

# AQESTT

Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow



AQESTT leverages three separate but interrelated systems of approval, accreditation, and accountability to ensure equal operation of schools and equitable outcomes for all students.

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Accountability for a Quality Education System, Today and Tomorrow, or AQuESTT, serves as a framework for approval, accreditation, and accountability, and a system for continuous improvement. This cohesive, streamlined system is critical for the benefit of Nebraska students and for the state to have a vibrant and economically-successful future. Through AQuESTT, the NDE can better deliver upon the commitment for educational equity. The AQuESTT framework includes three domains: Leadership; Success, Access, and Support; and Teaching, Learning, and Serving, and six tenets described below.

## LEADERSHIP DOMAIN



Strong leaders, committed to achieving educational excellence, are critical to the processes of approval, accreditation, accountability, and continuous improvement. Leaders, from school boards to superintendents, principals to teacher leaders, set a vision for achieving educational excellence, offering students meaningful access to the educational resources they need at the right moment, at the right level, and with the right intensity to not only reach high expectations for learning, but also to discover and explore their passions and make meaningful connections within the context of their postsecondary interests, careers, and civic lives. Leaders must possess the knowledge, skills, and mindset to systematize educational excellence for all students.

## SUCCESS, ACCESS, AND SUPPORT DOMAIN



### Educational Opportunities and Access

Each student has access to effective, comprehensive, and continuous learning opportunities that prepare them for ongoing school success, postsecondary education, and career goals.



### Transitions

Quality educational opportunities focus on effective supports and high quality collaborations for each student transitioning within, into, and between grade levels, programs, schools, districts, postsecondary education, and careers.



### Positive Partnerships, Relationships, and Success

Schools and districts implement best practices in student, family, and community engagement to enhance experiences and opportunities that are culturally inclusive and relevant for each student. Student success and engagement relies on positive partnerships and relationships to fundamentally improve the outcomes for each student, school, district, and community.

## TEACHING, LEARNING, AND SERVING DOMAIN



### Educator Effectiveness

Each student is engaged by effective educators throughout their learning experiences, such that schools and districts develop effective teachers and school leaders who establish a culture of success.



### Student Achievement and Growth

A balanced assessment system that includes results from multiple sources is used to measure student growth and achievement towards Nebraska's content area standards. A balanced assessment system is a necessary component of the instructional process to improve learning and growth for each student.



### Postsecondary, Career, and Civic Readiness

Each student, upon high school graduation, is prepared for success in postsecondary education, career, and life pursuits.