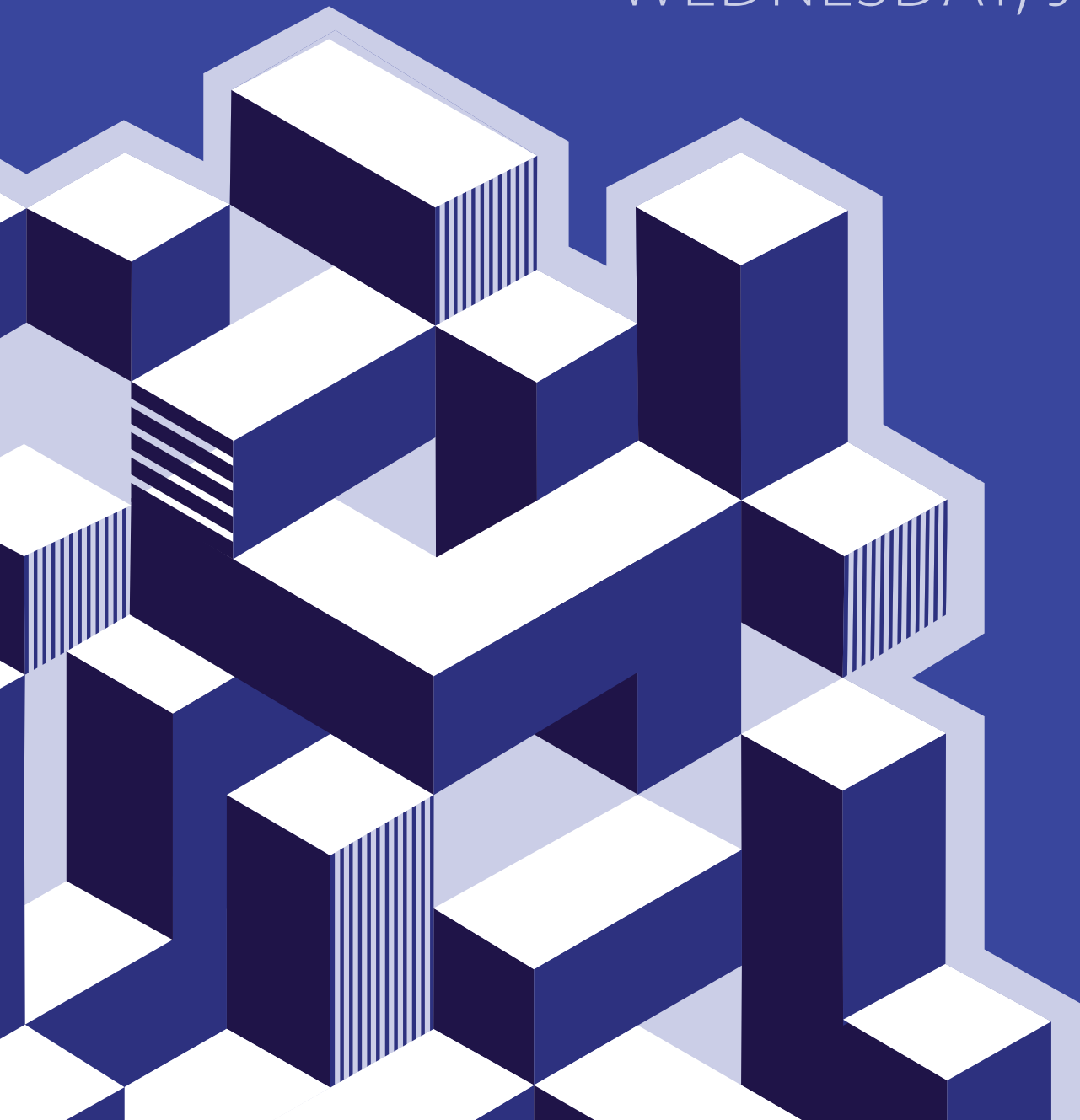


NDE DAY 2024

# BUILDING FOUNDATIONS

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24



# Commissioner's Message



Welcome to NDE Day at Administrators Days 2024! It is truly an honor to welcome you as the Commissioner of Education. It is a privilege to represent you and the entire State of Nebraska in the role of Commissioner of Education. Our theme for the year is Building Foundations.

There are many directions I could go with the foundational theme. I could certainly personalize the theme and talk about how this past year has set a solid foundation for continuing my work in this role...indeed it has. Our Board of Education, our schools and the NDE Staff have helped me get a great base—a foundation—to get much accomplished in the coming year. I thank all of you for your care and assistance in supporting the building of that foundation.

However, one foundational area towers over all others as we prepare for the impending school year. That is – literacy improvement. You will see many breakout sessions

this year with literacy as a substantial portion of the program. You will read about the NDE commitment to improving literacy outcomes in this program. You will hear me talk about the great significance of literacy improvement as I keynote the NDE Day kickoff.

The reason for the emphasis? Reading is THE FOUNDATION to success in school – and beyond – for all of Nebraska's youth. The NDE State Board of Education and the NDE Staff are jointly committed to improving outcomes in this area. I am truly inspired by what we can do for kids in Nebraska with this focus of our energy, time and talent.

I believe building on the foundation of literacy will help our students succeed in other curricular areas. Further, Nebraska students deserve our efforts in this area.

I wish you the best in the 24-25 school year. I look forward to working together for the good of all Nebraska kids! Let us build a solid foundation for the future of our students – and our state!

# Literacy Project

The Nebraska Literacy Project is a collaborative initiative between the NDE, ESUs, post-secondary institutions, districts, and philanthropic foundations to work together to improve literacy for Nebraska's children.

**Vision:** To foster a culture of proficient and lifelong readers in Nebraska and unlock student potential for learning, earning, and living through a focus on evidence-based reading instruction.

**Legislation:** Nebraska Revised Statute 79-2607 requires:

- The NDE to develop and implement a professional learning system regarding evidence-based reading instruction for teachers of children from four years of age through third grade at an approved or accredited school and teachers employed by an early childhood education program approved by the State Board of Education.
- Approved or accredited elementary schools and early childhood education programs approved by the State Board of Education to ensure that teachers of children from four years of age through third grade:
  - » Are aware of the professional learning system; and
  - » Are adequately trained regarding evidence-based reading instruction.

**Goals:**

1. Increase third grade proficiency on NSCAS ELA from 62% to 75% by 2030.
2. Increase the percentage of K-3 Nebraska students who meet the Nebraska Reading Improvement Act approved assessment thresholds (thus reducing the percentage of students who require an Individual Reading Improvement Plan).
3. Ensure 100% of Nebraska educator preparation programs are implementing evidence-based instruction for teachers grounded in the science of reading.

**Tenets:**

1. Provide a system of professional learning in evidence-based reading instruction.
2. Support sustained implementation of curriculum, instruction, and materials aligned with evidence-based reading instruction for elementary English Language Arts.
3. Develop regional literacy coaches to provide job-embedded training and support for evidence-based reading instruction.
4. Ensure appropriate collections of data to measure effectiveness of the professional learning system and implementation of evidence-based reading instruction.
5. Work with local family literacy centers to strengthen home and family literacy programs.



# NDE DAY 2024 **BUILDING FOUNDATIONS** WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

**Opening Session**  
8:30–9:30 am CDT  
**Gold 4-6 & 10-12**

## Opening Session

**WELCOME: Sherry Jones, State Board Member, District 6 | KEYNOTE: Building Foundations, Brian L. Maher, Commissioner of Education**

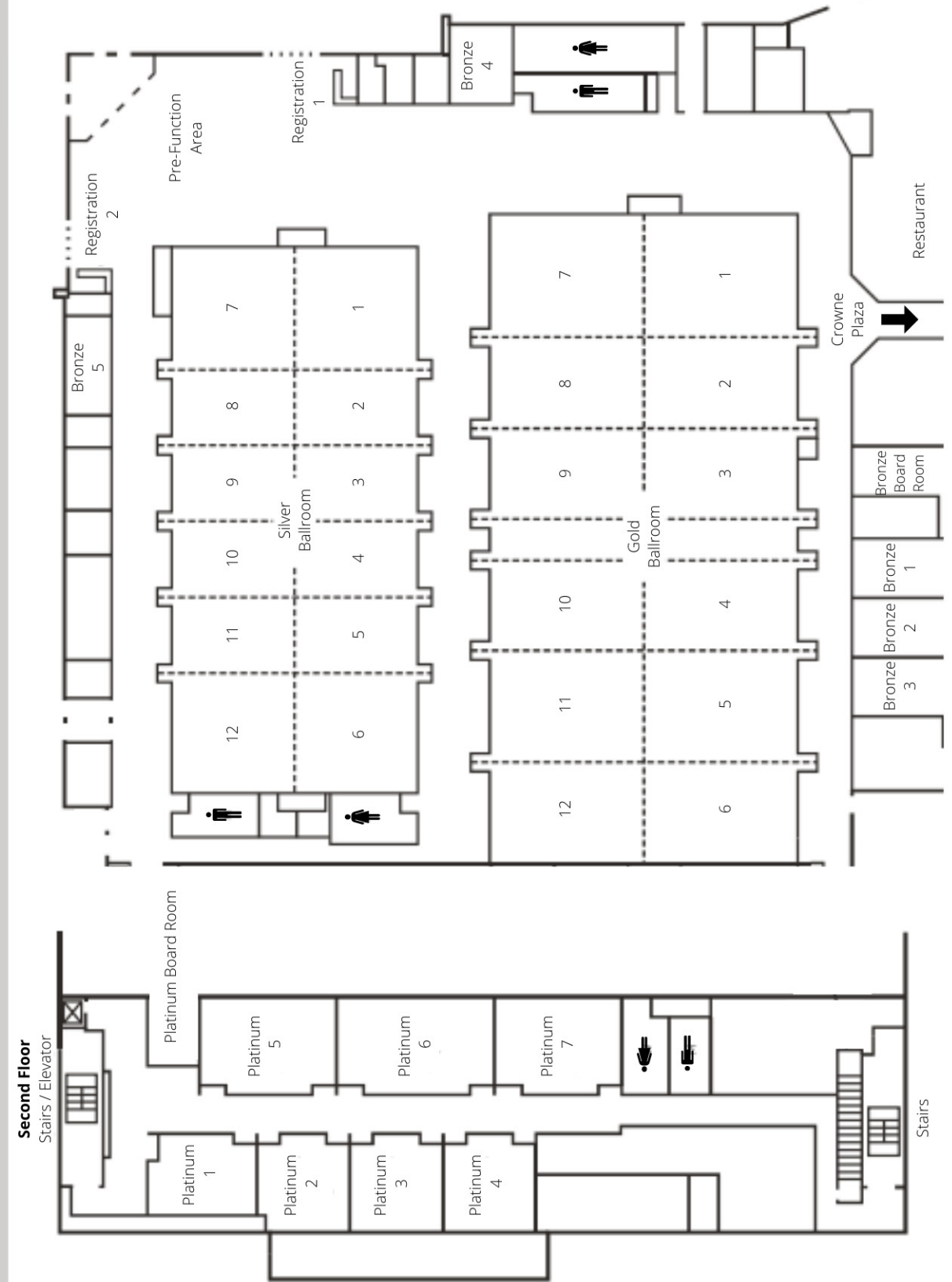
	Gold 4-6 & 10-12	Silver 1	Silver 2&3	Silver 4&5	Silver 6	Silver 7	Silver 8&9	Silver 10&11	Silver 12	Platinum 2	Platinum 3	Platinum 4	Platinum 5	Platinum 6	Platinum 7
<b>Concurrent Session I</b> 9:45–10:30 am CDT	School Finance Update <i>Bryce Wilson, Michelle Cartwright</i>	I Will Huff and Puff and Blow Your House (School) Down <i>Scott Stemper</i>	Learning from Nebraska Academic Diagnostic Data <i>Shirley Vargas, Allyson DenBeste</i>	Everything You Should Know Before Hiring a Foreign-Trained Educator <i>Katelyn Larsen, Decua Jean-Baptiste</i>	Rethinking Your Walkthrough: Differentiated Support for Educators <i>Ryan Ricenbaw, Julie Downing</i>	Do's & Don'ts in Building Anything in the GMS <i>Dottie Heusman, Beth Wooster, Sara Leber</i>	Compliance Visits: Ensuring a Solid Foundation <i>Todd Wolverton</i>	Leveraging Canvas' Power Across Our State and Within Your District! <i>Dorann Avey, Shara Johnson</i>	Supporting Staff and Student Well-Being Resources from the NDE <i>Jessie Coffey, Erika Wibbels</i>	"Dig In!" Arts Education Data Project WR	ESEA Federal Programs WR	Budget Assistance WR	Maximizing Success: Unlocking World Language Opportunities for Students <i>Chrystal Liu, Nicholas Ziegler, Hannah Paredes, Kilnoski</i>	Meeting the Needs of Your Community with High-Quality Child Care Partnerships <i>Carol Burk, Kelly Jones, Emly Daberkow, Steph Knust</i>	Navigating the Updated HAL Statute <i>Sheyanne Smith</i>
<b>Concurrent Session II</b> 10:45–11:30 am CDT		Building Foundations of Communication with Parents and Families <i>Anne Hubbell, Julie Otero, Tara Korshoj, Jamie Osgoodby</i>	AQUEST 101: Building a Foundational Understanding of Nebraska Accountability <i>Derek Ippensen</i>	Local Food for Schools <i>Sarah Meyer, Taylor Schorsch, Gary Fehr</i>	Making an Impact Through Coordination with Federal Programs <i>Benjamin Zink, Ann Carmoney</i>	Building Foundations: Constructing Success in Career and Technical Education <i>Sydney Kobza, Katie Graham</i>	Showing Our Community Schools Are Safe and Secure <i>Jay Martin</i>	Learning Frontiers: Using Research to Support Practices PreK-3rd Grade <i>Kristine Luebbe, Melody Hobson, Lisa Knoche</i>	"Beyond the Basics" Options for Triangulating Data <i>Micki Charf, Shirley Vargas</i>				Blueprints for Effective Time and Effort Reporting <i>Tom Goeschel, Lisa Laws</i>	Building the Foundations for a School Mental Health System <i>Amber Hartsock, Mariella Resendiz-Alvarado</i>	Leveraging Student Opportunities by Identifying HAL in World Language <i>Sheyanne Smith, Chrystal Liu</i>
<b>Lunch</b> On your own or pre-purchased buffet lunch 11:30 am - 1:00 pm: Gold 4-6 & 10-12															
<b>Concurrent Session III</b> 1:00–1:45 pm CDT		ACT - Big Changes and the Nebraska Tried and True <i>Iris Owens</i>	Tiered Approaches to Addressing Chronic Absenteeism <i>Shirley Vargas, Derek Ippensen, Nicole Britten</i>	Pupil Transportation, Drug and Alcohol Requirements, School Bus Inspection <i>Stephanie DeGroot, Jennifer Bell</i>	Building Beyond Compliance: Framing Evaluation as a Tool for Growth and Collaboration <i>Ryan Ricenbaw, Julie Downing</i>	A Solid Foundation for ESEA Federal Programs <i>Dottie Heusman, Beth Wooster, Ann Carmoney</i>	Laying the Groundwork for Employment <i>Lindsay Brown, Cathy Callaway</i>	Lessons from Late Night: A Teaching Workshop Inspired by Jimmy Fallon <i>Scott Phillips</i>	A Blueprint for Understanding Special Education Monitoring Data on the CIP Template <i>Micki Charf, Amy Rhone, Casey Hurner</i>	"Dig In!" Arts Education Data Project WR	ESEA Federal Programs WR	Budget Assistance WR	Building New Foundations: All That's New in the NDE Data World <i>Jill Aurand, Naomi Kohles</i>	Building Strong Foundations: Exploring Nebraska Rule 11 <i>Carol Burk, Emly Daberkow, Kelly Jones</i>	Foundations of Learning: Collaborative Insights Across Content Areas <i>TL&amp;A Content Specialists</i>
<b>Concurrent Session IV</b> 2:00–2:45 pm CDT	NSCAS Update <i>Trudy Clark</i>	Leading in Literacy <i>Becky Michael</i>	Building a Foundational Understanding of the 2024 AQUEST Accountability Process <i>Derek Ippensen</i>	Building Literacy Foundations: Navigating Reading Challenges Through the Nebraska Literacy Project <i>Olivia Alberts, Amy Rhone, Allyson DenBeste, Cindy Gray</i>	Continuous Improvement: From Compliance to a Culture of Commitment <i>Sandra Suiter</i>	Educator Certification <i>Katelyn Larsen</i>	Building Skilled Parenting Communities with Digital and Substance Use Awareness Parent Academics <i>Jay Martin</i>	Hidden in Plain Sight: Identifying Students Experiencing Homelessness <i>Ann Carmoney</i>	All You Need to Know About FAESA <i>Donna Hoffman, Lane Carr, Daphne Hall</i>				Building Successful Foundations: Grant Compliance Updates (Including ESSER) <i>Tom Goeschel, Lisa Laws</i>	Building Systems to Support and Retain Special Educators <i>Pamela Brezenski, Micki Charf, Amanda Witte</i>	Empowering Administrators: Elevating Science Education <i>Marissa Payzant, Rhonda True, Sarah Shaffer, Michelle Gall</i>
<b>Concurrent Session V</b> 3:00–3:45 pm CDT	Legislative Debrief: Implications and Next Steps <i>Lane Carr, Brian Halstead</i>	Building Foundations: Understanding the Interconnectedness of the Targeted Improvement Plan and Continuous Improvement for Enhanced Capacity <i>Tessa Fraass, Darsha Pelland, Abbey Cron, Micki Charf, Heidi Farmer</i>	Building Foundations for Team Success: Growing Leaders with SEED <i>Julie Downing, Travis Miller, Eric Arneson, Mandy Plog</i>	Putting the Last Shingle on the ESSER III House! <i>Dottie Heusman, Beth Wooster, Tom Goeschel</i>	Rule 10: Navigating the Differences Between Mandatory and Regulatory Requirements <i>Decua Jean-Baptiste</i>	Professional Learning Opportunities in 2024-25 <i>Aly Martinez Wilkinson, Cassie Seiboldt</i>	Strengthening School Mental Health Efforts Through ESU Partnerships <i>Amber Hartsock, Mariella Resendiz-Alvarado</i>	AI in Education: Laying the Digital Foundations for Tomorrow's Schools <i>Dorann Avey, Shaun Young, Andrew Easton</i>	Educator Certification Revisions: What's Next <i>Brad Dirksen</i>				HQIM in Nebraska: Where Are We Going, Where Have We Been? <i>Marissa Payzant, Allyson DenBeste</i>	The NE Math Atlas: A Math Learning Progression Tool <i>Bridgette Stevens</i>	Building the Foundation for Meeting Continuous Improvement Goals Starting in PreK <i>Kristine Luebbe, Amy Schmidtke, Alyssa Anson</i>

# Informational Booths

Table Number	Table Title	Name	Email
8	NDE School Safety and Security	Scott Stemper	scott.stemper@nebraska.gov
9	NDE Suicide Prevention	Jay Martin	jay.martin@nebraska.gov
10	Safe2Help Nebraska	Jay Martin	jay.martin@nebraska.gov
14	Nebraska Farm to School	Sarah Meyer	sarah.meyer@nebraska.gov
15	TransACT ParentNotices	Anne Hubbell	anne.hubbell@nebraska.gov
19	Network Nebraska	Christina Struebing	christina.struebing@nebraska.gov
20	Educator Certification	Katelyn Larsen	katelyn.larsen@nebraska.gov
21	Title I, Part C: Education of Migratory Children	Benjamin Zink	benjamin.zink@nebraska.gov
22	Office of Coordinated Student Support Services Resources for Supporting Staff & Student Well-being	Jessie Coffey	jessie.coffey@nebraska.gov
23	FAFSA Support	Lane Carr	lane.carr@nebraska.gov
24	Nebraska SMART: Rural Tutoring	Lane Carr	lane.carr@nebraska.gov
25	Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching (including STEM)	Bridgette Stevens	bridgette.stevens@nebraska.gov
26	Nebraska Regional Programs for Students Who Are Deaf and Hard of Hearing	Darsha Pelland	darsha.pelland@nebraska.gov
27	NDE Service Desk	Naomi Kohles	naomi.kohles@nebraska.gov



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Lincoln, NE 68509-4987

**[education.ne.gov](http://education.ne.gov)**

*Current Schedule Available:*

