



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 29, 2015

TO: Local and Intermediate District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers
Section 31a Main Contacts

FROM: Norma Jean Sass 
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. 
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Requesting Public Comment for Special Waiver of the 15% Carryover for Pontiac City School District

Michigan Department of Education (MDE), on behalf of Pontiac City School District, is requesting permission from the United State Department of Education (USED) to waive the limitation for MDE to grant a Title I, Part A 15% carryover waiver to Pontiac City School District more than once every three (3) years. MDE is providing an opportunity for public comment as required for this waiver.

The Pontiac City School District has had a structural deficit for a number of years which contributed to the Governor declaring it in a state of Financial Emergency on June 30, 2013. Subsequently, Pontiac entered into a Consent Agreement with a revised educational plan and an outside consultant was appointed to review its finances and oversee spending. Pontiac also entered into a Compliance Agreement with MDE to ensure that the district expends its federal funds in compliance with all applicable requirements. As a result, Pontiac experienced significant cash flow difficulties and delays in spending Title I, Part A funds during the 2013-14 and 2014-15 school years.

MDE, on behalf of the Pontiac City School District, is requesting this waiver to ensure that the students of the district receive the full benefit of the supplemental programs and services needed to accelerate their achievement consistent with the intent and purpose of Title I, Part A. (see attachment).

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MDE is opening this waiver request for public comment, on behalf of the Pontiac City School District. If you would like to comment on this request, please email your comments to TitleICarryoverWaiver@michigan.gov. This mailbox will be available for ten (10) business days. All comments will be given consideration by MDE and attached to the request sent to USED.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

Attachment: