

BOARD AGENDA ITEM

July 16, 2024

SUBJECT:

Revise Policy DEC Selection of Title I Schools, First Reading.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Policy DEC Selection of Title I Schools provides guidance on the selection of schools that receive Title I funds each year. Title I funds are used to provide equal opportunities for all students within the district to reach challenging academic standards.

ADMINISTRATIVE CONSIDERATION:

Administration recommends removing the portion of Policy DEC Selection of Title I Schools that requires the district to provide an annual report to the Board on progress toward achievement standards. This is no longer a requirement as the South Carolina Department of Education notifies the district annually which schools are identified to receive technical assistance based upon student achievement performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Revise the following:

Policy DEC Selection of Title I Schools, First Reading

ATTACHMENT:

Policy DEC Selection of Title I Schools

PREPARED BY:

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## SELECTION OF TITLE I SCHOOLS

Code **DEC** Issued **4/13/24**

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Purpose: To provide the basic structure for selecting schools to receive Title I funds.

### Method for targeting Title I schools

It is the objective of the board to provide equal educational opportunities for all children within the district.

The board regards as a public trust any funds allocated to the district in federal aid. The district's method of targeting the most at-risk schools for the receipt of federal Title I funds seeks to ensure that all students are provided the opportunity to reach challenging academic standards as directed by federal Title I legislation.

The following procedures will be used for targeting schools for participation in the federal Title I program.

- All schools with a concentration of poverty that is equal to or greater than 75 percent must receive Title I funds, and these funds must be apportioned at a higher per pupil allocation than schools served with less than 75 percent.
- Elementary schools with a concentration of poverty that is equal to or greater than 35 percent; middle schools with a concentration of poverty that is equal to or greater than 45 percent; and high schools with a concentration of poverty that is equal to or greater than 75 percent should be targeted to receive a portion of Title I funds to be apportioned accordingly.
- Any school with a concentration of poverty that is 60 percent or higher should receive Title I funds at a per student allocation that is among the highest per student allocations appropriated, in an effort to apportion the greatest amount of financial resources to schools where the concentration of poverty is relatively high. ("Relatively high" is defined as being significantly higher than other eligible schools.) Any school with a concentration of poverty that is less than 60 percent should receive a per student allocation apportioned in descending order. For example, a per student allocation for a school with a poverty index of 50 percent up to 59 percent should receive a higher per student allocation than a school with a poverty index of 40 percent up to 49 percent or 35 percent up to 39 percent.
- Schools with a concentration of poverty that is within two percentage points of the threshold for its grade span that qualified the previous year will be served at an apportioned descending percent.

~~A school that receives Title I funds will be held to assessment standards as delineated in the Title I standards, assessments and accountability document. Progress toward meeting those standards will be reported to the board during the board's pre-budgeting Title I workshop in March-April each year. The standards require that all students including economically disadvantaged students meet the rigorous state student academic achievement standards. The schools not meeting the Title I standards will be required to develop a Challenge to Achieve Plan, and will be held to the requirements as specified in Principle 2 of the Elementary and Secondary Act Waiver submitted by the state of South Carolina to the US Department of Education and approved on July 19, 2012.~~

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The administrative division will provide technical assistance to Title I schools classified as ~~Focus~~ Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI), Targeted Support and Improvement(TSI) and Priority as determined by the state department of education through its ~~annual school level Title I evaluation~~ identification process.

The administration will prepare the ~~relevant achievement data and~~ preliminary school allocations as prescribed at the outset of this policy, as well as administer the regulatory and compliance components of the policy and the policies in the Title I law. (The policy will be updated as needed to keep it current with any changes that may occur in Title I legislation.)

Adopted 11/9/71; Revised 5/27/97, 9/11/01, 10/9/01, 5/21/02, 5/27/03, 11/28/06, 4/16/13, 7/30/24

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Legal references:

A. Federal law:

1. 20 U.S.C. Sections 6301, et seq. (as amended); <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/cfr-table-search.php> - page 134 C.F.R Section 200 – Title 1.