



**Detroit Public Schools**  
**Office of the Emergency Financial Manager**  
**Robert C. Bobb**

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April 15, 2009

Michael P. Flanagan  
Superintendent of Public Instruction  
Michigan Department of Education  
John A. Hannah Office Building  
608 West Allegan  
P.O. Box 30008  
Lansing MI 48909-7508

Dear State Superintendent Flanagan:

It is my pleasure to present to you the **Emergency Student Achievement Summer School Academies**, a comprehensive Title I program which will dramatically expand the scope and availability of educational opportunities for students in Detroit Public Schools to ensure that our students receive instruction and programs for academic success.

These academies – which represent the most expansive summer program that has ever been offered at Detroit Public Schools (DPS) in terms of scope, curriculum, and programming – have been designed as targeted responses to the specific challenges facing our school system as demonstrated by our student achievement data.

According to test results on the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) issued in the fall of 2008, DPS students in grades three through nine performed at the following levels:

- In Reading, 40.3 percent of students performed at below basic or failing levels;
- In Writing, 56.9 percent of students performed at below basic or failing levels;
- In English Language Arts, 44.1 percent of students performed at below basic or failing levels;
- In Mathematics, 41.1 percent of students performed at below basic or failing levels;
- In Science, 45.6 percent of students tested performed at below basic or failing levels; and
- In Social Studies, 55.2 percent of students tested performed at below basic or failing levels.

In response to this compelling data, DPSc has developed a package of Title I eligible programs for Title I eligible students that include the following: offerings for students in all grades, extended hours and extended weeks of instruction, special programs for those transitioning to 9<sup>th</sup> grade, classes for students that require extra credits in order to stay on track to graduate, extra tutoring at the end of the school day, and ACT preparation classes.

This program will provide eligible students with programming and academic instruction from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., enrichment activities from 2:00 to 5:00, as well as optional tutoring for eligible students during the enrichment period or thereafter. This program will serve approximately 41,000 students as compared to 28,800 served last summer.

I intend to urge the entire community to get behind this program so that we have 100 percent participation among eligible students who are not achieving at grade level in Reading, Math, English Language Arts, or Science.

In addition, this plan will expand parent involvement opportunities through the Parent University, increase professional development for principals and assistant principals, and provide training and technical assistance for five schools undergoing school restructuring. Descriptions and costs for each of the initiatives included within the plan are presented below.

### Emergency Student Achievement Summer School Academies

The Emergency Student Achievement Summer School Academies comprises a series of Title I-eligible initiatives totaling \$52,194,084 which will enhance the academic programs and provide unprecedented opportunities at DPS this summer for our students, parents, and school staff.

- **Program for Students** **\$ 40,878,094**

This summer program provides structured intervention at all grade levels for Title I eligible students by providing supplemental instruction to assist students in acquiring the skills needed to be successful at the next grade level. This program is designed to be the most comprehensive summer program ever provided to Detroit Public Schools students. The following expanded summer program will provide academic interventions at all grade levels and ensure that every student that is falling behind has the opportunity to catch up and succeed. The expanded summer program includes the following:

1. Summer Learning Academy (SLA) will provide academic intervention for students in Grades 3, 5 and 8 who do not meet the Districts Promotion criteria with a focus on Reading, Math and Science. Students with performances levels of 3 or 4 on the MEAP are the target population. This program is

augmented by the building level Summer Learning Communities programs, which are available to Grades 1, 2, 4, 6 and 7 - \$20,198,238.

2. Transition Academy will target 8<sup>th</sup> grade students with MEAP Performance Levels of 3 or 4, who are passing to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and are in need of academic support - \$3,096,408.
  3. Credit Recovery classes will be conducted for students who have taken and failed required classes. This summer program also will provide students with tutorial services to improve performance levels - \$4,868,761.
  4. The 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy will be provided for students who have acquired the 45 hours necessary to become a freshman and need to acquire the knowledge and skills to successfully function at the 10<sup>th</sup> Grade level. This program will also serve students who are at risk of dropping out of school through targeted retention efforts - \$ 4,112,047.
  5. Technology for Carnegie Program will provide laptop carts containing 30 Dell wireless units to support the implementation of Carnegie Cognitive Tutor Algebra 1 program at 20 high schools - \$ 820,595.
  6. Community Use. Costs will include staff assignments based on extended hours for engineering and housekeeping services needed to support summer programs - \$ 665,485.
  7. ACT Prep. This program is an intensive test preparation which includes a thorough review of all content on the ACT test for 11th and 12th graders. The program reinforces study skills, management skills and provides practice skills in a test like format – \$3,557,811.
  8. Supplemental Educational Services (SES) Summer Program. Free tutoring services will be expanded beyond the standard school year. A summer SES initiative will allow for up to 1,875 SES-eligible students to receive tutoring services through July 27, 2009 – \$3,558,750.
- **Programs for Parents (Parent Involvement) **\$ 2,458,698****

The following programs will be offered to parents of Title I eligible students:

1. Parent University will offer six training sessions for parents to enable them to support their child's learning of the core academic content through workshops and academic field trips - \$2,146,787.
2. Kindergarten Kaleidoscope Program will provide training and Ready for Kindergarten kits to parents of pre-schoolers transitioning to kindergarten to

educate them on effective strategies to prepare their children to enter kindergarten. - \$311,911.

• **Programs for School Staff (Professional Development)                   \$ 2,259,396**

The following programs will be offered to support professional development for Title I eligible staff:

1. Role of Instructional Leader series will provide training on ways to implement improvements throughout the Title I schools - \$233,769.
2. Differentiated Instruction Summer Academy training will provide training in all core curriculum areas - \$465,000.
3. Research To Results training will be provided for teachers in High Priority Schools. Training will provide strategies to increase student achievement in Literacy, Math, Science and Social Studies - \$164,918.
4. Technology for Administrators training will provide professional development on applications related to improving student achievement and effective use in classrooms. - \$301,000.
5. Teachers As Leaders series will provide training to teachers at summer school sites on the administrative role and responsibilities and how it all works together with effective instruction - \$447,084.
6. Counselors Creating Climate and Clusters of Support to Increase Student Achievement workshop series will provide training for counselors in areas such as transcript interpretation, data-driven planning, developing a mentoring relationship with students and programming for success - \$499,681.
7. Continuous Improvement series will provide training on the alignment of expectations grade-to-grade and expecting both high standards and high success rates at the same time - \$43,225.
8. Professional Development series for principals and assistant principals will focus on the delivery of high quality instruction and strategies for having comprehensive, clear and accurate student outcome data to drive decision making - \$88,244.
9. Participatory Learning Ages 0 – 6: Workshop series emphasizing direct instruction, hands-on experiences with people, objects, events and ideas for language and numeracy readiness - \$16,475.

• **Activities for Restructured Schools** **\$ 1,070,150**

In an effort to change the culture and community of schools designated for Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) Restructuring, a complete week of training that is well planned and structured is necessary. Summer professional development sessions will assist restructured schools with transitioning activities and schoolwide plan revisions for academic success.

All staff will be submerged into professional development that will move their thinking and planning strengths to a new level. The training will include researched based strategies that will increase student achievement.

The school climate issue will be addressed by training school staff, students and parents in the Restorative Practices methodology and training to assist in the building of culture and community in restructured schools.

• **Increased Preschool Supplement** **\$ 5,527,746**

The increased preschool supplement will provide services to an increased number of eligible Title I students. Students served are those identified as having the most need using educationally-related criteria such as teacher-developed tests and recommendations.

Source of Funds

Detroit Public Schools has projected that Title I funds in the amount of \$52,194,084 will be available to support this initiative based on current projections of available funds from the current fiscal year as well as the previous fiscal year, providing a unique opportunity to augment our Title I programs at a time when these services are truly needed.

Because this program only serves those students who are eligible for Title I funds, an effort is also underway to seek private foundation support to ensure that the full range of programming is available to all Detroit Public School students. The following table provides a summary of the resources being allocated through this plan and the full plan is attached for your review.

<b>Summary of Plan to Re-Allocate Title I Part A funds</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Use of Title I funds	\$ 52,194,084
<u>Source of Funds</u>	
Unspent 2008-2009 Title I Part A funds	\$ 44,115,854
Unallocated carryover from 2007-2008	8,078,230
Total, Source of Funds	\$ 52,194,084
Net Available Resources	\$0

Additional detail with respect to how these funds will be used is provided below:

• **Redirection of Unspent Funds** **\$ 44,115,854**

Spending of Title I Part A funds lags spending plans to a considerable extent. Detroit Public Schools is aggressively accelerating our grant spending. At this point, however, it would be impossible and in some cases irresponsible to fulfill the plans as outlined in the original Consolidated Application because goods or services for which we have planned would not be available in time to support our current students during the regular school year.

This proposal preserves the required set aside funding amounts for Professional Development and Parent Involvement. However, the proposal would require the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to approve the reallocation of funds from the amounts set aside for the Choice and Supplemental Educational Services programs to general purpose Title I Uses, which is hereby requested pursuant to guidance issued by the MDE on March 16, 2009.

Pursuant to that guidance, the Detroit Public Schools has acted to benchmark and monitor Title I funds set aside for SES. DPS has also engaged in several efforts to maximize parental participation in the program. The District notified parents of the opportunities for transferring to other public schools or receiving SES through a mass mailing prior to the beginning of the school year and also included notifications of Choice and SES options on the District's website.

Students and their parents were provided opportunities to transfer their children to another school or to obtain SES through the following initiatives: (a) Notices regarding Choice transfer were distributed 8/01/08; SES notifications were sent to parents by 9/03/08; (b) Methods used to notify parents included mailings, while hard copies of the letter was also available at school offices, the central office and SES fairs; (c) enrollment forms were made available and accessible at the SES Provider Fairs, the SES Office, and school offices; and (d) DPS allowed for open enrollment throughout the school year. DPS will continue to engage in these kind of outreach efforts as we extend the SES program into the summer to ensure that these services are available to as many students as possible.

This year, 257 students exercised the Choice option to transfer and approximately 8,443 students are currently receiving SES.

• **Carryforward of Prior Year Award** **\$ 8,078,230**

In FY 2008, the Detroit Public Schools exceeded the allowable Title I carryover threshold by \$16,363,554 putting these funds at risk. Working with the Michigan Department of Education, expenses in the amount of \$8,285,324 have been

Mr. Michael Flanagan  
April 8, 2009  
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identified and are under review as allowable obligations under the identified criteria.

The approval of this request would ensure that the remaining un-obligated balance of \$8,078,230 is available to support the students of Detroit Public Schools, ensuring that DPS students receive the benefit of all Title I, Part A funds, as I communicated to you in a letter dated March 31, 2009.

I would like to thank you for your consideration of this initiative. This plan is being concurrently submitted as an amendment to the Detroit Public Schools Consolidated Application through the Michigan Electronic Grants system.

Should you require any additional information or have any questions regarding this plan, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Bobb  
Emergency Financial Manager

pc: Carla D. Scott, M.D., Board President, Detroit Public Schools  
Teresa Gueyser, Acting General Superintendent, Detroit Public Schools

Enclosure: 2008-09 Title I Spending Plan – Summary

**2008-09 Title I Spending Plan Amendments – Summary**

<u>Source of Funds</u>	<b>Amount</b>
Unspent 2008-2009 Title I Part A funds	\$ 44,115,854
Unallocated carryover from 2007-2008	8,078,230
<b>Total, Source of Funds</b>	<b><u>\$ 52,194,084</u></b>
 <u>Use of Funds</u>	 <b><u>\$ 52,194,084</u></b>
<b><u>Summer Program</u></b>	
Summer Learning Academy	
Transition Academy	20,198,238
9th Grade Success Academy	3,096,408
Credit Summer School (Credit Recovery)	4,112,047
Technology (Carnegie) to Support Program	4,868,761
Community Use	820,595
<b>Subtotal, Summer Program</b>	665,484
	3,557,811
<b><u>Parent Involvement</u></b>	3,558,750
Parent Unversity	\$ 40,878,094
Early Childhood Transition	
<b>Subtotal, Parent Involvement</b>	2,146,787
	311,911
<b><u>Professional Development</u></b>	\$ 2,458,698
Your Role as Instructional Leader	
Differentiated Instruction Academy	
Research to Results	
Technology for Administrators	233,769
Teachers as Leaders	465,000
Climates of Support Program	164,918
Continuous Improvement	301,000
Professional Development Series	447,084
<b>Subtotal, Professional Development</b>	499,681
	43,225
ACT Preparation Program	88,244
	16,475
Supplemental Educational Services	\$ 2,259,396
Increased Preschool Supplement	5,527,746
Activities for (5) Reconstituted Schools	1,070,150
<b>Total, Use of Funds</b>	<b>\$ 52,194,084</b>
 Net Available Resources	 <u>\$0</u>