

Department of Public Instruction
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TITLE I SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT (SIG) WEBEX AUDIO CONFERENCE

Agenda

March 30, 2011

- Welcome/Introductions
- Overview/Purpose of Training
- SIG Overview – PowerPoint Presentation
- SIG Timeline
- North Dakota Schools Identified in Tiers I, II, and III
- Documents for LEAs to Review
- SIG – What You Need to Know
- Questions

If you have questions concerning any of the issues addressed, please contact:

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TITLE I
SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANT
(SIG)
OVERVIEW

Presented by:
Laurie Matzke, State Title I Director

WebEx Audio Conference
Wednesday, March 30, 2011

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

On February 17, 2009, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) was signed into law by President Obama. This legislation created an unprecedented opportunity to improve teaching and learning for at-risk students.

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

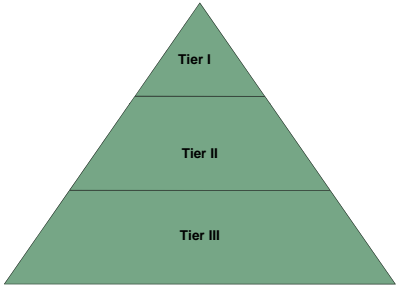
Record setting funding was appropriated for schools to implement innovative practices through various grant opportunities, some of which include:

- State Fiscal Stabilization
- Race to the Top
- School Improvement Grants (SIG)

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Within each of these grants, the US Department of Education (USDE) aligned a requirement for states to identify low performing schools. These schools are then categorized into Tiers I, II, and III.

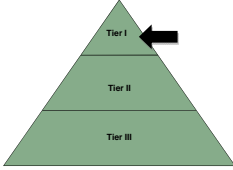
Title I School Improvement Grant Overview



Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Tier I

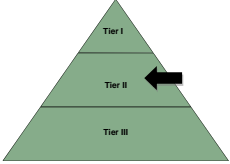
- The state's lowest performing 5% of Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring (or the state's 5 lowest-achieving Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, or restructuring, whichever is greater); and
- Any high school that has had a graduation rate less than 60% over the last three years.



Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Tier II

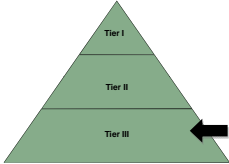
- The state's Title I eligible (but not participating) high schools with equivalently poor performance as a Tier I school.
- Any high school that has had a graduation rate less than 60% over the last three years.



Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Tier III

- Any Title I school that has been identified for Title I improvement, corrective action, or restructuring that is not a Tier I school.
- An LEA that has a school in Tier I and does not apply for SIG funding for that school may not apply or serve any schools in Tier III with SIG funds.



Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Schools in Tiers I and II who apply for school improvement grant funds are **required** to implement in their school one of the four models outlined in USDE guidance.

Turnaround Model	Restart Model
Close/Consolidate Model	Transformation Model

Schools in Tier III who apply for school improvement grant funds do not have to implement one of the four models.

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Turnaround Model

- Replace principal and at least 50% of the staff, adopt new governance, and implement a new or revised instructional program.

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Restart Model

- Close the school and restart it under the management of a charter school operator, a charter management organization (CMO), or an educational management organization (EMO).

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Close/Consolidate Model

- Close the school and enroll the students who attended the school in other, higher-performing schools in the district.

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

Transformation Model

1. Replace the principal
2. Use rigorous, transparent, and equitable evaluation systems for teachers and principals
3. Identify and reward school leaders and teachers who have increased student achievement
4. Provide high-quality, job-embedded professional development
5. Implement strategies to recruit, place, and retain staff
6. Use instructional and student data reform
7. Employ increased learning time
8. Employ strategies for operational flexibility
9. Provide for ongoing family and community engagement
10. Receive ongoing intensive technical assistance from LEA, SEA, or an external provider

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

A significant requirement in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) is ensuring that the ARRA funds are spent with an unprecedented level of transparency and accountability.

Therefore, extensive oversight and monitoring will occur for all SIG grantees.

Title I School Improvement Grant Overview

The ND Department of Public Instruction has created a state SIG webpage. All SIG related information and documents can be accessed on the department's website at:

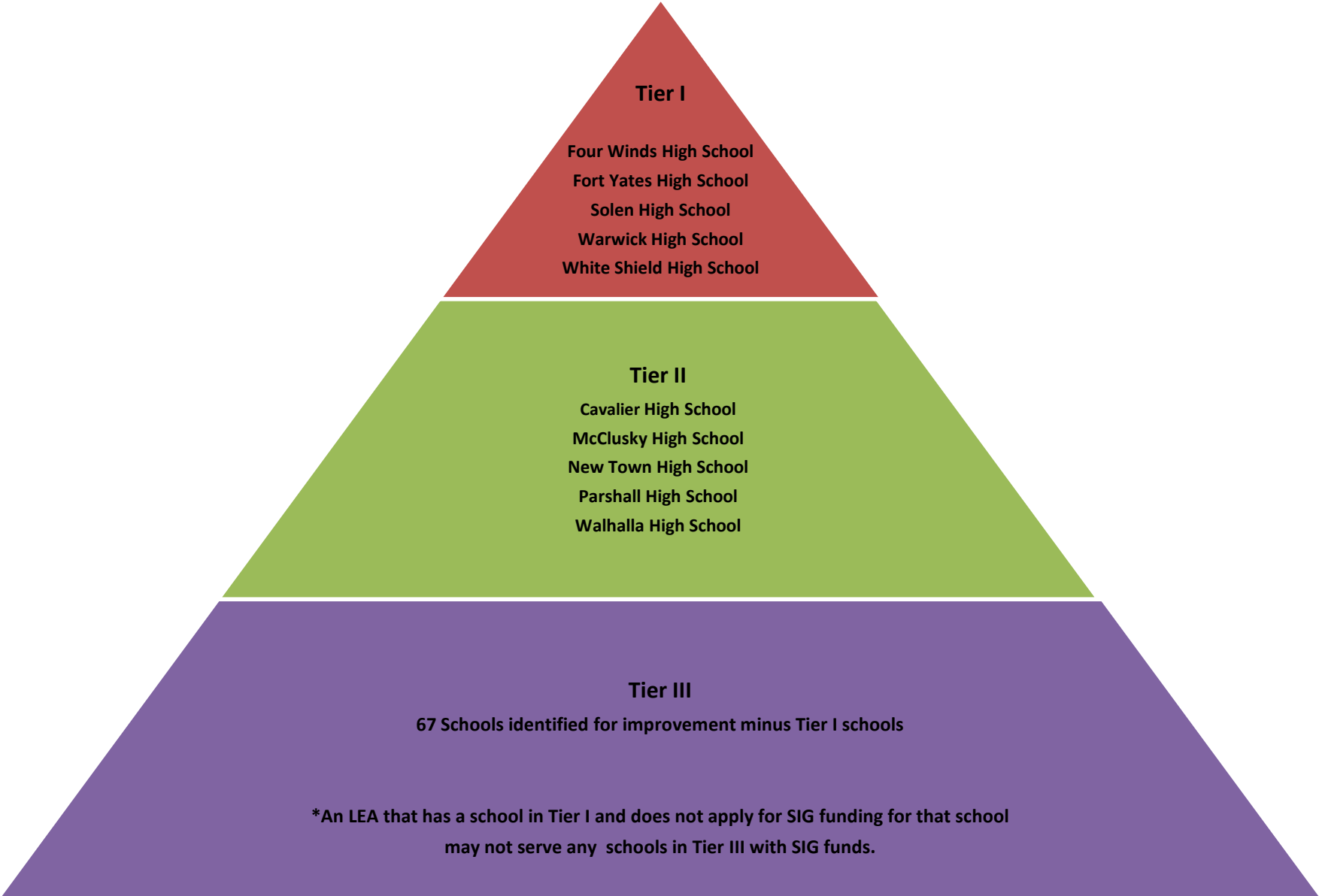
www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/siq/index.shtm

Tentative Timeline – SIG Funds

Process	Date
NDDPI sends initial letter of explanation of SIG to Tier I and Tier II LEA superintendents	December 2010
NDDPI conducts audio training for Tier I and Tier II schools on ND State SIG application	December 2010
NDDPI submits 2010 SIG application to USDE	December 2010
NDDPI receives comments from USDE	January 2011
NDDPI resubmits 2010 SIG application to USDE	March 2011
NDDPI receives comments from USDE	March 2011
NDDPI provides training to Tier I and Tier II schools explaining SIG process	March 2011
NDDPI receives approval on 2010 SIG	April 2011
LEA SIG applications (Tier I and Tier II) due to NDDPI	May 2011
NDDPI provides continued technical assistance for completing applications as needed	Mar-May 2011
NDDPI reviews Tier I and Tier II applications	May 2011
NDDPI awards Tier I and Tier II grants	May 2011
Tier I and Tier II schools begin pre-implementation period	May 2011
Tier III applications due	June 2011
NDDPI reviews and scores Tier III applications	June 2011
NDDPI awards Tier III grants	July 2011
Tier I, Tier II, and Tier III schools implement approved applications	July 2011

2010-2011

Tier I, II, and III Schools – USDE School Improvement Grant (SIG)



Documents to Review

- Application www.dpi.state.nd.us/news/2010/draftapp.pdf
- Rubric www.dpi.state.nd.us/news/2010/draftrub.pdf
- Reporting Requirements
www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/index.shtm
- Monitoring
www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/index.shtm

Reporting Requirements for SIG Recipients

There are several reports/forms that are due throughout the year for all Tier I and Tier II schools.

- ✓ Annual Program Improvement Report (SFN 52820) – Due June
- ✓ Follow-Up Report for Additional Program Improvement Funding (SFN 52822) – Due July
- ✓ Continuation Application for Additional Program Improvement Funding for Tier I/Tier II Schools – Due May
- ✓ EdFacts Report – Due December
- ✓ Quarterly Reports – Due Each Quarter

Annual Program Improvement Report (SFN 52820) – All schools and districts identified for program improvement are required to submit the Annual Report Program Improvement Report. The report will reflect the items outlined in your program improvement plan, as well as indicate how you spent your Title I program improvement set-aside(s) (Supplemental Educational Services, School Choice, and 10% set-aside for professional development). This form is available online at www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn52820.pdf. A sample is also available at www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sample/sample52820.pdf.

Follow-Up Report for Additional Program Improvement Funding (SFN 52822)
All districts and schools that received additional program improvement funds (i.e., SIG) must submit a Request for Funds (SFN 14660) and a Follow-Up Report for Additional Program Improvement Funding (SFN 52822) to obtain reimbursement for additional program improvement funding. The Follow-Up Report for Additional Program Improvement Funding will monitor the fiscal expenditures of each SIG grant through a detailed paper review. Along with the Follow-Up Report, please submit a copy of the district's ledger reporting the Title I SIG budget. At the end of the year, the total expenditures on your accounting system should equal the total expenditures for which you requested reimbursement from DPI. www.dpi.state.nd.us/forms/sfn52822.pdf

Continuation Application for Additional Program Improvement Funding for Tier I/Tier II Schools
In order to receive year two SIG funding, the district/school will need to show documentation of compliance with all SIG requirements by completing the Continuation Application for Additional Program Improvement Funding for Tier I/Tier II Schools. The Continuation Application for Additional Program Improvement Funding for Tier I/Tier II Schools will specifically review the progress that each Tier I and Tier II school has made toward the requirements outlined in the model that they selected to implement. www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/contapp.pdf

EdFacts Report

Tier I and Tier II schools that received SIG funds are required to complete an annual report through EDFacts. www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/index.shtm

Quarterly Reports

Each school district that receives Title I SIG funds will be required to submit quarterly reports providing key information regarding how these funds were spent. It is extremely important that all districts report this information in a timely manner as the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction has to compile the reports and submit the information to U.S. Department of Education (USDE). Failure to report by each quarterly deadline could result in the district forfeiting its Title I SIG funds.

www.dpi.state.nd.us/title1/Legislative/sig/index.shtm

SIG – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

- Districts interested in applying for SIG funds must have the capacity and be willing to make significant changes in the school building. Proposals to continue funding the “status quo” will not be approved. Implementing a SIG is a huge undertaking which requires commitment from the school board, district, and school for dramatic system changes.
- Applying for a School Improvement Grant (SIG) is not a guarantee that a district will be awarded a grant and receive SIG funds. There is significant accountability built into the process to ensure that only high quality applications are funded. The school must be able to demonstrate that they can meet the SIG requirements and provide documentation of a high quality plan that will produce results.
- The local school board must understand the requirements pertaining to revising staff evaluation policies. The SIG requires districts and schools to use rigorous, transparent, and equitable evaluation systems for teachers and principals that take into account data on student growth as a significant factor as well as other factors, such as multiple observation-based assessments of performance and ongoing collections of professional practice reflective of student achievement and increased high school graduation rates. The board and school must be prepared to publicly share this information.

It also requires districts to implement such strategies as financial incentives, increased opportunities for promotion and career growth, and more flexible work conditions that are designed to recruit, place, and retain staff with the skills necessary to meet the needs of the students in a transformation model.

Meeting these two key requirements will obligate the district to review and revise its current district policies and procedures.

- All four intervention models require the district to replace the building principal. However, the guidance states that an exception can be made if the principal was hired within the past two years (2009-2010 and 2010-2011 school years).
- The USDE ARRA School Improvement Grant (SIG) regulations do not override state law. It is not allowable to reference the SIG requirement as a reason for replacing principals or teachers. North Dakota state law must be followed when non-renewing principal and teacher contracts.
- Districts have an obligation to involve all staff in the process of revising policies and practices. The SIG application requires applicants to thoroughly address how all staff were included in the development of revised policies and practices.