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STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 17, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy Superintendents, Public Universities and Community Colleges, Public School Academy Authorizers

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Announcement of 2012-2013 Charter School Planning, Implementation and Dissemination Grant Opportunity

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has received from the United States Department of Education (USED) a grant award of **\$9,351,356** for use during the 2012-2013 school year to strengthen the pool of charter school developers in Michigan and support new charter schools. The four types of subgrants are:

- 1) **New public school academies opening Fall 2012** will be invited to compete for a twelve-month, combination planning-implementation grant. The competitive grant awards may be approved for up to \$250,000 with \$50,000 set aside for planning tasks and up to \$200,000 for implementation. Successful completion of the competitive grant qualifies this new public school academy to apply for a second year combination planning-implementation grant in the amount of up to \$250,000.
- 2) **Earlier stage Public School Academy (PSA) developers planning for a Fall 2013 or Fall 2014 opening** may be eligible to compete for eighteen-month planning grants. These competitive grant awards may also be approved for up to \$100,000 in planning expenses, and successful completion of the planning grant, along with acquisition of a charter (and the subsequent issuance of a district code), will qualify the PSA to apply for further first and second year implementation funding of up to \$200,000 annually.

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- 3) **A current School of Excellence replicating an existing school or an existing School of Excellence adding a new school serving expanded grades** may be eligible for eighteen-month planning grants. These competitive grant awards may also be approved for up to \$100,000 in planning expenses, and successful completion of the planning grant, along with acquisition of a charter amendment (and the subsequent issuance of a new school code), will qualify the PSA to apply for further first and second year implementation funding of up to \$200,000 annually.
- 4) A portion of the 2012-2013 federal award (\$935,136) may be available to schools within Michigan PSAs that have **not already received a dissemination grant and** may apply if they:
- have been in operation for at least three consecutive academic years, and
 - are financially viable and operationally successful, and
 - are an existing school qualifying for School of Excellence status, or
 - if they have been listed in the top quartile of the Top to Bottom List for the last two years in which a List has been published, or serve Strict Discipline Academies (SDAs) or Alternative Education populations and have alternative evidence of their academic success.

Individual information sessions are available for eligible applicants as needed and can be scheduled by emailing the Public School Academies unit at MDEPSAGrant@michigan.gov.

Applications for the 2012-2013 Charter School Planning, Implementation and Dissemination Grant Program funding will be posted on the MDE's website at <http://www.michigan.gov/charters>. The applications will be available and must be submitted through the *Michigan Electronic Grants System, Plus (MEGS+)*.

Questions regarding the Charter School Program Grant application should be directed to Kim Sidel in the Office of Education Improvement & Innovation, Public School Academies Unit, at sidelk@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance