Across Nebraska, there are currently fifteen (15) Interim-Program Schools located in juvenile detention facilities, emergency shelters, institutions, and residential programs that provide temporary 24-hour custodial care for children and youth under nineteen (19) years of age. Those schools provide continuity of instruction for students who cannot attend public school for reasons of health or safety. Interim-Program Schools are annually approved by the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) under Rule 18 (92 NAC 18).

All Interim-Program Schools are required to develop an individualized plan of expected academic achievement that permits each student to earn credit toward grade level promotion and graduation. The student’s Academic Advancement Plan (AAP) is created by the Interim-Program School, in consultation with the approved or accredited school where the student will return or transfer.

Nebraska’s Academic Advancement Plan System establishes a web-based student information system which is secure and accessible to the Interim-Program School as well as the originating and receiving schools. Through the AAP System, Academic Advancement Plans can be collaboratively developed by the involved schools in a timely manner. Its use standardizes the structure, format, and content of the Plans to promote overall quality, comprehensiveness, and transferability, while allowing for individualization based on each student’s educational needs and the unique school setting.

Interim-Program Schools are also required to contact the school district responsible for providing special education services for each student with a disability to ensure continuation of those services. The AAP System can assist in identifying students with disabilities, coordinating provision of special education services, and minimizing disruptions in the student’s Individualized Education Program (IEP). The AAP System’s data elements were intentionally designed for compatibility with the special education Student Record System (SRS) to promote continuity between a student’s IEP and AAP.

Successful school-to-school transition is essential for continued engagement in learning and academic achievement after a student leaves the Interim-Program School. The AAP System can serve as a platform for ongoing communication between all the schools involved before, during, and after this crucial transition. Its use facilitates the timely transfer of student transcripts and related education records. With the inclusion of detailed information about the student’s coursework, the AAP System can promote the receiving school’s acceptance of academic credits earned while attending the Interim-Program School. With the high mobility of this student population, the AAP System also serves as an essential tool for “tracking” students as they move from school to school due to out-of-home placement. Over time, a historical record of the Interim-Program Schools that a student has attended can be generated to assist future schools.

Nebraska’s AAP System is a collaborative project through the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) and Nebraska Department of Education, with grant funds for its initial development provided by the NDE Office of Special Education. While an Interim-Program School’s participation in the AAP System is voluntary, it will substantially support both the Interim-Program School and involved public school(s) in meeting the requirements of Rule 18 and Rule 10, respectively. Protocols for exchange of personally identifiable student-specific information through the AAP System comply with the federal Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and Nebraska statutory requirements.

For Additional Information and Technical Assistance, Contact:

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