



# Nobles County Integration Collaborative

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[www.isd518.net/ncic](http://www.isd518.net/ncic)

"to learn from and with  
one another"

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Dear Community Partner:

Nobles County Integration Collaborative (NCIC) has gone through an in-depth needs assessment and planning process over the last 6 months. Following this work, new Achievement and Integration Plans for each member district were developed and submitted to Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) for approval. We are writing to let you know that the emphasis of the Achievement and Integration programs across the state has changed. Because of these changes, the work of NCIC will be changing quite significantly beginning July 1, 2017.

While the early focus of the funding from the State of Minnesota focused on cultural integration, there has been a shift in focus to education equity. As a result, the programs that we sponsor must focus on Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup>-grade education. All Achievement & Integration goals and strategies must align with the Minnesota World's Best Workforce goals:

- All children ready for school
- All 3<sup>rd</sup> graders can read at grade-level
- All racial and economic achievement gaps between students are closed
- All students ready for career and college
- All students graduate from high school.

With these new priority areas, NCIC will be shifting the work of our staff members to be more involved in direct service to students during the school day. Additionally, we will continue programs that have an education focus during after-school and summer hours.

Due to the changes described above, NCIC will not be able to collaborate in as many community programs as we have in the past. Our staff time and financial resources will be committed to K-12 education programs exclusively.

If your organization would like to share information with us about community events, we will assist with promoting community events that relate to cultural integration and education equity. This means that we can hang posters and send e-mails to regular NCIC participants. We cannot make financial or in-kind donations to community events.

The new Achievement & Integration Plans are posted on the NCIC website. Links to the MDE website and the state statute information are also located on the NCIC webpage. [www.isd518.net/ncic](http://www.isd518.net/ncic)

If you have any questions regarding this change in focus and practice, please contact Soom Chandaswang or Sharon Johnson.

Sincerely,

Soom Chandaswang  
NCIC Achievement & Integration Coordinator

Sharon Johnson  
District 518 Community Education Director