September 30, 2013

Dear District Administrator:

According to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB), districts that receive Title III funds must be held accountable for meeting the Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs) developed for English Language Learners (ELLs). Based on the three target criteria listed below, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) determined the AMAO status of your district/consortium for the 2012-2013 school year. Enclosed is a summary of these data and notification of your district/consortium’s AMAO designation.

If your district/consortium did not meet AMAOs, you must communicate this in writing to all parents of children identified for participation in the Title III Language Instruction Program for Limited English Proficient Students (LIPLEPS) and Immigrant Education Program (IEP) within 30 days of receipt of this letter.

The 2013 AMAO targets set by ISBE are based on the performance of ELLs on the ACCESS for ELLs® (statewide English language proficiency assessment), as well as the performance of ELLs on state-administered academic achievement assessments (ISAT, PSAE or IAA). Following are the three AMAO target criteria for 2013:

1. **Progress toward English Language Proficiency:** At least 60.5 percent of ELL students must make progress on the ACCESS for ELLs® for the 2012-2013 school year. This target applies, provided that the number of students in the cohort is no fewer than 45. ELLs make progress if they attain a 6.0 composite proficiency level in 2013 or have at least a 0.5 increase in their composite proficiency level between 2012 and 2013. A 95 percent confidence interval is applied to the calculation.

2. **Attaining English Language Proficiency:** At least 10 percent of ELL students must reach English proficiency in the 2012-13 school year. This objective applies, provided that the number of students tested is no fewer than 45. Proficiency is defined as at least a 4.8 overall composite proficiency level and at least a 4.2 literacy (reading and writing) composite proficiency level on ACCESS for ELLs®.

3. **Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP):** The district/consortium must make Adequate Yearly Progress for ELLs served by programs funded under Title III. Calculations are based upon similar formulas used for Title I Adequate Yearly Progress. The AYP target for 2012-2013 school year is 92.5 percent.
To meet AMAOs, a district must achieve **ALL** targets defined by the state in all three areas.

*In the case of a consortium, one AMAO determination is calculated and all districts participating in the consortium receive the same AMAO determination.*

This is the tenth year that AMAO calculations have been made. Please find the district’s 2013 Title III AMAOs determination in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2013 Title III AMAOs Determinations</th>
<th>Your district’s AMAO determination</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The district met 2013 Title III AMAOs.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The District did not meet 2013 Title III AMAOs. Should the district not make Title III AMAOs next year (2013-2014 school year), the district will be required to submit a district improvement plan (DIP).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The District did not meet Title III AMAOs for 2 or 3 consecutive years (2012 and 2013 or 2011, 2012, and 2013). The district is required to submit a district improvement plan (DIP) via the Illinois Interactive Report Card (IIRC). The Title III DIP must address ELL specific plans and activities to improve ELL outcomes using 20 Smart Start (SS) and Smart Plan (SP) Rising Star indicators.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The District did not meet Title III AMAOs for 4 or more consecutive years (including 2010, 2011, 2012, and 2013). The district is required to submit a DIP on the Illinois Interactive Report Card (IIRC) addressing ELL specific plans and activities to improve ELL outcomes using 20 Smart Start (SS) and Smart Plan (SP) Rising Star indicators. In addition, the district is required to submit an ELL template on the IIRC addressing modifications of the ELL program, curriculum and instruction. Please note that a district that has not met AMAOs for <strong>four (4)</strong> consecutive years must modify its program model, curriculum and methods of instruction as outlined in Section 3122(b) (4) (A) of the No Child Left Behind Act and 23 Illinois Administrative Code 1.88(e)(1). All modifications must be reflected in the ELL template. Please also be advised that, should the district/consortium not make AMAOs for the 2013-2014 school year, ISBE must determine whether the district/consortium will continue to receive Title III funds and replace educational personnel relevant to the district/consortium’s failure to meet AMAOs under Title III.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The district’s 2013 Title III AMAO determination was not made.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The DIP must be submitted by **November 22, 2013** using the Rising Star indicators via the Illinois Interactive Report Card (IIRC) at [http://iirc.niu.edu](http://iirc.niu.edu). Rising Star is a research based tool customized for the State of Illinois to support school and district level continuous improvement planning processes. Title III DIP submission guidance and resources are available on the Illinois State Board of Education website at [http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/titleIII.htm](http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/titleIII.htm).
If you have any questions regarding your AMAO calculation, please call Dr. Shuwan Chiu, Center for Performance, at 217-782-0354. Please contact Dr. Seon H. Eun, English Language Learning, at 312-814-3850 for any additional assistance related to Title III programs.

We would like to thank you for your efforts in working to meet the needs of ELLs. ISBE is committed to continue seeking avenues that will support you in those efforts.

Sincerely,

David Gonzalez Nieto
Division Administrator
Illinois State Board of Education
Division of English Language Learning

Cc: Bilingual Program Director

Enclosure