February 11, 2015

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 Learners (ELs). Based on the three target criteria listed below, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) determined the Title III AMAO status of your district/consortium for the 2013-2014 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 2014 AMAO targets set by ISBE are based on the performance of ELs on the ACCESS for ELLs® (statewide English language proficiency assessment), as well as the performance of ELs on state-administered academic achievement assessments (ISAT, PSAE or IAA). Following are the three AMAO target criteria for 2014:

1. **AMAO 1 (Progress toward English Language Proficiency):** At least 63.5 percent of EL students must make progress on the ACCESS for ELLs® for the 2013-2014 school year. This target applies, provided that the number of students in the cohort is no fewer than 30. ELs make progress if they attain a 6.0 composite proficiency level in 2014 or have at least a 0.5 increase in their composite proficiency level between 2013 and 2014. A 95 percent confidence interval is applied to the calculation.

2. **AMAO 2 (Attaining English Language Proficiency):** At least 12 percent of EL students must reach English proficiency in the 2013-14 school year. This objective applies, provided that the number of students tested is no fewer than 30. 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. **AMAO 3 (Annual Measurable Objectives for LEP subgroup):** The district/consortium must meet the new Annual Measurable Objectives (AMO) targets under Illinois’s ESEA flexibility waiver, http://www.isbe.net/nclb_waivers/pdf/esea-flexibility/resubmission013114.pdf, approved by the U.S. Department of Education in 2014. The baseline year for the new AMOs is the 2012-2013 school year and each district needs to reduce by one half the percentage of EL students who are not proficient in the academic achievement assessments within 6 Years through a 95% confidence interval. The AMAO 3 calculation also includes a participation rate and a graduation rate. For a double testing waived school district, the AMO is not calculated and their Title III AMAO determination is made based on AMAO1 and 2 only.
To meet Title III AMAOs, a district must achieve ALL targets defined by the state in all three areas.

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

This is the eleventh year that Title III AMAO calculations have been made. Please find the district’s 2014 Title III AMAOs determination in the table below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2014 Title III AMAOs Determinations</th>
<th>Your District’s Title III AMAO Determination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The district met 2014 Title III AMAOs.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>The District did not meet 2014 Title III AMAOs. Should the district not make Title III AMAOs next year (2014-2015 school year), the district will be required to submit a district improvement plan (DIP).</td>
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<tr>
<td>The District did not meet Title III AMAOs for 2 or 3 consecutive years (2013 and 2014 or 2012, 2013, and 2014). The district is required to submit a district improvement plan (DIP) and the plan must address EL specific plans and activities to improve EL outcomes. District needs to develop and submit the plan via a Title III DIP template posted in the DELL website (<a href="http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/default.htm">http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/default.htm</a>) or a Rising Star platform in the Illinois Interactive Report Card (<a href="http://iirc.niu.edu">http://iirc.niu.edu</a>).</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The District did not meet Title III AMAOs for 4 or more consecutive years (including 2011, 2012, 2013, and 2014). The district is required to submit a district improvement plan (DIP) via a Title III DIP template posted in the DELL website (<a href="http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/default.htm">http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/default.htm</a>) or a Rising Star platform in the Illinois Interactive Report Card (<a href="http://iirc.niu.edu">http://iirc.niu.edu</a>). The plan must address EL specific plans and activities to improve EL outcomes. In addition, it must include modifications of the EL program, curriculum and instruction. Please note that a district that has not met AMAOs for four (4) 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). Please also be advised that, should the district/consortium not make AMAOs for the 2014-2015 school year, ISBE must determine whether the district/consortium will continue to receive Title III funds and replace educational personnel relevant to the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The district’s 2014 Title III AMAO determination was not made.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The DIP must be submitted by March 31, 2015 via a Title III DIP template posted in DELL website at <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/titleIII.htm> or a Rising Star platform on the Illinois Interactive Report Card (IIRC) at <http://iirc.niu.edu>. Title III DIP submission guidance and resources are available on the Title III Accountability webpage at <http://www.isbe.net/bilingual/htmls/titleIII.htm>.

If you have any questions regarding your Title III 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 ELs. ISBE is committed to continue seeking avenues that will support you in those efforts.

Sincerely,

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

Cc: Bilingual Program Director

Enclosure