



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 4, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Administrators
Michigan Electronic Grants (MEGS) Contacts
State and Federal Program Contacts

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

SUBJECT: Kindergarten and Federal Funds

The Office of School Improvement, Field Services Unit (FSU), of the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has received questions about funding the second half of full day Kindergarten programs with federal funds for 2009-10. Districts are currently receiving a full-time equivalency (FTE) allocation in State aid for every student enrolled in Kindergarten or Developmental Kindergarten.

With the support of legal consultation, MDE has confirmed that using federal funds to support the second half of full day Kindergarten when the state is paying for a FTE is an example of supplanting, and districts must use general funds to support all Kindergarten programs including Developmental Kindergarten.

Districts may use federal funds allocated thru the Consolidated Application to support Kindergarten, Developmental Kindergarten programs, and other early childhood programs in a variety of ways, including:

- Hiring supplemental staff to support the assigned district-funded teacher within the classroom.
- Class size reduction in accordance with the State's established class size reduction guidance. See information at this web site: http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/Class_Size_Reduction_208134_7.pdf.
- Meeting younger students' educational needs in a licensed early childhood program in preparation for success in Kindergarten.

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- Summer school or jumpstart programs that focus on the academic needs of students.
- Additional instruction offered after a traditional full school day.

Title I funds may not be used to support Developmental Kindergarten programs that are intended to retain students in Kindergarten for two years.

We appreciate your support in implementing this requirement. If you have any questions, please contact your Field Service Representative or Margaret Madigan at 517-373-3921.