



The future begins here for life-long learning in our diverse community:  
integrity, achievement, success.

METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WARREN TOWNSHIP

June 17, 2015

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

Dear Superintendent Ritz:

As the superintendent of the Metropolitan School District of Warren Township, it is my pleasure to write this letter supporting the important work of the School Improvement Grant Initiative, under Section 1003(g) of Title I. The potential resources provided under this grant will be essential to Sunny Heights Elementary School's transformation of instructional practices, offering initiatives that support personalized learning, collaborative school environs, STEM instruction, school culture, professional development, and extended-learning opportunities for all students.

The members of the Warren Board of Education, the Warren Education Association, and I are committed to continuously supporting all aspects of the Transformation Model at Sunny Heights.

As a leading advocate for personalized learning, I can assure you that:

- You will have the oversight and support from my district administrative leadership team to ensure the full and effective implementation of all initiatives proposed within Warren's grant proposal;
- Data will be used to drive decision-making that informs instructional practices, identifies student needs, and is used to make adjustments to better meet those needs;
- Schedules that build in time for teachers' analyses and use of data and their collaborative planning and learning, a building-wide leadership team, and a variety of opportunities for differentiated, STEM and extended-time learning to meeting individual student needs will be in place at the start of school year 2016-17 (Year 1 Implementation); and
- I have full-confidence in Sunny Heights' newly-assigned principal, Stephen Foster—a proven and distinguished leader—to lead all proposed grant initiatives and to dramatically increase student achievement.

Sincerely,

Dr. Dena Cushenberry  
Superintendent

**EDUCATION & COMMUNITY CENTER**  
975 North Post Road  
Indianapolis, Indiana 46219  
(317) 869-4300 FAX: (317) 869-4399



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

Dear Superintendent Ritz:

As the President of the Warren Township Board of Education, I am pleased to submit this letter on behalf of the Board and to acknowledge our support of the important work of the School Improvement Grant Initiative, under Section 1003(g) of Title I.

Over a five-year period, this grant will provide invaluable resources to significantly enhance the important work occurring at Sunny Heights Elementary School to transform instructional practices, offer initiatives and environments that personalize learning, improve school culture, and provide extended-learning opportunities for all students. These initiatives will help improve teacher pedagogy, advance STEM activities, reduce suspensions, and increase student achievement.

My fellow Board members and I are committed to continuously supporting all aspects of the Transformation Model at Sunny Heights Elementary School, under the proven leadership of its newly-assigned principal, Mr. Stephen Foster.

The Metropolitan School District of Warren Township supports the implementation of this powerful initiative and is grateful for the opportunity to submit this application on behalf of Sunny Heights Elementary School.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sue Switzer, President  
Warren Township Board of Education

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

Dear Superintendent Ritz:

As the President of the Warren Education Association, and on behalf of Warren Township teachers, I am pleased to acknowledge our full-support of the important work of the School Improvement Grant Initiative, under Section 1003(g) of Title I.

This is a personal honor, as I am a proud educator who serves under the leadership of Pam Griffin, principal of Stonybrook Middle School, now ready to begin our second full year of implementing a SIG grant. As recipients of this prestigious award, we can readily-testify to the school-wide benefits already experienced—including increased student achievement – due in large measure to the initiatives implemented and opportunities provided through the SIG grant.

For Sunny Heights, the SIG grant will transform their instructional practices, personalize learning in collaborative school environments, improve school cultures, and provide much-needed extended-learning opportunities for all students, most particularly for those who struggle. This grant will also offer teachers tremendous opportunities for extended-professional and leadership growth, outside the regular school year.

The Warren Education Association is committed to supporting all aspects of Sunny Heights' Transformation Model across the next five years. We genuinely appreciate the opportunity to submit this proposal and urge your approval of our application.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Kate Miller, President  
Warren Education Association

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