ANDERSON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

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Appendix E

LEA Assurances & Superintendent Assurance Letter

Part 2: LEA and School Assurances and Waivers

The LEA/Eligible Entity must provide the following assurances in its application.

The LEA/Eligible Entity must be able to provide, upon request, evidence of compliance with each assurance.

- Use its School Improvement Grant to implement fully and effectively an intervention in each Priority school that the LEA commits to serve consistent with the final requirements
- Establish annual goals for student achievement on the State's assessments in both reading/language arts and mathematics and measure progress on the leading indicators and key school categories. Monitor each Priority school that an LEA serves with school improvement funds, and establish goals (approved by the SEA) to hold accountable Priority schools that receive school improvement funds
- If an LEA implements a restart model in a Priority school, include in its contract or agreement terms and provisions to hold the charter operator, charter management organization, or education management organization accountable for complying with the final requirements (only need to check if school is choosing RESTART model)
- Monitor and evaluate the actions a school has taken, as outlined in the approved SIG application, to recruit, select and provide oversight to external providers to ensure their quality
- Ensure that each Priority school that an LEA commits to serve receives all of the State and local funds it would receive in the absence of the school improvement funds and that those resources are aligned with the interventions
- Monitor and evaluate the actions schools have taken, as outlined in the approved SIG application, to sustain the reforms after the funding period ends and that it will provide technical assistance to schools on how they can sustain progress in the absence of SIG funding
- Collaboration with the Teacher's Union, include letters from the teachers' union with each school application indicating its agreement to fully participate in all components of the school improvement model selected (n/a for charter schools)
- Report to the SEA the school-level data required under leading indicators for the final requirements
- The LEA and School have consulted with all stakeholders regarding the LEA's intent to implement a new school improvement model.
- This application has been completed by a team consisting of a minimum of: one LEA central office staff, the building principal, at least two building staff members.
- Establish and maintain fiscal control and fund accounting procedures, as set forth in 34 CFR Part 7 and in applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
- The Title I School Improvement funds will be used only to supplement and not supplant federal, state and local funds a school would otherwise receive.
- Prior written approval must be received from the Indiana Department of Education before implementing any project changes with respect to the purposes for which the proposed funds are awarded.
- Retain all records of the financial transactions and accounts relating to the proposed project for a period of three years after termination of the grant agreement and shall make such records available for inspection and audit as necessary.
- Provide ongoing technical assistance to schools identified for Title I School Improvement as they develop or revise their school improvement plan, and throughout the implementation of that plan.
- Coordinate the technical assistance that is provided to schools in Title I School Improvement. Assistance to schools may be provided by district staff or external consultants with experience and expertise in helping schools improve academic achievement.
- Expenditures contained in this Title I School Improvement Application accurately reflect the school improvement plan(s).
- Assist the school in analyzing results from the state assessment system and other relevant examples of student work. Technical assistance will be provided to school staff to enable them to use data to identify and solve problems in curriculum and instruction, to strengthen parental involvement and professional development, and to fulfill other responsibilities that are defined in the school improvement plan.

- The district will help the school choose and sustain effective instructional strategies and methods and ensure that the school staff receives high quality professional development relevant to the implementation of instructional strategies. The chosen strategies must be grounded in scientifically based research and address the specific instruction or other issues, such as attendance or graduation rate, that caused the school to be identified for school improvement.
- The Indiana Department of Education may, as they deem necessary, supervise, evaluate, and provide guidance and direction to the district and school in the management of the activities performed under this plan.
- The schools and district shall adhere to Indiana Department of Education reporting and evaluation requirements in a timely and accurate manner.

The LEA must check each waiver that the LEA will implement

☐ "Starting over" in the school improvement timeline for Priority Title I participating schools implementing a turnaround or restart model. (only need to check if school is choosing RESTART model)

☐ Implementing a school-wide program in a Priority Title I participating school that does meet the 40 percent poverty eligibility threshold.

By signing below, the LEA agrees to all assurances above and certifies the following:

- The information in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, true. The agency named here has authorized me, as its representative, to file this application and all amendments, and as such action is recorded in the minutes of the agency's meeting date.
- I have reviewed the assurances and the LEA understands and will comply with all applicable assurances for federal funds.
- I will participate in all Title I data reporting, monitoring, and evaluation activities as requested or required by the United States Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Education (IDOE), and Indiana Code, including on-site and desktop monitoring conducted by the IDOE, required audits by the state board of accounts, annual reports, and final expenditure reporting for the use of subgrant funds.
- By submitting this application the LEA certifies that neither it nor its principals nor any of its subcontractors are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded by any federal agency or by any department, agency or political subdivision of the State of Indiana. The term "principal" for purposes of this application means an officer, director, owner, partner, key employee or other person with primary management or supervisory responsibilities, or a person who has a critical influence on or substantive control over the operations of the LEA.
- The LEA has verified the state and federal suspension and debarment status for all subcontractors receiving funds under the fund associated with this application and shall be solely responsible for any recoupment, penalties or costs that might arise from use of a suspended or debarred subcontractor. The LEA shall immediately notify the State if any subcontractor becomes debarred or suspended, and shall, at the State's request, take all steps required by the State to terminate its contractual relationship with the subcontractor for work to be performed and supported by funding from the application.

Superintendent Signature: _____ **Date:** 7-1-15

Title I Administrator Signature: Pamela Storm **Date:** 7-1-15

Principal Signature: _____ **Date:** 7-1-15

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Terry Thompson, Superintendent
tthompson@acsc.net

1600 Hillcrest Avenue • Anderson, Indiana 46011 • 765.641.2028 • FAX 765.641.2080

June 29, 2015

Superintendent Glenda Ritz
Superintendent of Public Instruction
Indiana Department of Education
115 W. Washington Street, Suite 600
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Superintendent Ritz:

As the Superintendent of Anderson Community School Corporation, it is my pleasure to write this letter in support of the School Improvement Grant Initiative, under Section 1003(g) of Title I.

The support from the funding of the School Improvement Grant will help improve teacher instruction and increase student achievement in the following ways:

- This grant will provide high quality educational instruction and build productive relationships with students, resulting in growth in academic levels and a decrease in disciplinary referrals. The goal is to achieve an 80% proficiency rate in ELA and Math by May 2020.
- Over the next five years, this grant will allow Highland Middle School and Anderson High School to complete a comprehensive Professional Development plan for teachers and administrators, which will help build productive relationships with all students. The transformational process will result in both schools raising their school accountability grade to no less than a "B" by May 2020.
- Teachers will use data from several assessments, collected by Data Coaches and Instructional Coaches, to continually assess student growth and to guide classroom instruction.
- The grant will allow staff to put the structures in place to improve student culture and academic success through improved school community support.
- The strong focus on professional development, together with the added professional resources, such as school data, will build support for the academic success of our students.
- The hiring of a Truancy Interventionist will provide assistance to students and families to increase overall attendance rate. This increased attendance rate will allow students to be more successful in the classroom.

I am committed to assist in any way necessary to effectively implement the School Improvement Grant Initiative submitted on behalf of the Anderson Community School Corporation, and I thank you for the opportunity to submit our grant application.

Sincerely,

Terry Thompson, Superintendent
Anderson Community School Corporation