GUIDELINES FOR USE OF TITLE I PART A FUNDS SET ASIDE FOR PRIORITY AND FOCUS SCHOOLS

Purpose

Title I Part A requires districts with schools on improvement to reserve some of the Title I allocation to support school improvement activities. Since Kansas has an approved Elementary and Secondary Education (ESEA) Flexibility Waiver, it no longer identifies schools on improvement but rather identifies Priority and Focus schools.

A district with Priority schools will reserve 20% of its Title I allocation and a district with Focus schools will reserve 10% of its Title I allocation for use in the identified schools. A district with both Priority and Focus schools will reserve 20% of the Title I allocation. These reserved or set aside funds are to support the actions and interventions contained in the District and School Action Plans to improve the academic achievement of low-achieving students. These funds shall only be used in the identified Priority and Focus schools. These are Title I schools and the use of these Title I funds must be consistent with all applicable Title I statutory and regulatory requirements.

In addition to the Title I set aside funds for the Priority and Focus schools, each school is to receive its full Title I allocation. Non-public schools with Title I students do not receive any of the funds reserved for the Priority and Focus schools.

Project Period Award of Grants

Since these funds are part of the regular Title I allocation, they have the same availability period as the Title I funds. The expectation is to use the reserved funds during this school year and through the summer of 2013 to help these identified schools improve student achievement. Federal regulations prohibit salaries from being an expense that can be encumbered.

A district may reallocate the unspent set aside funds at the end of the current school year if the district demonstrates to the Kansas State Department of Education that the reserved funds are in excess of the cost of supporting the actions and interventions in the District and School Action Plans. Any reallocation of unspent funds must be according to Title I statute and regulations which may include consulting with and allocating an appropriate amount for nonpublic schools.

Supplement-Not Supplant

Like other Title I funds, the reserved Title I funds must be used to supplement the level of funds that, in the absence of the Title I funds, would be made available from non-federal sources for the education of children participating in Title I programs. Therefore, funds cannot supplant non-federal funds or be used to replace existing services.

Use of Funds

Funds may be used for the following activities. Please note this list provides only examples of appropriate expending of the funds but is not inclusive of all activities. The funds may not be used for any district-wide activities. If there are questions concerning the use of these funds, please contact the Title I staff at KSDE.

- 1) Implementing interventions that support the closing of the achievement gap.
- 2) Implementing interventions that were noted in the Kansas Learning Network (KLN) District/School Needs Assessment Report and included in the District/School Action Plans.
- 3) Implementing interventions that address the academic achievement issues identified for the school.
- 4) Implementing the Turn Around Principles.
- 5) Adopting policies and practices that ensure all groups of students will improve academically.
- 6) Implementing effective parental involvement strategies.
- 7) Incorporating additional time for instruction such as before school, after school, summer school, Saturday school or by extending the school year.
- 8) Supporting professional development on specific interventions to address student achievement. This includes paying for trainers, consultants, substitute teachers and stipends as appropriate for teachers attending the professional development.
- 9) Supporting the purchase of supplemental curricula to address student achievement.
- 10) Supporting the purchase of technology to enhance student achievement.
- 11) Supporting the staff with professional development for the integration of technology in the classroom.
- 12) Incorporating the process of data analysis to improve student achievement.
- 13) Purchasing additional time for District Facilitators to work with the schools.
- 14) Purchasing additional time for Implementation Coaches to work in the Priority schools.
- 15) Hiring additional staff to support the implementation of the interventions at the school level such as reading and /or math coach.