



ESSA IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE

ESSA Subcommittee Meeting Title Programs

Date, Time: Friday, October 7, 2016, 12:00 p.m.

Location: 135 South Union Street, Suite 215

ALSDE Facilitator: Karen Winn

Members present: A.J. Buckner, Anne Monroe, Ann West, Jan Hume (DECE)

Members absent: None

Summary:

- Agenda:
 - Review previous meeting
 - Expenditure report from Federal Programs regarding how Title funds can be spent
 - Priority/Focus schools received additional monies based on a per pupil allocation
 - Committee members are still concerned over the 3% set aside
 - States can decided to set aside up to 7%
- Action:
 - Subcommittee discussed and voted to not set aside the 3% of Title I funds for Direct Student Services.
 - Subcommittee received multiple presentations: IB, AP, Science Curriculum, STEM; Physical Education; Libraries; Early Childhood Education
- ❖ Symbol denotes subcommittee recommendation

Next meeting: Tuesday, November 1, 1:00 p.m., 135 South Union Street,
3rd Floor Conference Room

Detailed Notes

All notes below are comments with committee members and the ALSDE facilitator.

Key Decisions

1. States will need to decide if they want to set aside up to 3% of their Title I funds to establish a program of direct student services, and, if so, how much (beginning with the FY2017 funding).
- ❖ The recommendation from the ESSA Title Programs Subcommittee is that the state not set aside the 3% of Title I funds. The subcommittee makes this recommendation to ensure the greatest amount of flexibility for LEAs (local education agency).
 - The team discussed the pros and cons of the optional set aside 3% and determined that the greatest amount of flexibility and most expeditious way to distribute the Title funds to LEAs would be to allow those funds that would be set aside to go directly to school systems without their having to complete a grant process.
 - The motion was made by Anne West.
 - AJ Buckner gave the motion a second with a statement that districts will have more flexibility with the dollars if we do not set aside additional money.
 - The Implementation Committee discussed the importance of information sharing among school systems. Information sharing will be facilitated by the Alabama State Department of Education to showcase best practices from various schools in the use of Title funds so that LEAs would not have to start from scratch.
 - ❖ As a result, the subcommittee recommends that a resource guide of example uses of Title funds and the resulting impacts be shared among school systems throughout the state.
 - This ALSDE resource guide would provide evidence-based examples and acceptable uses of federal funds for school districts and schools to include in Continuous Improvement Plans to effectively meet the identified needs of the students.
 - ❖ The subcommittee recommends that ALSDE facilitates the exchange of information to allow for LEAs to use their Title funds on evidence-based strategies.
 - The subcommittee recommends that ALSDE facilitates this exchange through the development of the resource guide as well as extensive professional development and support to District Federal Programs Coordinators to ensure that each is knowledgeable and trained in writing effective plans, monitoring of expenditures, and measuring impact on improving student learning.



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- ❖ In addition, the subcommittee recommends that all ALSDE divisions collaborate among each other and with other agencies to provide ongoing technical assistance and monitoring of services for superintendents, central office staff, principals, teachers and community stakeholders.
 - The subcommittee recommends that efforts be focused on providing teachers the support, materials, and training needed to be highly skilled and supported in the classroom in order to ensure all students succeed.
 - Specific discussions focused on:
 - Districts should know their needs and money should be spent addressing the greatest needs
 - Requested a list of acceptable expenditures for Title funds be made available to districts/schools. (This can also be found in eGap)
 - Requested that Title I coordinators be trained frequently on regulations, due to the high rate of turnover
 - Requested that districts/schools share best practices to include the program/ use of funds and the impact on student achievement and addressing needs
 - In addition to items discussed at previous meetings, the list of acceptable expenditures should include: evidence-based strategies, professional development/materials for teachers, etc.

 - 2. States will decide on a system of performance management for implementation of state and LEA plans regarding support for all students. The SEAs (state education agency) system of performance management must include:
 - Review/approval of LEA plans
 - Collection and use of data
 - Monitoring
 - Continuous improvement
 - Differentiated technical assistance

 - ❖ The subcommittee recommends that the ALSDE work with all partnering agencies on monitoring to ensure that the multiple agencies which may be monitoring LEAs are working together and on the same page in order to avoid miscommunication and inconsistencies. Additionally, the subcommittee recommended that all stakeholders be involved in the process.



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- Representatives from the Alabama State Department of Education and the Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education spoke on the value of using federal funds for the following programs:
 - Nancy Ray, Physical Education
 - Michael Robinson, International Baccalaureate (IB), Advanced Placement (AP), Science Curriculum, STEM
 - Dede Coe, Libraries
 - Secretary Jeana Ross, Department of Early Childhood Education

Next Steps:

- Develop a list of acceptable expenditures for Title funds
- Determine how to involve all stakeholders in the management process

