III. PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS

Sylvan Learning Centers, Inc. is accredited by CITA (The Commission on International and Trans-regional Accreditation). As a part of the accreditation process, 12 main areas are reviewed, namely, corporate status, financial adequacy, educational service, advertising and marking, educational staff, admission and placement procedures, management and supervision, student attendance and conduct, counseling, records, and follow-up, communications and relationships, physical facilities and equipment and school improvement and development. At the local level, we are currently in candidacy status.

With regard to grade level growth, system wide, Sylvan Learning Centers averages 2.0 grade levels within the first 36 hours of instruction. In fact, we guarantee that students will improve by at least 1.0 grade level within the first 36 hours or free hours are provided. At the local level, our students have an average growth of 1.9 grade levels.

IV. EVALUATION/MONITORING

Sylvan assesses each learner individually utilizing a battery of tests, in order to gain information about students' functional learning levels. Following the assessment process, an individual educational plan will be developed for each student. Depending on the course, students will be assessed with three or more of the following instruments (1) Sylvan Learning Center Reading Diagnostic Test, (2) Gray Oral Reading Test, (3) Visual Efficiency Rating Apparatus, (4) Classroom Reading Inventory, (5) Comprehensive Receptive & Expressive Vocabulary Test, (6) Wepman Auditory Discrimination Test, (7) California Achievement Test.

After every 36 hours of instruction, students receive a posttest utilizing the California Achievement Test in order to determine grade level increases. As stated previously, we guarantee that students will move up at least one grade level in reading or mathematics within the first 36 hours of instruction.

Additionally, after every 12 hours of instruction, the Director of Education convenes a 12-hour progress meeting with the parent. Information from these meetings, as well as the results of the 36-hour posttest, will be shared with the students' teacher and district representatives.

In addition to monitoring student growth, Sylvan Southfield will conduct its own internal evaluation of the overall program. A comprehensive product and process evaluation will be completed to assess the efficacy of this program design. A quarterly process evaluation will be used during the first two years so that staff will be able to document successful strategies and identify weakness in order to develop appropriate corrective strategies. The product evaluation will examine student outcomes in achievement, attendance, course completion, and behavior.

The evaluation design will answer the following questions:

1. Is there evidence of increased student success? Has achievement in reading and math occurred?
2. Does the behavior of students indicate a sense of hope and a belief that there is a relationship between education and their future success?
3. Is there an increase in the number of parents interacting with the school?
4. Do school staff members see value in the information received about students from Sylvan?
5. Do staff and parents believe and demonstrate that they are functioning as partners with Sylvan?

V. PRICING FOR SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES

The cost for the program will be $37.50 per/hour per/student. For our 36-hour program, this equates to $1,350 per student. If a schools per pupil Title I allocation is less than $1,350 they will still receive the 36-hour program. If funds are available, the Metro Education Foundation, Inc. will supplement payments for students whose allocation is less than $1,350.