

**American Recovery and Reinvestment
Act of 2009:
IDEA Recovery Funds for Services to
Children and Youths with Disabilities**

Provided for:

Board of Trustees

Denton Independent School District

June 23, 2009



Discussion Topics

- Introduction
- ARRA Core Reforms
- Principles
- Requirements
- District Allocation
- Collaboration
- District Goals
- Planning
- Considerations
- Accountability and Reporting
- Summary
- Questions

Introduction

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) (Public Law 111-5)

- provides significant new funding for programs under IDEA Parts B and C
- ensures that children with disabilities aged three through five have access to a free appropriate public education to meet unique educational needs

Introduction

- Prepares each child for further education, employment and independent living
- Provides an opportunity for districts to implement innovative strategies to improve outcomes for toddlers, children, and youth with disabilities
- Stimulates the economy

ARRA Core Reforms

- College- and career-ready standards and high quality, valid, and reliable assessments for all students, including ELLs and students with disabilities
- Pre-K to higher education data systems that meet the principles in the America COMPETES Act
- Teacher effectiveness and equitable distribution of effective teachers
- Intensive support and effective interventions for lowest-performing schools

Principles

- Spend funds quickly (wisely) to save and create jobs
- Improve student achievement
- Ensure transparency, reporting and accountability
- Invest one-time ARRA funds thoughtfully to minimize the ‘funding cliff’

Requirements

- Purchases must comply with federal cost principles
- Purchases must be put to use immediately, including instructional materials and technology
- Must be coded, accounted for, and reported separately from other federal allocations
- Allocations must supplement not supplant
- Include Private School Proportionate Share

District Allocation

- Formula Funds (IDEA-B)
Ages 3-21 \$4,202,540.00
- Preschool (IDEA-B)
Ages 3-5 (only) \$ 108,660.00
- Available
April 15, 2009-September 30, 2011
- Must apply for funds via eGrants by 9/1/09

Collaboration

- April 17, 2009 Informational meeting with Exec. Team
- April 24, 2009 Met with Director of Federal Programs
- May 11, 2009 Focus meeting with team of administrators
- May 18, 2009 Parent survey
- June 1, 2009 Superintendent's Executive Team
- June 1, 2009 Teacher survey
- June 5, 2009 Assistant Supt. C & I/Federal Programs/Elementary Dir.
- June 8, 2009 Superintendent's Executive Team
- June 10, 2009 Private School Consultation
- June 15, 2009 Superintendent's Executive Team

District Goals

- To increase student gains in math, science and behavioral skills up to 50% over baseline by the end of year two
- To provide professional development, for educators, parents, administrators and other stakeholders, designed to address student improvement and diversity
- To support students in their least restrictive environment (LRE) through the use of assistive technology, social skills, summer get-a-head camp, and behavioral interventions
- To promote efficient transition for students to post-secondary settings

District Planning for Use of Funds

- Professional learning
- Personnel
- Student specific instruction
- Parent involvement
- Technology
 - Assistive technology
 - Technology for hearing impaired
 - Instructional software
 - Assessment software for transition

District considerations

1. Will expenditures increase student achievement and reduce the achievement gap?
2. Do plans align with other local strategies?
3. Are activities considered innovative and better position the district to receive additional funds from the state to support continued education reform?

Accountability and Reporting

- Funds tracked separately
- Purchases aligned with ARRA goals
- Purchases must address current needs
- Districts must submit quarterly reports to TEA

Summary

Advantages of using funding as proposed are as follows:

- Focused professional development
- Emphasis on student success through individualized supports
- Parent involvement activities
- Opportunities for students to have positive planned post-secondary experiences

Disadvantages

Limited time frame for implementation

Constraints associated with hiring personnel

QUESTIONS

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009

