



THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT / THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK / ALBANY, NY  
12234

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION  
PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

February 22, 2012

Dr. Sharon L. Contreras  
Superintendent of Schools  
Syracuse City School District  
1025 Erie Boulevard  
West Syracuse, NY 13204

Dear Superintendent Contreras:

On January 18, 2012, the Syracuse City School District submitted to the State Education Department (Department) additional evidence of compliance with the requirements of its 2011-2012 School Improvement Grant (SIG) application related to teacher and leader evaluation and support in its schools.

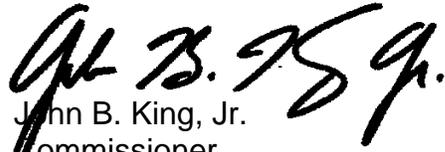
The Department has reviewed your district's submission and found that it is sufficient to meet the commitments made in your district's SIG application and the requirements of existing law and regulations. Accordingly, the Department's January 3, 2012 suspension of your district's SIG funding to implement the Transformation Model is lifted effective immediately. The Department will reimburse your district for any appropriate and allowable expenditures incurred during this timeframe, as approved in your original budget for these schools. Your district should therefore submit FS-25 paperwork for allowable and appropriate grant-supported expenses incurred during the grant suspension period on your regular reconciliation schedule.

Please note, however, that acceptance of your district's teacher and principal evaluation and support documentation relating to your 2011-2012 SIG application is based on its conformity to current existing law and regulations and that modifications to your district's agreement(s) and/or APPR plan, as applicable, will be required to conform with any future changes to applicable law and regulations.

Moreover, such acceptance is for 2011-2012 only. In order to qualify for 2012-13 SIG funds, your district application must demonstrate that your evaluation system will meet the requirements of Education Law §3012-c and Commissioner's regulations applicable to the 2012-2013 school year (please see Attachment for a summary of anticipated requirements for SIG schools in 2012-2013 based on legislation proposed in

the State budget process to settle the issues presented in the New York State United Teachers, et al. v. Board of Regents, et al. litigation).

Sincerely,

  
John B. King, Jr.  
Commissioner

Enclosure

c: Ira Schwartz  
Sally Bacher  
Roberto Reyes