

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 1013

Introduced by Walz, 15; Conrad, 46.

Read first time January 05, 2024

Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to schools; to define terms; and to create the
- 2 Family Engagement Grant Program.
- 3 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) For purposes of this section:

2 (a) Department means the State Department of Education;

3 (b) High-need school means a school with high absenteeism and low
4 academic achievement, as determined by the department;

5 (c) School has the same meaning as in section 79-101; and

6 (d) School district has the same meaning as in section 79-101.

7 (2) The Family Engagement Grant Program is created. The purpose of
8 the program is to provide grants for high-need schools in order to
9 improve the level of family engagement at such schools. The program shall
10 be administered by the department.

11 (3) A school district may apply for a grant under this section to be
12 used at one or more schools within such school district. The application
13 shall be submitted to the department in a form and manner prescribed by
14 the department.

15 (4) The department shall develop eligibility criteria for grants
16 under this section. At a minimum, the eligibility criteria shall require
17 the school district to show that it contains one or more high-need
18 schools within such school district.

19 (5) A grant awarded under the Family Engagement Grant Program may be
20 used:

21 (a) To provide tutoring to parents who wish to serve as school
22 volunteers;

23 (b) To provide communications to parents who wish to serve as school
24 volunteers;

25 (c) To provide training on ways to enhance the level of family
26 engagement within the school;

27 (d) To provide materials for parents and students to work on
28 together at home; or

29 (e) For any other purpose designed to improve the level of family
30 engagement at the school. Any such purpose must be approved by the
31 department.

1 (6) Each school district that receives a grant under this section
2 shall submit a report to the department that includes a description of
3 how the grant funds were used and any measurable outcomes for families
4 and students impacted by such grant. The report shall be submitted by the
5 end of the school year in which the grant was received.

6 (7) The department may adopt and promulgate rules and regulations to
7 carry out this section.

8 (8) It is the intent of the Legislature to appropriate one million
9 dollars to the department each fiscal year to carry out the Family
10 Engagement Grant Program.