



Title Programs and Services

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Notice of Intent to Submit Title I Waiver Request

The Kansas Department of Education intends to request from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) a waiver on behalf of USD 224 Clifton-Clyde and USD 500 Kansas City, Kansas Public School Districts. The request is to waive Title I, Part A, Subpart 1, Section 1111(a)(3)(A) and Section 1116(a)(1)(A) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to permit the districts the use of assessments by ACT and the Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) in place of state assessments and to use the results from those assessments in accountability decisions for the 2011-2012 school year.

The Kansas Department of Education (KSDE) is soliciting comments— both supporting and non-supporting – on the waiver below. All comments submitted during the comment period will be read and taken into consideration. Providing comments to the KSDE does not guarantee all comments will be implemented. This notice meets the notification requirements under Section 9401(b)(3)(A)(i) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. **Districts and the public are invited to submit written comments to the KSDE no later than 5:00 PM (CDT) on November 1, 2011.** After that date, the KSDE will submit those comments to the ED. Submit written comments to Judi Miller at judim@ksde.org or via fax at 785-296-5867.

The Kansas State Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education are in favor of the requests from USD 224 Clifton-Clyde and USD 500 Kansas City, Kansas Public School Districts' to seek a waiver from some of the accountability and assessments requirements in Title I Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. The KSDE believes that these districts with their initiatives of system redesign will have students that are college and career-ready by the time they graduate from high school.

Mrs. Cheryl Keim, superintendent of USD 224 Clifton-Clyde, and Dr. Cynthia Lane, superintendent of USD 500 Kansas City, Kansas presented their districts' initiatives of system redesign to the Kansas State Board of Education on August 9, 2011. The State Board encouraged the districts to seek waivers from the US Department of Education. The State Board is excited about the model of meaningful assessments and a higher standard articulated in both districts' initiatives.

Clifton-Clyde proposes having students in grades 6-8 take the ACT Explore and students in grade 12 take the ACT in reading, mathematics and science instead of the Kansas assessments. Grades 3-5 will continue to take the Kansas assessments. In addition, students with disabilities and English language learners will participate with appropriate assessments and be included in accountability decisions at all levels.

The Kansas City, Kansas request is to have students in grades 3-7 take the NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), in grade 8 the ACT Explore and in grade 12 the ACT in reading, mathematics and science in lieu of the Kansas assessments. Students with disabilities and English language learners will participate with appropriate assessments and be included in accountability decisions at all levels.

The Kansas State Department of Education will work with both districts to ensure that their students are assessed and that the districts and their schools are held accountable for students' learning and meeting higher standards.