey

June 9th and 10th – Nebraska Middle Level Academy – AGPS

Kristi Bundy, Kendra Craven, Jill Finkey, and Brad Jacobsen

Matt Flynn and Dan Brokaw – Tech. Support

Week of June 13th – *Technology Integration* Class through Doane – AGPS

Taught by Matt Flynn

Janet Rolofson, Diane Starns, Ryan Thompson, Dan Brokaw, Laurie Duff, Brian Petermann, Leisa Rogers, Nate Tonjes, and Randy Wiese

June 14th – Nebraska Student and Staff Record System Work Session – NSSRS – ESU 2,
Fremont

Dana Allington and Jill Finkey

Week of June 20th – Setting Cut Scores – for NeSA-M (State Math Test) – Lincoln

Kristi Bundy, Erin Rathe, and Connie Willadsen

(July – Matt Flynn conducting a training for ESU 4 – 1:1 Schools)

July 6th – *End of Year/Beginning of Year* Power School Processes – Technical Support Session -
AGPS

Jill Finkey and Brad Jacobsen

July 22nd – Analytical Scoring Training for 8th grade – NeSA-W (State Writing Test) – Lincoln

Kendra Craven and Renee Kucera

July 21st – 23rd – National ASCD Leader to Leader Institute – Washington DC

Jill Finkey – Executive Board Member for Nebraska Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development – NASCD

July 26th – Northwest Evaluation Association Measures of Academic Progress Training – NWEA – ESU 2, Fremont

Jody Gude-Rung, Patti Schofield, Barry Fangmeyer, Jim Mohrmann, Teresa Bray, and Jill Finkey

July 27th – Advanced Power School Training – ESU 5, Beatrice

Dana Allington and Shelly Lindhorst

August 1st and 2nd – Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills – DIBELS Training – ESU 2, Fremont

Julie Mink, Alice West, and Pat Yardley

August 3rd – 5th – Nebraska Council of School Administrators – NCSA – Administrator Days - Kearney

Teresa Bray, Jill Finkey, Carrie Holz, Brad Jacobsen, and Zach Kassebaum

Other Summer Work

June – District Technology Maintenance/Updates – District Tech. Team

June – Math Curriculum – alignment of curriculum and assessments to new state math standards – various teaching staff

June – Technology Integration – Developing SMART Lessons/activities – various ele. teaching staff

August – District Technology – Prep. for new school year – District Tech. Team

Professional Development - Coming up in the Fall ...

Analytical Scoring of Writing – all district teachers

Nebraska Mathematics Professional Development Series – Supporting Teaching and Learning in Mathematics

Dan Brokaw, Barry Fangmeyer, Brian Thimm, and Nathan Tonjes

NeSA - C 4 Learning – Check 4 Learning System (Statewide System/Data Base of NeSA test questions)

Item development and review

Patti Schofield – Reading

Nathan Tonjes – Math

Lona Pinkall - Science



Elementary Principal's Report
Board of Education Meeting

June 20, 2011

- ✦ 6th grade materials and furnishings have been moved to the middle school. Several changes in elementary room assignments are taking place to accommodate the additional section of Kindergarten, 2nd and 3rd grade.

- ✦ Playground renovations are underway. Two new pieces of equipment are being added and one existing play structure is being relocated to the south play area.

- ✦ Elementary summer school takes place July 18-August 5. Registrations are currently being accepted. Summer school teachers will be Megan Laune, Kayla Laune and Colleen Lewin.

- ✦ Currently working on updating the Student-Parent Handbook, Elementary Staff Handbook Procedures (i.e. – drill procedures, lunch/recess schedules, supervision schedules, etc...) and K-5 schedules for specials.

COOPERATIVE PROGRAM RENEWAL AGREEMENT

Submitted
NSAA, P.O. Box 65448, Lincoln, NE 68501-5448

Yutan High School and Ashton-Greenwood High School and
Mead High School and _____ High School having
sponsored:

FALL	FBE	FBR	FBI1	VB	BCC	GCC	GCO	DTE	GGB	PF
WINTER	ASW	GSW	NA	ASR	GSE	SP	DER			
SPRING	SA	BTR	GTR	GTE	BCC	ASO	GCO			
OTHER	VMO	INU	J							

during the preceding school year request permission to renew the agreement for the 2011-2012 AND 2012-2013 school year(s). The high schools will cooperatively sponsor the same program(s) under the terms and conditions stipulated in the original application filed with, and approved by the Nebraska School Activities Association.

We certify that the Board of Education and/or Governing Board of the high schools have approved this request for renewal:

Label: <u>Kari Jh</u> Signature of Superintendent	<u>Yutan Public School</u> Name of High School
<u>78 0009</u> School District #	<u>Yutan</u> City, Nebraska

Label: <u>[Signature]</u> Signature of Superintendent	<u>MEAD High School</u> Name of High School
<u>78-0072</u> School District #	<u>MEAD, NE</u> City, Nebraska

Label: _____ Signature of Superintendent	_____ Name of High School
_____ School District #	_____ City, Nebraska

Label: _____ Signature of Superintendent	_____ Name of High School
_____ School District #	_____ City, Nebraska

Should this co-op qualify for reimbursement for any state championship, the check should be written to Yutan High School.

Paige L. Petersen

MAIORS:

Elementary Education (K-6 Certification)
Special Education (Mild/Moderate K-12 Certification)

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND:

Advanced Studies, Master's Level, Doane College, Crete, NE	Summer 2011
Bachelor of Arts Degree, Doane College, Crete, NE	May 2011
Graduate, Deshler High School, Deshler, NE	May 2007

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

Student Teaching

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| ❖ Middle School Special Education, Goodrich Middle School, Lincoln, NE | Spring 2011 |
| ❖ Elementary Special Education, (BD, DD, Autism) Cavett Elementary School, Lincoln, NE | Spring 2011 |
| ❖ 2nd Grade, Adams Elementary School, Lincoln, NE | Fall 2010 |

Student Assisting

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| ❖ 5 th Grade, Everett Elementary School, Lincoln, NE | Spring 2010 |
| ❖ Secondary Special Education, Southwest High School, Lincoln, NE | Fall 2009 |
| ❖ 1 st Grade, Crete Elementary School, Crete, NE | Fall 2008 |
| ❖ 1 st Grade, Dorchester Public School, Dorchester, NE | Spring 2008 |

AREAS OF STRENGTH:

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| ❖ Developmentally Appropriate Practices | ❖ Classroom Management |
| ❖ Classroom Management | ❖ Inquiry-based learning |
| ❖ Hands-on Learning | ❖ Daily 5 experience |
| ❖ Multicultural awareness | ❖ Working with students of all needs |

RELATED EXPERIENCES:

- ❖ 15 Hour Special Needs Observation, Dorchester Public Schools, Dorchester, NE Spring 2010
- ❖ Reading and Writing Workshop Observation, Papillion, NE Spring 2010
- ❖ Interterm, Teaching in Bangkok, Thailand January 2010
- ❖ 10 hour Math Student Study, 5th Grade Student, Crete Elementary School, Crete, NE Fall 2009
- ❖ Multicultural Interterm, Doane College, Crete NE January 2009
- ❖ 10 Hour Special Needs Observation, Bullfrogs, Bugs, and Butterflies Childcare Center, Crete, NE Fall 2008

WORK EXPERIENCE:

- Group/Private Swimming Lesson Instructor, Cooper YMCA, Lincoln, NE Summer 2009-Present
- Swimming Lesson Supervisor, Cooper YMCA, Lincoln, NE Summer 2010
- Lifeguard, Cooper YMCA, Lincoln, NE Summer 2009-2010
- Bullfrogs Bugs and Butterflies, Crete, Ne Assistant Teacher Fall 2008-Spring 2009
- City Pool Assistant Manager, Deshler City Pool, Deshler, NE Summer 2008
- Group/Private Swimming Lessons Instructor, Lifeguard Deshler City Pool, Deshler, NE Summers 2005-2008

ACCOMPLISHMENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND HONORS

- ❖ Dean's List for Academic Achievement
- ❖ Doane Ambassadors
- ❖ Heartland Big Brothers, Big Sisters
- ❖ Volunteer – YMCA Healthy Kids Day
- ❖ AK-SAR-BEN Heartland Princess

PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT:

- ❖ National Education Association 2008-2011
- ❖ Nebraska State Education Association 2008-2011
- ❖ Student Education Association of Nebraska, Doane College 2008-2011
- ❖ Nebraska State Reading Conference, Kearney, NE Spring 2010
- ❖ Project WET Certification March 2010
- ❖ Doane Multicultural Fair, Doane College, Crete, NE Spring 2009, 2010
- ❖ Multicultural Book Display, Lincoln Public Schools, Lincoln, NE Fall 2009

Legislation Passed/Signed into Law

By Mike Dulaney of the Nebraska Council of School Administrators

LB 235

Changes the state aid formula under the Tax Equity and Educational Opportunities Support Act (TEEOSA). Senator Adams

CHANGES TO NEEDS UNDER TEEOSA

Base Limitation/Cost Growth Factor: The base limitation rate or basic allowable growth rate in the aid formula is decreased from 1.5% to 0% for FY2011-12 and .5% for FY2012-13. A decrease in the rate reduces the cost growth factor in the formula, which is used to inflate school district expenditures for purposes of calculating aid. The cost growth factor is also adjusted to eliminate an additional factor, which is currently added to the basic allowable growth rate for the aid year plus the basic allowable growth rate for the prior aid year. The 1% factor is eliminated (note that the factor is normally 1% but it has been changed to 1.5% for aid distributed in FY2011-12 and FY2012-13). These changes result in a calculated cost growth factor of .25% for FY2012 and .5% for FY2013. The decrease in the cost growth factor decreases the amount of state aid that is provided as basic funding.

Needs Stabilization: LB 235 changes the calculation of needs stabilization in FY2011-12. The bill reduces the lower and upper limits for the needs stabilization by 5%. Currently, the amount of need is stabilized at the prior year's level, if need is calculated to be less than the prior year. The bill provides that needs will be stabilized at 95% of the prior year's amount if needs for a district are calculated to be less than 95% of the prior year. The upper limit on needs stabilization is also adjusted in FY2012. Currently, if calculated needs for a district are greater than 112% of the prior year, then needs are adjusted to 112%. The stabilization limit is changed to 107% by the bill. Districts receiving a student growth adjustment are excluded from the reduction. The change in needs stabilization reduces state aid for districts that are eligible for stabilization aid.

Elementary Class Size Allowance: The bill repeals language that would otherwise eliminate the elementary class size allowance beginning in FY2013-14. Generally, allowances attribute expenditures for such purposes to school districts incurring the expenditures that reduce the amount of basic funding available in the formula. In FY2011, the elementary class size allowance was \$105.4 million of the needs calculation. The retention of the allowance should not increase or decrease the overall amount of state aid distributed, unless the interaction with the averaging adjustment or needs stabilization changes the amount, but it will alter the amount of aid received by individual districts.

Summer School Allowance: The bill incorporates the provisions of LB 287 (2011) that change the computation of the summer school allowance. Summer school units for the purpose of the allowance are to include students enrolled in an early childhood education program in a summer session (kindergarten eligible students), in the most recently completed data year, beginning with the state aid calculation for FY2012-13. The number of summer school units calculated for early childhood education students would be six-tenths of the number calculated for students in other grades. An additional sixteenth of a summer school student unit is added for each early childhood education child in a free lunch and free milk program. An allowance in the formula for a particular activity (i.e., summer school) attributes expenditures for that purpose to a school district actually incurring the expenditures. This reduces the amount of basic funding available in the formula by the amount of the allowance and increases funding for schools able to take advantage of the allowance. Generally, the expansion of an allowance should not increase or decrease the overall amount of state aid distributed, but it will alter the amount of state aid received by individual school districts. (It is possible total state aid could increase by an indeterminate amount depending upon how the change in basic funding interacts in the formula with the averaging adjustment or needs stabilization.)

Comparison Groups: The calculation of basic funding for districts is changed in the bill. Currently, the basic funding for a district is determined by comparing the formula students of the five larger and five smaller districts to a district. The highest and lowest spending districts are excluded from the calculation. The comparison group is changed beginning in FY2011-12 to be the ten larger and ten smaller districts, with the two highest and two lowest spending districts excluded from the comparison group. (The change of the comparison group for an individual district may increase or decrease state aid for that district.)

General Fund Operating Expenditures: The provisions of LB 148 (2011) are included in the bill. Beginning with state aid calculated for FY2012-13, general fund operating expenditures are to exclude amounts paid by school districts for lobbyist fees and expenses. LB 235 also excludes expenditures for voluntary terminations occurring on or after July 1, 2011 and on or before June 30, 2013 from general fund operating expenses.

These exclusions from general fund operating expenses reduce the amount of need calculated for school districts by the amount of the fees and expenses. The report of lobbyist fees and expenses filed with the Nebraska Accountability Disclosure Commission for 2010 (as of January 24, 2011), demonstrates that 14 school districts expended about \$410,000 for lobbyists. Assuming a few more 4th quarter reports will be filed, it is estimated schools spent about \$475,000 for this purpose in FY2010. The amount that will be expended for voluntary terminations is unknown. The bill also extends an exclusion from general fund operating expenses for the amount of school district contributions to retirement systems. The exclusion is extended for FY2014-15, FY2015-16 and FY2016-17. Any school district contributions to retirement in excess of 7.35% for the state teacher retirement system or 7.37% for the Class V school retirement system made in these fiscal years are excluded from general fund operating expenses for the purposes of calculating state aid.

Cumulative NEEDS Fiscal Impact: The interaction of the NEEDS components of the formula makes it difficult to isolate the impact of a change to the cost growth factor, averaging adjustment, needs stabilization or the other formula changes in the bill. It is estimated the cumulative impact of changes to NEEDS in LB 235 is a general fund savings of about \$137 million in FY2012 and \$168.8 million in FY2013.

CHANGES TO RESOURCES UNDER TEEOSA

Local Effort Rate: The local effort rate is increased from \$1.00 to \$1.0395 for the calculation of aid in FY2012 and FY2013. An increase in the local effort rate decreases the amount of state aid provided to school districts by the amount of additional resources that can be raised from the increased rate. The estimated general fund savings is \$49.7 million in FY2012 and \$52 million in FY2013.

Property Tax Refunds: Formula resources for a school district are reduced by the amount of property tax refunds paid by a district beginning in FY2013. The adjustment decreases resources for a district that will increase state aid for most affected districts by the amount of the refunds.

Income Tax: The bill continues a reduction in the amount of income tax rebate in FY2012 and FY2013. The amount of income tax rebate is reduced by \$21 million in each fiscal year. The reduction in FY2011 is \$20 million. A reduction in income tax rebate decreases resources to schools and state aid by \$21 million but the aid reduction is restored as equalization aid to equalized districts. The estimated net general fund savings is \$1.9 million in FY2012 and FY2013.

CHANGES TO BUDGET LIMITATIONS

The bill modifies the budget limitation for school districts in FY2011-12. The general fund budget of expenditures is limited to the greater of: the FY2010-11 general fund budget of expenditures less exclusions in § 79-1028.01, for FY2011 increased by 1.115% of the formula need for FY2011; plus any student growth adjustment; OR, 110% of formula need for FY2012, less special education budgeted expenditures for FY2011 increased by the basic allowable growth rate for FY2012. Under current law, in FY2011, the budget limit is the maximum of the prior year budget (less grant funds and special education expenditures) increased by .0075% plus the applicable allowable growth rate; or, 116.5% of formula need (less special education expenditures) increased by the basic allowable growth rate.

In FY2012-13 and thereafter, the budget limitation is modified to be the greater of: the prior year general fund budget of expenditures less exclusions in § 79-1028.01 increased by the basic allowable growth rate; plus any student growth adjustment; OR, 110% of formula need for the school year for which the calculation is made less prior year special education expenditures increased by the basic allowable growth rate for the school year being calculated. A new budget lid exclusion is included allowing schools to exceed their lid in the amount of expenditures for voluntary terminations occurring on or after July 1, 2011 and on or before June 30, 2013. The bill also eliminates the allowable growth range for districts, which is currently up to 3% above the base limitation.

An existing exclusion from the budget lid is extended by the bill for FY2014-15, FY2015-16 and FY2016-17. Expenditures by school districts to pay for employer contributions to the School Retirement System or the Class V School Employees Retirement System are excluded from the budget lid when the expenditures are in excess of what would have been spent at a rate of 7.35% or 7.37%, respectively. The unused budget authority that may be accessed by school districts is also changed. Currently, unused budget authority is carried over to the next fiscal year. LB 235 limits the use of unused budget authority in any fiscal year to 2% of the difference of the general fund budget of expenditures (less grant funds, special education expenditures and certain exceptions) for the preceding school year.

The budget limitations in the bill allow for about a 3% growth in spending in FY2012. However, it is assumed the combination of low growth in property valuations, limited unused tax rate capacity, and a \$128 million reduction in state aid lowers the resources to schools to the point where spending will only increase by about 1%. It is assumed a growth in resources in FY2013 allows school spending to increase by 2.5% per LB 235 budget limitations.

LB 260

Creates the Concussion Awareness Act

Finds that concussions are one of the "most commonly reported injuries in children and adolescents who participate in sports and recreational activities and that the risk of catastrophic injury or death is significant when a concussion or brain injury is not properly evaluated and managed." Under the bill, all public and private schools must:

- a. Make available training approved by the chief medical officer on how to recognize the symptoms of a concussion or brain injury and how to seek proper medical treatment for a concussion or brain injury to all coaches of school athletic teams; and
- b. Require that concussion and brain injury information be provided on an annual basis to students and the students' parents or guardians prior to such students initiating practice or competition. The information provided to students and the students' parents or guardians must include, but not limited to:
 - o The signs and symptoms of a concussion;
 - o The risks posed by sustaining a concussion; and
 - o The actions a student should take in response to sustaining a concussion, including the notification of his or her coaches.

A student who participates on a school athletic team must be removed from a practice or game when he/she is reasonably suspected of having sustained a concussion or brain injury in such practice or game after observation by a coach or a licensed health care professional who is professionally affiliated with or contracted by the school. The student will not be permitted to participate in any school supervised team athletic activities involving physical exertion, including practices or games, until the student:

- a. has been evaluated by a licensed health care professional,
- b. has received written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities from the licensed health care professional, and
- c. has submitted the written and signed clearance to resume participation in athletic activities to the school accompanied by written permission to resume participation from the student's parent or guardian.

If a student is reasonably suspected after observation of having sustained a concussion or brain injury and is removed from an athletic activity, the parent or guardian of the student must be notified by the school of:

- a. the date and approximate time of the injury suffered by the student,
- b. the signs and symptoms of a concussion or brain injury that were observed, and
- c. any actions taken to treat the student.

The bill expressly provides that a school is not required to provide for the presence of a licensed health care professional at any practice or game. The bill also provides that the signature of an individual who represents that he/she is a licensed health care professional on a written clearance to resume participation that is provided to a school will be deemed to be conclusive and reliable evidence that the individual who signed the clearance is a licensed health care professional. The school is not required to determine or verify the individual's qualifications.

Note: The same requirements placed upon schools under LB 260 are also placed on municipalities and nonprofit organizations (such as the NSAA) that organizes an athletic activity in which the athletes are 19 years of age or younger and are required to pay a fee to participate in the athletic activity or whose cost to participate in the athletic activity is sponsored by a business or nonprofit organization.

LB 260 becomes operative on July 1, 2012.

LB 333

Implements recommendations of the Education Committee contained in the LR 542

LB 333 amends and repeals various statutes pertaining to schools, including the following.

Student Achievement Coordinator: LB 333 repeals the section of statute requiring a student achievement coordinator at the NDE. The general fund savings from eliminating the position will be \$103,420 in FY2012 and FY2013.

School District Reorganization Fund: The bill also transfers funds remaining in the School District Reorganization Fund on July 1, 2011 to the Education Innovation Fund. The balance of the reorganization fund was \$703,629 on January 31, 2011. NDE anticipates there will be an additional reorganization that will be eligible for reimbursement from the fund in the current year in the amount of \$425,915. Therefore, the projected revenue that will be transferred to the Education Innovation Fund is estimated to be slightly in excess of \$277,700, depending upon the interest earned the remainder of the fiscal year.

NCSA Final Legislative Report, 2011 15

Education Innovation Fund: The bill changes the allocation of the Education Innovation Fund beginning in FY2011-12 through FY2015-16. The fund is derived from lottery proceeds. Current law provides for the first \$1 million of the fund to be used for the Excellence in Teaching Act and the remainder to be allocated, after administrative expenses, for distance education equipment and incentives provided to school districts and educational service units. LB 333 provides for the accumulated balance and annual revenue of the Education Innovation Fund to be used to fund a couple of existing state aid programs for high ability learners and early childhood education grants. The high ability learner program will be funded with lottery funds for five years and early childhood education grants will be shifted to this fund source for two years. The Center for Student Leadership and Extended Learning Act, a state funded program, is also switched to lottery funding for the next five years as are the multicultural education program and teacher certification investigations. A new request by NDE to fund an integrated student information system will also be funded by the Education Innovation Fund pursuant to the bill.

Funding for distance education equipment, incentives and administration continues under the bill. However, funding for the Excellence in Teaching Act is altered in FY2012 and FY2013. Instead of \$1 million being set aside for this program each fiscal year, the bill provides that only the amount necessary to fund loans for students who received a loan in the prior fiscal year through the Attracting Excellence to Teaching component of the program will be funded.

LB 374

Represents the mainline biennium budget bill for 2011-13. Some of the major education related appropriations under the mainline budget bill are provided below.

Funding Source	FY2011-12	FY2012-13
Tax Equity and Educational General Funds	\$804,689,087	\$864,654,919
Insurance Tax Premium Funds	17,123,234	14,701,227**
TOTAL	\$821,812,321	\$879,356,145
Special Education Reimbursement	\$184,893,842	\$184,893,842

NOTE: "Over the two years of the biennium, TEEOSA school aid under the provisions of LB 235 (2011) is projected to be \$410 million less than what was projected under the law prior to LB 235." [State of Nebraska, FY2011-12 / FY2012-13, Biennial Budget, April 2011, p. 2.]

LB 382

LB 382 increases the employee contribution rate under the School Employees Plan by 1.5% in a two-stage process.

Employee Rate Employer Rate *

Current Rate	8.28%	8.36%
Rate as of 9/1/11	8.88%	8.97%
Rate as of 9/1/12	9.78%	9.88%

* The employer rate is affixed at 101% of the statutorially prescribed employee rate.

NOTE: Under LB 382, the employee rate would remain at 9.78% through August 31, 2017. The Legislature's Retirement Committee believes it may take until 2017 to overcome a \$400 million actuarial shortfall under the School Employees Plan.

State Contribution: One of the positive provisions under LB 382 is the extension of the 1% state contribution rate (for both the School Employees and OPS Plans), which is currently scheduled to sunset in FY2013-14. LB 382 extends the 1% state contribution through FY2016-17. Beginning July 1, 2017 the state contribution rate returns to .7%.

Spending Lid Exception: Under current provisions of TEEOSA, expenditures in school fiscal years through 2013-14 to pay for employer contributions are excluded under the spending lid to the extent such expenditures exceed the employer contributions that would have been made at a contribution rate of 7.35% for the School Plan, and 7.37% for the OPS Plan. LB 235 (2011), as passed and signed into law, would extend this spending lid exclusion through the 2016-17 school fiscal year.

LB 397

Represents comprehensive reform to the Nebraska Industrial Relations Act and the Commission of Industrial Relations (CIR), the state's arbiter of labor disputes between public sector employees and government employers.

LB 397 contains provisions related to the duties and authority of the CIR and specific modifications to existing sections of law along with some new sections of law relevant to municipalities, state employees, school districts, educational service units (ESUs), and community colleges. The "school" provisions become operative on July 1, 2012 and include four major components:

- Negotiations Timeline
- Total Compensation
- Array Midpoint Range
- Repealed Section (Special Master)
-

I. NEGOTIATIONS TIMELINE

Overview: Negotiations Timeline

Applicable to School Districts, ESUs, and Community Colleges

On or Before Date	Action/Activity
September 1	Bargaining agent must request recognition
October 1	Governing board must respond to request
November 1	Negotiations must begin
February 8	If no agreement, parties must submit to resolution officer proceeding
March 25 *	Negotiations must end
September 15	CIR must render decision on industrial dispute

* On or before March 25 of the year preceding the contract year in question or within 25 days after the certification of state aid for the contract year in question, whichever occurs last in time, negotiations, mediation, and factfinding must end. LB 397 (section 11) creates a negotiations timeline applicable for school districts, ESUs, and community colleges. The legislation provides findings that it is "in the public's interest that collective bargaining ... commence and conclude in a timely fashion consistent with budgeting and financing requirements."

A. Recognition. On or before September 1 of the year preceding the contract year in question, the certificated and instructional employees' collective bargaining agent must request recognition as bargaining agent.

1. The governing board must respond to the request not later than the following October 1.
2. A request for recognition need not be filed if the certificated and instructional employees' bargaining agent has been certified by the CIR as the exclusive collective-bargaining agent.

B. Negotiations Commence. On or before November 1 of the year preceding the contract year in question, negotiations must begin.

1. There must be no fewer than four negotiations meetings between the certificated and instructional employees' collective-bargaining agent and the governing board's bargaining agent.
2. Either party may seek a bargaining order, under §48-816(1) at any stage in the negotiations (in the event of failure or refusal to bargain in good faith concerning the matters in dispute).

C. Resolution Officer Proceeding. If an agreement is not reached on or before the following February 8, the parties must submit to mandatory mediation or factfinding as ordered by the CIR unless the parties mutually agree in writing to forgo mandatory mediation or factfinding.

1. The mediator or factfinder as ordered by the CIR would be a "resolution officer."
 - a. The CIR must provide the parties with the names of five individuals qualified to serve as the resolution officer.
 - b. If the parties cannot agree on an individual, each party must alternately strike names. The remaining individual would serve as the resolution officer.
2. The resolution officer may:
 - a. Determine whether the issues are ready for adjudication;
 - b. Identify for resolution terms and conditions of employment that are in dispute and which were negotiated in good faith but upon which no agreement was reached;
 - c. Accept stipulations;
 - d. Schedule hearings;
 - e. Prescribe rules of conduct for conferences;
 - f. Order additional mediation if necessary;
 - g. Take any other action which may aid in resolution of the industrial dispute; and
 - h. Consult with a party ex parte (without the party present) only with the concurrence of all parties.
3. The resolution officer must choose the most reasonable final offer on each issue in dispute. In making the choice, he/she must consider factors relevant to collective bargaining between public employers and public employees, including comparable rates of pay and conditions of employment, as provided in §48-818(1).
4. The resolution officer may not apply strict rules of evidence.
5. Persons who are not attorneys may present cases to the resolution officer.
6. If either party to a resolution officer proceeding is dissatisfied with the resolution officer's decision, the party would have the right to file an action with the CIR seeking a determination of terms and conditions of employment, as provided in §48-818(1).
 - a. Such action would not constitute an appeal of the resolution officer's decision, but rather would be heard by the CIR as an action brought under §48-818(1).
 - b. The CIR must resolve all of the issues identified by either party and which were recognized by the resolution officer as an industrial dispute.
7. If parties have not filed with the CIR, the decision of the resolution officer would be deemed final and binding.

Note: LB 397 provides a special definition for "issue" as it relates to the resolution officer proceeding to mean broad subjects of negotiation that are presented to the resolution officer. All aspects of wages are a single issue, all aspects of insurance are a single issue, and all other subjects of negotiations classified in broad categories are single issues.

D. Negotiations End. On or before March 25 of the year preceding the contract year in question or within 25 days after the certification of state aid for the contract year in question, whichever occurs last in time, negotiations, mediation, and factfinding must end.

1. If an agreement for the contract year in question has not been achieved on or before the date for negotiation, mediation, or factfinding to end, either party may, within 14 days after such date, file a petition with the CIR to resolve the industrial dispute for the contract year in question.
2. The CIR must render a decision on the industrial dispute on or before September 15 of the contract year in question.

E. Continuation Provision. Any existing collective-bargaining agreement will continue in full force and effect until superseded by further agreement of the parties or by an order of the CIR. The parties may continue to negotiate unresolved issues by mutual agreement while the matter is pending with the commission.

F. Execution of Agreement. All collective-bargaining agreements must be written and executed by representatives of the governing board and representatives of the bargaining unit. The agreement must contain at a minimum the following:

1. A salary schedule or objective method of determining salaries;
2. A description of benefits being provided or agreed upon including a specific level of coverage provided in any group insurance plan, a dollar amount, or percentage of premiums to be paid, and by whom; and
3. A provision that the existing agreement will continue until replaced by a successor agreement or as amended by a final order of the commission.

II. TOTAL COMPENSATION

LB 397 (section 12) provides for computation of total compensation. Under the legislation, when determining total compensation for a school district, ESU, or community college with their certificated and instructional employees, the CIR must consider the employer's contribution to retirement plans and health insurance premiums, premium equivalent payments, or cash equivalent payments and any other costs, including Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA) contributions, associated with providing such benefits.

III. ARRAY MIDPOINT RANGE

LB 397 (section 13) establishes two array midpoint ranges depending upon whether the economy is in recession.

A. Normal Economic Times. When establishing wage rates, the CIR must determine whether the total compensation of the members of the bargaining unit or classification falls within a 98% to 102% range of the array's midpoint.

1. If the total compensation falls within the 98% to 102% range, the CIR must order no change in wage rates.
2. If the total compensation is less than 98% of the midpoint, the CIR must enter an order increasing wage rates to 98% of the midpoint.
3. If the total compensation is more than 102% of the midpoint, the CIR must enter an order decreasing wage rates to 102% of the midpoint.
4. If the total compensation is more than 107% of the midpoint, the CIR must enter an order reducing wage rates to 102% of the midpoint in three equal annual reductions.
5. If the total compensation is less than 93% of the midpoint, the CIR must enter an order increasing wage rates to 98% of the midpoint in three equal annual increases.

B. Recession Occurrence. If the CIR finds that the year in dispute occurred during a time of recession, the applicable range will be 95% to 102%. "Recession occurrence" is defined under LB 397 as the two quarters immediately preceding the effective date of the contract term in which net (i) state sales and use tax, (ii) individual income tax, and (iii) corporate income tax receipts are less than the same quarters for the prior year. Each of these receipts shall be rate and base adjusted for state law changes. The Department of Revenue must report and publish such receipts on a quarterly basis.

LB 463

LB 463 revises existing law relevant to excessive absenteeism policies and practices.

Excessive Absenteeism: Under current law (§ 79-209), all school districts must have a written policy on excessive absenteeism developed in collaboration with the county attorney of the county in which the principal office of the school district is located. This section of law is applicable to all public and private schools.

Current law provides that the policy must state the number of absences or the hourly equivalent upon the occurrence of which the school will render all services in its power to compel such child to attend some school in an attempt to address the problem of excessive absenteeism. The number of absences in the policy may not exceed five days per quarter or the hourly equivalent. School districts may use excused and unexcused absences for purposes of the policy.

These provisions do not change under LB 463 but an additional provision for the policy is required. LB 463 states that the policy must include a provision indicating how the school district and the county attorney will handle cases in which excessive absences are due to documented illness that makes attendance impossible or impracticable.

LB 509

LB 509 includes a number of technical revisions to the School Employees Plan along with the other state sponsored retirement plans. The bill also incorporates the provisions of LB 486. Background Information: As introduced, LB 486 would have eliminated the existing 7% Rule with its three exemptions under the School Employees Retirement Plan and replaced it with a 9% Rule with no exemptions. The purpose of LB 486 was to address the unfunded liability created by virtue of the increasing number of retirees applying for one or several exemptions each year.

Currently, that part of a plan member's compensation that exceeds the member's compensation for the preceding year by more than 7% during the 60 months preceding retirement is excluded from the benefit calculation unless one of the three exemptions apply. The exemptions are:

1. Substantial change of employment position or duties,
2. Result of collective bargaining agreement, or
3. District-wide permanent benefit-plan change.

During executive sessions of the Legislature Retirement Committee, several options were considered, one of which was to advance the introduced version of LB 486. Another option was to advance the bill with an 8% cap rather than the proposed 9% cap.

The compromise, which became part of LB 509, creates a 9% cap effective July 1, 2012 and an 8% cap effective July 1, 2013 and thereafter. The exemptions under the current rule would no longer exist as of July 1, 2012.

LB 544

LB 544 amends existing law (§ 79-724) as it pertains to instruction on American citizenship.

Under current law, school districts must offer, in at least two grades of every high school, at least three periods per week devoted to the teaching of civics, during which courses with specific attention to:

1. The United States Constitution and the Constitution of Nebraska;
2. The benefits and advantages of our form of government and the dangers and fallacies of Nazism, Communism, and similar ideologies; and
3. The duties of citizenship.

LB 544 expands the third provision, relating to the duties of citizenship, to include active participation in the improvement of a citizen's community, state, country, and world and the value and practice of civil discourse between opposing interests.