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| **\\stn\stnedfs$\NCDHHHome$\ben.sparks\My Documents\UNK Logo and layouts\Logo\NCDHH-LOGO-FINAL.jpg** | [E Communicator logo](http://www.ncdhh.ne.gov/index.html) |
| Pete RickettsGovernor **Candice Arteaga,**  *Chairperson*  Commission Members  Frances Beaurivage  Lincoln  Jonathan Scherling  Omaha  Jeremy Fitzpatrick  Omaha  Dr. Stacie Ray          Lincoln  Norman Weverka  Brainard  Robert Feit LincolnSandra ShawSewardDiane SchuttFairburyJohn C. Wyvill *Executive Director* | **Nebraska LEAD-K Committee Selected**  The NCDHH Full Board met on Friday, December 11th and has appointed the applicants to serve on the Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids, also known as LEAD-K, Advisory Committee. The applicants were reviewed in collaboration with the NCDHH Full Board, Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and Nebraska Association of the Deaf (NeAD). The committee is comprised of a cross section of educators, administrators, deaf and hard of hearing community organization representatives and parents of children who are deaf and hard of hearing.  The role of the advisory committee is to identify existing resources already developed and made available for use by families, local education agencies, individual family service programs or individual education plans.  **List of Appointed Applicants:**   * Jonathan Scherling, Interim Committee Chair, ASL Instructor – UNO * Jessica Anthony, NDHHS Program Specialist – EDN * Amy Bunnell, Early Childhood Special Education Supervisor and EDN Co-Lead – NDE * Cindy Koch, Deaf Educator – ESU 9 * Amanda Mitchell, Educator of the Deaf – Washington Elementary School * Margie Propp, Community Interpreter & retired educator for the Deaf * Debra Smith, Parent Infant Specialist for Deaf & Hard of Hearing * Dr. Anne Thomas, Assistant Professor of Practice – UNL, Coordinator for Deaf Education program * Amy Tyler-Krings, Speech Language Pathologist * Jonathan Arteaga, D/HH community representative * Todd Luther, Parent representative * Susan Petersen, Educator for the Deaf – Ralston * Vicki Steinhauer-Campbell, Parent representative   Amy Rhone, NDE Special Education Director, has been involved in the preparation for this committee since the early stages of LEAD-K in legislation.  “NDE is excited to be one step closer to The Department of Education and the Commission’s common goal to improved education outcomes for our children and future generations to come,” Rhone said.  NCDHH Board Chair, Candice Arteaga, is eager to see this advocacy work move forward.  “I’m excited to see LEAD-K is moving on to make the best for the children as they are our future,” Arteaga said. “It was great to see a large group of applicants with a desire to work on goals to strengthen LEAD-K by advocating for equal access to language acquisition for Deaf children. Congratulations to the applicants for being appointed to the advisory committee.”  NCDHH Executive Director, John Wyvill, applauds the collaborative community effort.  “We appreciate the work of Amy Rhone and Commissioner Matt Blomstedt with The Department of Education as well as the leadership of the Nebraska Association of the Deaf Board and President Mark Andersen as we all work together in implementing the objectives of LEAD-K,” Wyvill said.  The first Advisory Committee meeting will be conducted via Zoom on Wednesday, December 16th.  #  [http://www.tweezerman.com/uploaded_files/tinymce/images/facebook-logo.jpg](https://www.facebook.com/nebraskacommissionforthedeafandhardofhearing/)  To unsubscribe from the E-Communicator, reply to this email with “Unsubscribe from E-Communicator” in the subject line of the message. |
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