

June 6, 2006

TO: Chief School Administrators with Title I Schoolwide Programs

FROM: Suzanne Ochse, Director
Office of Title I Program Planning and Accountability

SUBJECT: Title I Unified Plan and Approved Schoolwide Programs

One or more schools in your district has an approved Title I schoolwide program. The original approved plan for the schoolwide program(s) was required to address certain elements as defined in the Title I legislation. Schools were also required to update their schoolwide plans annually and submit revisions along with the NCLB Consolidated Application.

For the 2006 NCLB Consolidated Application, schools operating approved Title I schoolwide programs in Abbott districts were permitted to submit their Report on Instructional Priorities in lieu of a formal schoolwide plan update. Non-Abbott SINIs were permitted to use their school improvement plans as the annual update.

Since the inception of the *No Child Left Behind Act* (NCLB), additional plans have been required for schools in need of improvement (SINI), districts with SINIs, and districts in need of improvement (DINI). These plans are submitted as part of the NCLB Consolidated Application and required for approval of the application and grant payment.

For the 2007 NCLB Consolidated Application, the Office of Title I Program Planning and Accountability has incorporated the elements of the various required plans into the Title I Unified Plan. Elements have been combined to avoid duplication. All schools with approved schoolwide plans, SINIs, districts with SINIs, and DINIs must complete the Title I Unified Plan and submit it as part of the 2007 NCLB Consolidated Application.

The Title I Unified Plan is posted on the NJDOE web site at www.nj.gov/njded/grants/entitlement/nclb.

To identify which schools are approved to operate schoolwide programs in your district, refer to the master list posted on the Title I web site at www.nj.gov/njded/title1/program/programs.shtml.

Each school on the approved schoolwide list is required to submit a Title I Unified Plan as part of the 2007 NCLB Consolidated Application. Each SINI must also complete and submit a plan. If a school is both schoolwide and a SINI, only one plan is required.

Schools interested in operating schoolwide programs that are not on the approved list must apply for schoolwide status by completing the Title I Unified Plan and submitting it for approval to the NJDOE. The school must meet the eligibility criteria and take a planning year to complete the schoolwide qualification process.

If you have any questions, contact your county education specialist or Abbott office.

SO/erm: T:\Unified Plan Committee\schoolwide letter.doc

c: Barbara Gantwerk
Annette Castiglione
Anne Corwell
Andrea Sunderville
County Superintendents