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TO: District Superintendents and School Principals

FROM: Kirsten Baesler, State Superintendent

DATE: April 19, 2021

RE: LINCspring Professional Development Access

As you may be aware, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) partnered with Cognia™ to provide all North Dakota educators access to high-quality professional learning content, practical resources, and coaching support via online coaching and professional learning platform, LINCspring. LINCspring, accessible via a single sign-on through the myJourney (aka eProve) portal, provides online access to expert coaches, over 65 asynchronous learning modules, and dozens of real-time learning events to support teachers in the development of high-quality blended, remote, and hybrid learning experiences. Educators in several school districts throughout the state have been utilizing this platform throughout this school year and have reported positive experiences. In addition, and in conjunction with ND REAs and EduTech, continuing education credit/university credit is available to those who complete professional learning modules within the platform.

Upon the initial launch and throughout the 2020-2021 school year, many districts asked whether the NDDPI would continue to support and fund LINCspring beyond September 2021.

The NDDPI is announcing its continued commitment to LINCspring through September 2023 for those engaging with the platform. The department <u>will continue to fund</u> LINCspring access for educators, schools, and districts who have implemented the platform and are using it with fidelity for the remaining 2021 school year or have concrete plans in place to launch the tool in the fall. These users will continue to have their licenses funded through September 2023.

If your school district has yet to engage with the platform, now is the time. Supports are available to assist your staff with rollout and implementation. Should you have questions regarding the platform, please contact amandapeterson@nd.gov and/or katie.hall@cognia.org, or visit the NDDP website and/or the Cognia NDDPI Partnership website.

As the NDDPI looks forward to the remaining weeks of school and to professional development opportunities for summer/fall 2021, we are reaffirming the department's commitment to LINCspring in North Dakota.