



News Release

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ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT FOCUS OF FEDERAL GRANTS TO 72 MICHIGAN SCHOOL DISTRICTS

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LANSING — Seventy-two school districts statewide are receiving nearly \$4.5 million in grants to increase academic achievement through high-quality educator instruction and administrator leadership, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) announced today.

Under the Teacher and Leader Instruction Support Competitive Grant Program, \$4,482,842 in federal Title II, Part A funding is being dispersed to 72 local districts and public school academies (PSAs) across Michigan.

“I’m very pleased that this funding will help improve the skills of our state’s teachers and administrators and support our plan to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in 10 years,” Interim State Superintendent Sheila Alles said. “Ultimately, it is the students who will benefit from our goal of growing a workforce of highly-qualified teachers and administrators.”

Specifically, Alles said, one of the plan’s strategic goals supports efforts to develop, support, and sustain a high-quality, prepared, and collaborative education workforce.

Title II, Part A allows grant recipients to use the federal funds creatively to address challenges to teacher quality, whether they concern teacher preparation and qualifications of new teachers; recruitment and hiring; professional development; teacher retention; or the need for more capable principals and assistant principals to serve as effective school leaders.

In return, the districts are expected to see improvements in student academic achievement.

“High-quality professional development” meets the criteria contained in the definition of professional development in Title IX, Section 9101(34) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA).

Professional development includes activities that:

- improve and increase teachers' knowledge of academic subjects and enable teachers to become highly qualified;
- are an integral part of broad, schoolwide and district educational improvement plans;
- give teachers and principals the knowledge and skills to help students meet challenging state academic standards;
- improve classroom management skills;
- are sustained, intensive, and classroom-focused and are not one-day or short-term workshops;
- advance teacher understanding of effective instruction strategies that are based on scientifically-based research; and
- are developed with extensive participation of teachers, principal, parents, and administrators.

According to MDE's Office of Educator Excellence, the 72 grant-receiving districts were chosen in three rounds from a pool of 182 applicants. The grant review protocol was based on an application rubric resulting in scores of 0-63.

The three rounds were funded by carry-over dollars from 2017-19 State-Wide Activities Funds. The first round was prioritized for academically-struggling Partnership Districts.

Grant recipients are:

Round 1:

David Ellis Academy West, Detroit
Detroit Leadership Academy
Detroit Public Schools Community District
Eastpointe Community Schools
Ecorse Public Schools
Grand Rapids Public Schools

Henry Ford Academy School for Creative Studies, Detroit
Kalamazoo Public Schools
Mildred C. Wells Preparatory Academy, Benton Harbor
Muskegon Heights Public School Academy System
Saginaw Preparatory Academy
William C. Abney Academy, Grand Rapids

Round 2:

Caniff Liberty Academy, Hamtramck
Coloma Community Schools
Dryden Community Schools
Eau Claire Public Schools
Essexville-Hampton Public Schools
Freeland Community School District
George Crockett Academy, Detroit
Gibraltar School District

Hartford Public Schools
Johannesburg-Lewiston Public Schools
Manton Consolidated Schools
Mayville Community School District
North Branch Area Schools
Petoskey Public Schools
Schoolcraft Community Schools
Summit Academy North, Romulus

Round 3:

Alpena Public Schools
Birch Run Area Schools
Center Line Public Schools
Charlton Heston Academy, Saint Helen
Chesaning Union Schools
Cover Public Schools
Decatur Public Schools
Detroit Collegiate High School
Detroit Innovation Academy
East China School District
Flex Tech High School-Nov
Frankenmuth School District
Galesburg-Augusta Community Schools
Godfrey-Lee Public Schools
Godwin Heights Public Schools
Goodrich Area Schools
Harper Woods School District
Holly Area School District
Hope of Detroit Academy
International Academy of Flint
International Academy of Saginaw
Jonesville Community Schools

Kentwood Public Schools
Landmark Academy, Kimball
Livonia Public School District
Marysville Public Schools
Mattawan Consolidated Schools
Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy, Lansing
Oakland International Academy
Oscoda Area Schools
Otsego Public Schools
Plymouth-Canton Community Schools
Reese Public Schools
Saugatuck Community Schools
Southgate Community School District
State Street Academy, Bay City
St. Charles Community Schools
Swan Valley School District
Taylor Community Schools
Traverse City Area Public Schools
Van Buren Public Schools
Vassar Public Schools
Warren Consolidated Schools

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