



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

March 26, 2012

Mr. Bernard P. Pierorazio
Superintendent of Schools
Yonkers Public Schools
One Larkin Center
Yonkers, NY 10701-2756

Dear Superintendent Pierorazio:

On March 19, 2012, the Yonkers 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.

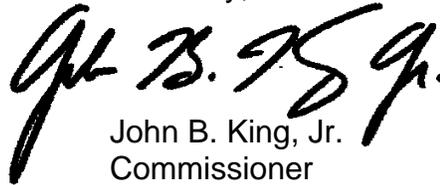
Please note, however, that acceptance of your district's teacher and principal evaluation and support documentation relating to your 2011-2012 SIG application is based on its conformity to current existing law and regulations and that modifications to your district's agreement(s) and/or APPR plan, as 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 2012-2013 SIG funds, your district's 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. Specifically, on March 14, 2012, both the New York State Senate and Assembly passed legislation (S.6732 / A.9554) amending Education Law §3012-c to provide rigorous and clear standards and guidance to school districts and BOCES for implementation of the new teacher and principal evaluation system. In anticipation that the Governor will sign the legislation into law prior to April 4, 2012, when the legislation becomes effective, the Board of Regents adopted emergency regulations on March 20, 2012, effective April 4, 2012, to conform to the legislation. The Department

expects to release detailed guidance regarding APPR requirements for the 2012-2013 school year in mid-to-late April.

Your district's agreement on teacher and principal evaluations for 2011-2012 will secure critical resources to improve teaching and learning in schools where children are most in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John B. King, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

John B. King, Jr.
Commissioner

c: Ira Schwartz
Sally Bachofer
Roberto Reyes