

# *School Improvement Grant Informational Webinar*

**Office of School Improvement  
September 20, 2016**



## Vision

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To create a world-class educational system that gives students the knowledge and skills to be successful in college and the workforce, and to flourish as parents and citizens

## Mission

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To provide leadership through the development of policy and accountability systems so that all students are prepared to compete in the global community

# *Board Strategic Plan Goals*

1. All Students Proficient and Showing Growth in All Assessed Areas
2. Every Student Graduates From High School and is Ready for College and Career
3. Every Child Has Access to a High-Quality Early Childhood Program
4. Every School Has Effective Teachers and Leaders
5. Every Community Effectively Using a World-Class Data System to Improve Student Outcomes

## 6<sup>th</sup> Goal

- ✓ Every School and District is Rated “C” or Higher

## Outcomes Metrics (4 out of 6)

- ✓ Increase the growth of “D” and “F” districts along the “A-F” Spectrum by improving the letter grade and/or increasing the number of points within a letter grade
- ✓ Increase the growth of “D” and “F” schools along the “A-F” Spectrum by improving the letter grade and/or increasing the number of points within a letter grade
- ✓ Increase the percentage of districts rated “C” or higher\*
- ✓ Increase the percentage of schools rated “C” or higher\*

*\*Grades reported for 2014-15 are non-waiver grades*

## Provide an Overview of the School Improvement Grant (SIG)

- Background
- Application Process
- Eligibility Requirements
- Application Development
- SIG Models
  - Existing Models
  - New Models
- Reporting Metrics and New SIG Components
- New Components and Preferential Points
- Projected Timeline
- Training Opportunities
- Questions

# School Improvement Grant Overview

# *School Improvement Grant*

- School Improvement Grant (SIG) is a program authorized by section 1003(g) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) of 1965.
- Funds used to award competitive grants to districts that:
  - demonstrate the greatest need and
  - the strongest commitment to use funds to improve the quality of instruction and raise academic achievement of student.
- Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may be awarded 3 to 5 year grants ranging from \$50,000 to \$2,000,000 per year, per school to implement one of seven intervention models.

# *New Application Process*

- Congress appropriated SIG funds for FY15 and FY16 prior to passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).
- On March 29, 2016, the U. S. Department of Education released the new SIG application to states.
- Mississippi anticipates having approximately \$18,000,000 to fund the fourth cohort of SIG schools.
- Only schools identified as **focus** or **priority** under the ESEA flexibility waiver will be eligible to apply for Mississippi's competition.



## **Priority Schools**

- lowest achieving 5% of all Title I schools
- high schools with graduation rates of less than 60% over a number of years

## **Focus Schools**

- lowest achieving 10% of Title I schools
- schools with the greatest “within school gaps” or lowest performing subgroups over a three year period

## Priority Schools

- will have priority
- **SIG awardees from Cohorts II and III are not eligible to apply**

**Eligible Schools can be found at the link below**

<http://www.mdek12.org/docs/school-improvement-library/2015-2016-sig-eligible-schools-sig-eligibility.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

# Application Development

# *Stakeholder Input Process*

- Assembled a cross-departmental SIG Planning Team
- Conducted webinar with Committee of Practitioners
- Engaged external stakeholders in focus groups

# SIG Intervention Models

# *Existing SIG Models*

Prior to 2015, SIG schools only had four model options:

## **Transformation Model**

- replaces principal
- increases learning time
- provides ongoing, high-quality, job-embedded professional development designed to build capacity and support staff
- promotes the continuous use of student data for improvement

## **Turnaround Model**

- replaces principal and at least 50% of the staff
- provides ongoing, high-quality, job-embedded professional development designed to build capacity and support staff
- promotes the continuous use of student data for improvement

# New Provision – Rural Flexibility

- LEAs eligible for services under subpart 1 or 2 of part B of the Title VI of the ESEA (Rural Education Assistance Program—REAP)
  - May request to modify one element of the **turnaround** or **transformation** model
  - Must still meet the intent and purpose of that element

# *Existing SIG Models*

## **Closure Model**

- requires school to close
- assigns students to higher performing school that is in close proximity

## **Restart Model**

- converts schools to independent management
- closes and reopens schools under a charter or an education management organization



## **Evidenced-Based Whole School Reform Model**

- developed in partnership with one of the providers approved by the U.S. Department of Education
  - Institute for Student Achievement Whole School Reform
  - Positive Action Strategy
  - Small Schools of Choice
  - Success for All
  
- based on evidence of effectiveness in a similar setting to the school applying for the grant

## **Early Learning Model**

- expands or establishes a high-quality preschool program
- offers full-day kindergarten
- uses data to identify and implement an instructional program that is researched-based, developmentally appropriate, and vertically aligned from one grade to the next with state early learning standards
- provides educators, including preschool teachers, with time for joint planning across grades
- provides ongoing, high-quality, job-embedded professional development

# New SIG Models

- Preschool classrooms should use highly qualified teaching staff:
  - Effective 2018:
    - Teachers: 153-Pre-K/K endorsement
    - Assistant Teachers: AA with a minimum of 12 credits in early childhood education
- Refer to the Early Learning Guidelines for Classrooms Serving Four-Year-Old Children and the 2018 Teacher Credential Pathways for more information
  - [www.mdek12.org/ec](http://www.mdek12.org/ec)

# *New SIG Models*

## **Early Learning Model**

- replaces the principal who led the school prior to the commencement of the early learning model
- Use the teacher and principal evaluation support system to identify and reward school leaders, teachers, and other staff who have increased student achievement; and identify and remove those, who, after ample opportunities have been provided for them to improve their personal practice, have not improved

# *New SIG Models*

## **Pathways to Success**

- requires design of middle through high school system with clearly defined career pathways for all students
- incorporates early college and career academy design principles
- provides dual credit, advanced learning opportunities for all students at no cost
- increases teacher and school leader effectiveness
- uses data to identify at-risk populations and students least likely to attend college and provide interventions to support these students

# Reporting Metrics

# Reporting Requirements

- LEA must report and meet 5 of 9 leading indicator goals:
  - Number of minutes within school year;
  - student participation rate on state assessments in reading/language arts and in mathematics, by student subgroup;
  - student attendance rate;
  - Number and percentage of students completing advanced coursework (e.g. AP/IB), early college high schools, or dual enrollment classes;

# Reporting Requirements

- Leading Indicators Continued
  - dropout rate;
  - discipline incidents;
  - chronic absenteeism rates;
  - distribution of teachers by performance level on the LEA's teacher evaluation system
  - teacher attendance rate



# *Reporting Requirements*

- LEA must report and demonstrate progress towards meeting achievement indicator goals:
  - percentage of students at or above each proficiency level on state assessments in reading/language arts and in mathematics, by grade and by student subgroup;
  - average scale scores on state assessments in reading/language arts and in mathematics, by grade for the “all students” group, for each achievement quartile, and for each subgroup
  - percentage of limited English proficient students who attain English language proficiency
  - graduation rate
  - College enrollment rates

# New SIG Components

## **Greater emphasis is placed on the district**

The district is required to:

- plan for sustaining reforms after funding period ends
- provide oversight and support for implementation of the selected intervention model (e.g. LEA turnaround office)
- review and hold external providers accountable for their performance
- engage families and communities in the selection of the intervention model and seek continuous input throughout implementation

# Application Timeline

## **Thursday, September 15, 2016**

- SIG RFP Released

## **Tuesday, September 20, 2016**

- SIG webinar for Key Leaders (superintendent, board members, principals, directors)

## **Monday, September 26, 2016**

- Letter of Intent are due

## **Tuesday, September 27, 2016**

- Written questions about SIG due to [SIG@mdek12.org](mailto:SIG@mdek12.org)

## **Friday, September 30, 2016**

- Written Q & A posted to website

## **Thursday, October 27, 2016**

- SIG RFP Deadline to Submit to Procurement by 3:30 pm

## **Friday, October 28 – Wednesday, November 17, 2016**

- Application Evaluation and Final Round Interviews for Selected Applicants

## **Thursday, December 17, 2016**

- SBE Approval of Awardees

## **January 2017**

- Grant Implementation



<b>Friday, September 30, 2016</b>	Regional Training for SIG	Woolfolk Building RM 145	501 N West St. Jackson MS 39201	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Monday, October 3, 2016</b>	Regional Training for SIG	Manning Training Center	430 Highway One North Greenville, MS 38701	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Monday, October 10, 2016</b>	SIG training on Early Childhood and Pathways Models	Woolfolk Building RM 145	501 N West St. Jackson MS 39201	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Friday, October 14, 2016</b>	Regional Work Session for RFP Development	Woolfolk Building RM 145	501 N West St. Jackson MS 39201	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Monday, October 17, 2016</b>	Regional Work Session for RFP Development	Manning Training Center	430 Highway One North Greenville, MS 38701	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm
<b>Tuesday, October 18, 2016</b>	Regional Work Session for RFP Development	Transploreum	174 WSF Tatum Dr. Hattiesburg, MS 39401	8:30	9:00am-4:00pm

Participants may register for SIG Trainings  
by using the ***GoSignMeUp*** link at  
[www.mdek12.org](http://www.mdek12.org)



# *Preferential Points*

- Preferential points will be given to proposals that
  - make dual enrollment and AP/IB courses available to all students
  - Incorporate high-quality pre-school using the Early Learning model
  - Incorporate a strong, detailed literacy plan inclusive of all grades, but especially grades K-3

# Questions

# CONTACT INFORMATION

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