

Existing policy with suggested modifications.

Instruction

Comparability of Services

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall pursue funding under Title I of the Federal Strengthening and Improving of Elementary and Secondary Schools Act to supplement instructional services and activities in order to improve the educational opportunities of educationally disadvantaged or deprived children.

All District schools, regardless of whether they receive Title I funds, shall provide services that, taken as a whole, are substantially comparable. Teachers, administrators and other staff shall be assigned to schools in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools. Curriculum materials and instructional supplies shall be provided in a manner that ensures equivalency among the District's schools.

The Board of Education believes that at all times its schools should be equally as well equipped and maintained as may be possible within existing financial limitations.

It shall be the policy of the Board of Education to insure comparability of services funded by state and local sources in both Title I project schools and non-project schools. the Board of Education will therefore:

1. Maintain a district-wide salary schedule that is applicable to all staff whether assigned to Title I or non-Title I schools.
2. Provide services with federal, state and local funds in schools serving Title I project areas that are at least comparable to services in non-project areas.
3. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools in all schools with the same grade levels in teachers, administrators, auxiliary personnel.
4. Use federal, state and local funds to provide for an equivalence among all schools with the same grade levels in the provision of curriculum and instructional materials, books and supplies.

Note: The district will be considered to have met the comparability requirements of Title I, Part A if it has filed with the State Board of Education a written assurance that it has established and implemented (1) a district-wide salary schedule and (2) policies to ensure equivalence in resources. (U.S.C. 6321(c)(2))

For the purposes of determining comparability in compliance with 20 U.S.C. 6321(c), the District, may exclude

1. State and local funds expended for English Learners language instruction education programs.

Instruction

Comparability of Services (continued)

2. Excess costs associated with providing services to students with disabilities.
3. Unexpected changes in enrollment or personnel assignments occurring after the beginning of the school year.
4. Staff salary differentials for years of employment.
5. Other expenditures from supplemental state or local funds consistent with the intent of Title I (serving only children who are failing, or most at risk of failing, to meet the State's standards)

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide in a timely manner all assurances, documentation, or other information required by the State Department of Education to demonstrate the District's compliance with Title I fiscal requirements.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall maintain reports and other documentation demonstrating compliance with the requirements of this policy.

Nothing in this policy will prohibit the administration from addressing identified problems at individual schools.

Legal Reference: Title I of the Strengthening and Improving of Elementary and Secondary Schools Act, 20 U.S.C.A. §6301-6514, as implemented by 34 C.F.R. parts 200, 201, 203, 205, and 212, Section 1118c of Title I, ESEA/ESSA.

20 U.S.C. Section 6321(c)

Agostini v. Felton 521 U.S. 103 (1997)

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NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
New Fairfield, Connecticut