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TO: Title I Authorized Representatives/Building Principals/Coordinators
FROM: Stefanie Two Crow, Federal Title Programs Director
DATE: August 8, 2016
RE: Program Improvement Communication Requirements

Please note the following important information regarding SES, parent notification and reporting for the 2016-2017 school year.

Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice Transition Plan (PSC)

As announced in recent U.S. Department of Education (USDE) guidance for the 2016-2017 school year, states are not required to ensure that LEAs with schools identified as in need of improvement, corrective action, or restructuring provide supplemental educational services, public school choice, and the related notice to parents; however, states must ensure LEAs provide students eligible for SES with interventions notify parents of the transition plan to support the orderly transition to the ESSA. North Dakota's School Choice and SES transition plan is posted on the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI) website at www.nd.gov/dpi/SchoolStaff/FTP/TitleI/PI/SES/.

The NDDPI chose in its transition plan to make SES **optional** for the 2016-2017 school year. Thus, consistent with 34 C.F.R. § 200.39(c), if an LEA in the State chooses to offer SES, the LEA **must** continue to post, for the 2016-2017 school year, a list of SES providers approved by the State to serve the LEA and the locations where services are provided. The LEA is **not**, however, required to post the number of students who were eligible for and the number of students who participated in SES during the prior school year. Consistent with 34 C.F.R. § 200.46, the LEA must provide notice to parents of eligible students, assist parents, if requested, in choosing a provider, apply fair and equitable procedures for serving students if the number of spaces at approved providers is not sufficient to serve all eligible students whose parents request services, and enter into an agreement with each provider selected by a parent.

With regards to public school choice, an LEA is **not** required to post the number of students who were eligible for and who participated in the public school choice option during the prior school year. However, consistent with North Dakota's transition plan, it **must** ensure that an LEA that offered public school choice in prior years permits a student who transferred to another public school to remain in that school until the student has completed the highest grade in the school.

Questions

If you have any questions regarding the information enclosed in this memo, please contact me at stwocrow@nd.gov or (701) 328-2287 or your assigned contact person.