

Pam Williams
August 28, 2012
Page 2

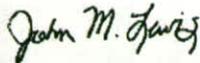
Agencies in our region, I am submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG.

As part of that partnership our RPDC commits to the following:

- participating in various SPDG development workgroups
- Ensuring that RPDC staff are trained and meet expected proficiency levels in all areas in which they are providing PD/support
- implementing PD based upon stated criteria for HQPD
- implementing DESE-vetted improvement process with Level II buildings
- participating in SPDG evaluation activities
- coordinating with other entities in the SSOS for consistency in content, process and materials
- using SPDG-developed training processes, products and fidelity measures
- participating in an online repository of resources to support schools' improvement efforts
- supporting the use of technology whenever and wherever appropriate in the development, provision and sharing of resources for professional development

I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. I look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



John Lewis, Director
South Central Regional Professional Development Center

Southwest RPDC
Missouri State University
901 S National – PCOB 250
Springfield, MO 65897
August 28, 2012



Ms. Pam Williams
Coordinator, Special Education Services
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Dear Ms. Williams,

It is my understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

We support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the Director of the Southwest RPDC, the regional component of Missouri's Statewide System of Support (SSOS), I recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher/leader effectiveness. As the representative of the entity predominantly responsible for the provision of PD opportunities to the Local Education Agencies in our region, I am submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership our RPDC commits to the following:

- participating in various SPDG development workgroups

- Ensuring that RPDC staff are trained and meet expected proficiency levels in all areas in which they are providing PD/support
- implementing PD based upon stated criteria for HQPD
- implementing DESE-vetted improvement process with Level II buildings
- participating in SPDG evaluation activities
- coordinating with other entities in the SSOS for consistency in content, process and materials
- using SPDG-developed training processes, products and fidelity measures
- participating in an online repository of resources to support schools' improvement efforts
- supporting the use of technology whenever and wherever appropriate in the development, provision and sharing of resources for professional development

I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. I look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Dr. Suzanne M. Cutbirth
Director, Southwest RPDC

Dear Ms. Williams,

I am excited in the fact that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

We know and support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the Director of the St. Louis RPDC, the regional component of Missouri's Statewide System of Support (SSOS), I recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher/leader development and effectiveness. As the representative of the organization that is mainly responsible for the provision of PD opportunities to the Local Education Agencies in our region, I am submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership the ST. Louis RPDC commits to the following:

- participating in various SPDG development workgroups
- Ensuring that RPDC staff are trained and meet expected proficiency levels in all areas in which they are providing PD/support
- implementing PD based upon stated criteria for HQPD
- implementing DESE-vetted improvement process with Level II buildings
- participating in SPDG evaluation activities
- coordinating with other entities in the SSOS for consistency in content, process and materials

- using SPDG-developed training processes, products and fidelity measures
- participating in an online repository of resources to support schools' improvement efforts
- supporting the use of technology whenever and wherever appropriate in the development, provision and sharing of resources for professional development

I endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. I look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

David Sanders

David Sanders,

Director Of the St. Louis RPDC

Office: 314-692-1219 Cell: 214-280-6762

Fax: 314-692-9700

dsanders@csd.org

www.CSD.org



College of Education
Department of Special Education
University of Missouri- Columbia

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Pam Williams
Special Education Coordinator
Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
PO Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Ms. Williams:

I understand that the Division of Special Education is applying for a State Professional Development Grant (SPDG) through the U.S. Department of Education. This grant application will allow Missouri to expand and implement the priorities that were identified in the State Performance Plan including a) improved collaboration within school and district teams; b) improved student achievement; c) increased time in inclusive settings for students with disabilities; d) higher levels of parental satisfaction and community involvement; and e) improved transition planning and documentation.

The College of Education, and in particular the Department of Special Education at the University of Missouri has a long history of partnering with the Division of Special Education in both informal and formal relationships such as our work funded through the SIG grant focusing on Positive Behavior Support as well as our current partnership in building a state-wide model of professional support for districts using school-wide PBS, the Missouri Integrated Model, Response to Intervention, and the planning work with the Scaling Up center. The infusion of additional funds will allow this work to continue and expand in several important ways as delineated in your application.

Should the State receive this State Professional Development Grant, the *MU Center for School-wide Positive Behavior Support* will gladly continue our partnership agreement with the Division of Special Education and staff from the Regional Professional Development Center to engage in areas including the following:

- Train Positive Behavior Support Consultants within each RPDC to support efforts in identified districts as part of the Regional School Improvement Teams.
- Expand research-based practices in Positive Behavior Supports
- Coordinate efforts with DESE on the implementation of the Missouri Integrated Model to ensure that pre-service training supports the components of this model.
- Support all initiative through the RPDC that is located at our university.

We hope you are successful in receiving the SPDG and look forward to working in partnership, including serving on your advisory board, with the Division of Special Education.

Sincerely,

Tim Lewis, Ph.D.
Professor of Special Education
Co-Director, OSEP Center for PBIS
Director, MU Center for School-wide PBS



Missouri Parents ACT

MPACT State Office
8301 State Line Road
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Mary Kay Savage,
MPACT Executive Director
Diana Biere,
MPACT Associate Director

August 24, 2012

Dear Ms. Williams:

It is our understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. We also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

We support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As an organization that is dedicated to improving the educational outcomes for students with disabilities in the state of Missouri we recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher effectiveness. As an organization that provides educational support and development opportunities to parents of students with disabilities throughout the state, we are submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership our organization commits to working with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to develop and provide professional development and resources for our staff and constituency regarding the following topics:

- Missouri Common Core Standards
- The Missouri Teacher/Leader Evaluation System
- Effective Instructional Practices
- Student Progress Monitoring

We heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. We look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Savage

August 14, 2012

It is my understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

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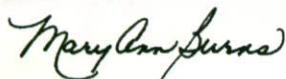
Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the Director of the Missouri Professional Learning Communities statewide initiative, I can attest that our project is dedicated to improving the educational outcomes for students in the state of Missouri. I recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher effectiveness. As a project that provides PD opportunities to educators throughout the state, I am submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership my project commits to the following:

1. Including a member of the SPDG leadership team on our PD planning committee(s) to facilitate alignment and implementation of the principles/goals of the SPDG,
2. Incorporating the principles of high quality professional development into all of our project's PD activities,
3. Evaluating the impact of our PD activities and providing the results of that evaluation to the Office of Special Education, and;
4. Participating in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG.

I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. We look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Director School Improvement Initiatives
Department of Elementary & Secondary Education



August 16, 2012

To whom it may Concern;

It is my understanding that the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

I support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the Director of the Missouri Schoolwide Positive Behavior Support (MO SW-PBS) statewide initiative, I can attest that our project is dedicated to improving the educational outcomes for students in the state of Missouri. I recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher effectiveness.

As a project that provides PD opportunities to educators throughout the state, I am submitting this letter of support/partnership with the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership my project commits to the following:

1. Including a member of the SPDG leadership team on our PD planning committee(s) to facilitate alignment and implementation of the principles/goals of the SPDG,
2. Incorporating the principles of high quality professional development into all of our project's PD activities,

MISSOURI SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT (MO SW-PBS)

303 Townsend Hall * Columbia, MO 65211
Phone (573) 882-1179 * Fax (573) 884-2917
<http://pbmissouri.org/index.html>



-
3. Evaluating the impact of our PD activities and providing the results of that evaluation to the Office of Special Education, and;
 4. Participating in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG.

I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. We look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

Mary Richter

Mary Richter, Ph.D.
MO SW-PBS State Coordinator
303 Townsend Hall
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri 65211
millerrichterm@missouri.edu

MISSOURI SCHOOL WIDE POSITIVE BEHAVIOR SUPPORT (MO SW-PBS)

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<http://www.mc3edsupport.org>

Belinda Biscoe, Ph.D.
Director
Donna Richardson, Ed.D.
Associate Director

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MID-CONTINENT COMPREHENSIVE CENTER

University OUTREACH • College of Continuing Education • The University of Oklahoma

August 30, 2012

Ms. Pam Williams
Special Education Coordinator
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Ms. Williams:

On behalf of the Mid-Continent Comprehensive Center (MC3), I am pleased to write this letter of support for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Division of Special Education to assist your efforts in applying for a State Professional Development Grant (SPDG) through the U.S. Department of Education (ED). This grant application will allow DESE to reform and improve its system for staff preparation and professional development in early intervention, educational, and transition services to improve results for children with disabilities.

Priorities for this grant include effective and efficient delivery of professional development; a state personnel development plan; partnering with districts, state agencies, and state and national content experts involved with the education of children with disabilities; improved student achievement; and increased time in inclusive settings for students with disabilities.

Over the past six years, MC3 and DESE have worked together and collaborated to (a) identify DESE's current and desired capacity to support districts and schools in implementing ED priorities, (b) determine high priority capacity-building needs, and (c) plan MC3 technical assistance (TA) to meet those needs.

MC3 is a federally funded regional comprehensive center serving Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. The center provides a number of targeted TA resources to support states in building capacity. The types of support MC3 can provide are varied and identified based on state-specific needs. Examples include web-based information resources; collaborating with other partners in

the development and delivery of professional learning; facilitating regional face-to-face and web-based meetings and webinars; partnering with state and national content experts to support the planning and implementation of long-term state-led reform initiatives; and participating as an active member in state and national advisory groups, panels, and committees.

MC3 TA strategies and activities address the capacity building priorities of Missouri. These strategies address (a) the educational goals and priorities of Missouri, including major reform efforts underway; (b) the current status of Missouri in meeting the requirements and goals of federal education law; (c) the types of TA and related strategies that would help districts and schools implement the programs and goals of ED priorities to close existing achievement gaps in the content areas; and (d) state and regional student demographics and other contextual factors, such as urban and rural locality. The ultimate goal is to build DESE's capacity to help districts and schools improve student learning.

Should Missouri receive this SPDG, MC3 will assist DESE in building a seamless, statewide, integrated TA service delivery system through these TA resources for DESE and Regional Professional Development Center (RPDC; intermediary agency) staff members.

We hope you are successful in receiving the SPDG and look forward to working in partnership with DESE's Division of Special Education.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Belinda Biscoe Boni".

Belinda Biscoe Boni, Ph.D.
MC3 Director
Associate Vice President
University of Oklahoma College of Continuing Education



August 29, 2012

Pam Williams
Coordinator, Special Education Services
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480
573-751-2965 (phone)
573-526-4404 (fax)

Dear Ms. Williams,

I am pleased that you have invited the North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC) to write a letter of support for Missouri's State Personnel Development Grant (CFDA 84.323A). We are excited that you are focusing your proposal on increasing state-wide capacity to provide high quality, ongoing professional development that improves the quality of education to support students to become proficient in the Common Core Standards.

The North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC) is a U.S. Department of Education-funded technical assistance center, providing technical assistance to eight (8) States in the Region 4 area on the requirements of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) 2004. Through this work, we focus on State-level efforts toward systemic reform and ongoing improvement and evaluation to meet the educational needs of children with disabilities. We would look forward to working with Missouri to implement the activities outlined in your proposal. In particular, NCRRC will collaborate with you to organize, track and display data that will allow you to measure the fidelity of implementation and impact of professional development. In addition, NCRRC is poised to provide tools and strategies to Missouri that support collaboration across groups and systems. Teachers can no longer afford to work by themselves to meet the needs of students. Because of this, the North Central Regional Resource Center (NCRRC) has developed *Thinking Through Collaboration* to help all educators understand to components of effective collaboration while utilizing a five step decision-making process to ensure educational success for each and every infant, toddler, child, and youth from pre-primary through age 21 (P-21) or through completion of a high school diploma, whichever comes first.

In reviewing the grant's proposed activities, we are impressed by your multi-tiered approach to provide data-driven professional development to elementary schools with lower academic achievement or a higher discrepancy in achievement rates for students with and without disabilities that the state average. We welcome the opportunity to work with you on this important, collaborative work.

Thank you for the opportunity to be involved in your proposal. In the event that you are funded, we look forward to a collaboration between Missouri's SPDG and the North Central Regional Resource Center at the University of Minnesota. Wishing you the very best of luck in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



Michael N. Sharpe, Ph.D., Director
North Central Regional Resource Center

August 22, 2012

Dear Pam Williams,

We are very pleased to offer our support for your application to the OSEP State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG). Over the past five years, the KU Center for Research on Learning has had the opportunity to provide external evaluation of the Missouri SPDG, and partner with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education personnel and University of Missouri Kansas City to implement high quality professional development. The 2007-12 Missouri SPDG addressed key needs toward the goal of preparing students with disabilities to meet high academic and behavioral expectations within the Regional Professional Development Center (RPDC) framework, and the new project will further these efforts.

The proposed 2012-17 SPDG will build on previous professional development efforts and expand the implementation of evidence-based instructional practices that support students with disabilities to become college and career ready. We are extremely pleased to potentially partner with you in designing, implementing, and utilizing evaluation data to continue to improve the professional development offered through the RPDCs. Further, we will help support the integration of these efforts into the Statewide System of Support (SSOS) to ensure sustainability beyond grant funding.

As part of the proposed SPDG evaluation, we will partner with the SPDG professional development providers, experts in the field, the UMKC project coordination team, and DESE leadership to scale up the implementation of evidence-based instructional practices across the state. We will also collect, analyze, and report data that will support ongoing improvements within the self-correcting feedback loops. The large-scale implementation of the proposed SPDG will address the needs of educators to support students, particularly students with disabilities, to meet high academic standards and succeed in the general education classroom.

We are pleased to offer our support and stand ready to partner and assist in the 2012-17 SPDG.

Sincerely,



Patricia Noonan, Ph.D.
Assistant Research Professor



Institute for Human Development
A University Center for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities
(UCEDD)

August 28, 2012

Pam Williams, Coordinator of Services
Office of Special Education
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
PO Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dr. Ms. Williams,

Please accept this letter as my commitment to partner with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) providing research, development, and implementation expertise to the State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG).

During our work together on the prior SPDG, we experienced many successes as well as challenges. I am excited about the opportunity to continue our work by building on what we know "works" and designing innovation to address the challenges. I share your commitment to improving the breadth, depth, and reach of professional development in Missouri. With the groundwork established through the prior SPDG and the recent innovations applied to the Statewide System of Support, Missouri is well-poised for addressing the project goals and objectives.

It is my honor and pleasure to partner with DESE.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronda Jenson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ronda Jenson, PhD
Director of Research, Institute for Human Development
University of Missouri-Kansas City
Kansas City, MO 64108



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August 24, 2012

Dear Pam,

This letter is to confirm my partnership with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to serve as a member of the agency's State Personnel Development Grant's Implementation Advisory Team.

I understand that your SPDG is designed to address two goals and related objectives. Overall, it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

I fully support the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives that are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As a major part of your proposal, I am very glad to see that you are incorporating the principles of effective implementation research and will be happy to enter into a partnership with you as a consultant for your project in the areas of implementation and coaching.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Blase, PhD
Senior Scientist and Co-Director
SISEP Center and NIRN

August 26, 2012

Ms. Pam Williams
Coordinator, Special Education Services
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Dear Pam,

This letter is to confirm my partnership with the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to serve as a member of the agency's State Personnel Development Grant's Implementation Advisory Team.

I understand that your SPDG is designed to address two goals and related objectives. Overall, it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

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Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As Director for Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative (MiBLSi) I have been working for several years on the use of implementation science to initiate, integrate and scale-up statewide initiatives. I am very glad to see that you are incorporating the principles of effective implementation research into your grant and will be happy to enter into a partnership with you as a consultant for your project in the area of effective implementation practices.

Sincerely,



Steve Goodman, Ph.D.

Director, Michigan's Integrated Behavior and Learning Support Initiative

Edelman Training and Development Services

Larry Edelman, MS

1355 S. Downing St.
Denver, CO 80210
(303) 522-5793
larry.edelman@ucdenver.edu

August 27, 2012

Pam Williams
Coordinator, Special Education Services
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Dear Pam,

I am writing to confirm my partnership with the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to serve as a member of the agency's State Personnel Development Grant's Implementation Advisory Team.

I fully support the SPDG's goals and their accompanying objectives that are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards, and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

I am particularly pleased that you are incorporating technology into your project to ensure effective and efficient delivery of Professional Development (PD), including coaching and evaluation of fidelity of implementation and for efficient sharing of PD resources. I look forward to entering into a partnership with you as a consultant for your project.

Sincerely,



Larry Edelman,
Consultant

The Leadership and Learning Center*

Dear Pam,

This letter is to confirm my partnership with the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education to serve as a member of the agency's State Personnel Development Grant's Implementation Advisory Team.

I understand that your SPDG is designed to address two goals and related objectives. Overall, it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

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Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

I am very glad to see that you are incorporating the work of Dr. John Hattie in your proposal, as well as data teams, data-based decision making, teacher/leader effectiveness and collaborative cultures. I look forward to entering into a partnership with you as a member of the Implementation Advisory Team for your project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian A. McNulty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line above the name.

Brian A. McNulty Ph. D.
Vice President, Leadership Development
The Leadership and Learning Center
317 Inverness Way South, Suite 150
Englewood, CO 80112
303. 819. 1625 (cell)

August 29, 2012

Office of Special Education
Pam Williams
PO Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102



RE: Letter of support

Dear Pam,

It is my understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education, and that it is expected that the SPDG activities will have an impact on student progress and achievement, which results in improved performance for all students but especially students with disabilities.

I also understand the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Core Academic Standards, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan as follows:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the Coordinator for the Part C program in Missouri, I am interested in ensuring that the Part C of IDEA and Part B of IDEA systems are aligned. I am especially interested in ensuring that the training that we do in the Part C program meets standards for high quality and that early intervention services are preparing infants/toddlers and their families for a smooth transition into the early childhood system at age three.

I am submitting this letter of partnership with Part B to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership, the Part C program commits to incorporating the principles of high quality professional development into all of our PD activities and participating in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG, wherever appropriate.

I support the goals of this SPDG application and hope your office is successful in receiving the grant. The Part C program looks forward to working in partnership with the Part B in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pam Thomas".

Pam Thomas
Coordinator

August 29, 2012

U.S. Department of Education
Office of SPECIAL Education & Rehabilitative Services
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

I support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

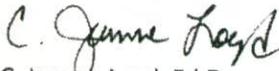
As the Assistant Commissioner for the Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services at the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, I can attest to the fact that our Office, and the Department as a whole, is dedicated to ensuring that all teachers and school leaders are prepared to provide the best educational experience possible to Missouri students, including students with disabilities, so they may have a smooth transition from school to postsecondary education, training and employment. My Office, and the Department, recognizes the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher and leader effectiveness. As the Assistant Commissioner of the Office responsible for vocational rehabilitation services, I am submitting this letter of support and partnership with the Office of Special Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG.

As part of that partnership our office commits to the following:

1. Collaborating with the SPDG leadership team and SPDG PD planning committee(s) to facilitate alignment and implementation of the principles/goals of the SPDG with work that is occurring in the Office of Adult Learning and Rehabilitation Services,
2. Incorporating the principles of high quality professional development into all of our Office's PD activities, and;
3. Participating in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG.

I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. My Office looks forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely,



C. Jeanne Loyd, Ed.D.
Assistant Commissioner

August 31, 2012

Ms. Pam Williams
Coordinator
Office of Special Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
P.O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Dear Ms. Williams:

Please accept this letter of support for the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's (DESE) Office of Special Education's application for a State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) from the U.S. Department of Education.

I am submitting this letter not only for the Department, but also as a tangible endorsement on behalf of DESE's executive leadership team, which includes the Deputy Commissioner and the Assistant Commissioners for the Offices of Quality Schools, Data System Management, Educator Quality, and College and Career Readiness.

The collaboration among the offices within DESE provides valuable resources and integrated support in our effort to implement Missouri's Top 10 by 20 strategic plan and goals:

- All Missouri students will graduate college and career ready.
- All Missouri children will enter kindergarten prepared to be successful in school.
- Missouri will prepare, develop, and support effective educators.

The SPDG proposal is aligned with DESE's Top 10 by 20 goals, including the Missouri Core Academic Standards and the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards, and is designed to address two targets and related activities that will have an impact on student progress and achievement.

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

The results will reflect improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

Ms. Pam Williams
Page 2
August 31, 2012

The DESE executive leadership team is dedicated to ensuring that all teachers and school leaders are prepared to provide the best educational experiences possible in order to achieve high levels of educational outcomes for all students, including students with disabilities, in the state of Missouri.

DESE recognizes the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher and leader effectiveness. This grant has the potential to implement a system of high quality professional development throughout the state and ultimately, impact every teacher, leader and student.

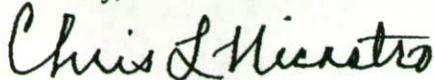
This letter of support attests to all DESE offices partnering with the Office of Special Education to achieve the goals of this SPDG. As part of that partnership, DESE commits to the following:

- A staff member from each office in DESE will assist the SPDG leadership team and SPDG professional development planning committee(s) to facilitate alignment and implementation of the Top 10 by 20 goals with the SPDG principles/goals and the work that is occurring throughout the entire DESE.
- The incorporation of the principles of high quality professional development into all DESE professional development activities, and;
- All DESE offices will participate in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG.

DESE is poised to work on the targets and activities outlined in the SPDG application which are closely aligned to its Top 10 by 20 goals.

DESE is pleased to support the Office of Special Education's proposal and ensures all DESE offices will work together to improve outcomes for Missouri students.

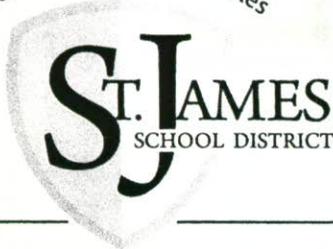
Sincerely,



Chris L. Nicastro
Commissioner of Education

c: Stephen Barr, Assistant Commissioner, Office of Special Education

Learning: Whatever it Takes



St. James R-1 School District

122 E. Scioto

St. James, MO 65559

Phone: 573-265-2300

Fax: 573-265-6126

stjschools.org

August 31, 2012

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement.

I support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Core Academic Standards, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan.

As the Superintendent of a small rural school district in Missouri that is dedicated to improving the educational outcomes for all students, including students with disabilities, I recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher and leader effectiveness. Our district has committed to participating with the Statewide System of Support (SSOS) in implementing a targeted set of activities to (1) improve teaching and learning practices in the classroom, (2) improve the use of data for making instructional decisions in the district, buildings and classrooms, (3) develop and implement formative assessments so that students' progress can be frequently monitored and necessary adjustments to instruction made, and (4) developing collaborative data teams.

As a partner district that is committed to implementing activities consistent with the goals of this SPDG, I am submitting this letter of support to the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education this grant. I heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. We look forward to working in partnership with the Department in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joy Tucker', written in a cursive style.

Joy Tucker

Superintendent



Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education
John Heskett, Ed.D. Executive Director

August 16, 2012

Dr. Stephen Barr
Assistant Commissioner
Office of Special Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
PO Box 480
Jefferson City, Mo 65109

Re: State Personnel Development Grant

Dear Dr. Barr:

It is our understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. We fully support the goals of the grant, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

Further, we support the premise that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

The Missouri Council of Administrators of Special Education is dedicated to improving the educational outcomes for students with disabilities and we recognize the importance that high quality, on-going professional development plays in improving and maintaining teacher effectiveness. MO-CASE provides extensive PD opportunities to our membership and others throughout the state.

316 Cheval Square Dr. Chesterfield, Mo. 63005
john.heskett@att.net 314.660.2333

We are submitting this letter of support for MO DESE's grant submission. Furthermore, with this letter we commit to a partnership with MO DESE for implementation of the planning and execution of the grant. As part of that partnership our organization commits to the following:

1. Including a member of the SPDG leadership team on our PD planning committee(s) to facilitate alignment and implementation of the principles/goals of the SPDG,
2. Providing a member of MO-CASE to serve on the SPDG Leadership Team to fully participate in the planning, execution and evaluation of the grant activities,
3. Incorporating the principles of high quality professional development into all of our organization's PD activities,
4. Evaluating the impact of our PD activities and providing the results of that evaluation to the Office of Special Education, and;
5. Participating in the evaluation activities of the Missouri SPDG.

We heartily endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant. We look forward to working in partnership with the Office of Special Education in this endeavor.

Sincerely:


John B. Heskett, Ed.D.
Executive Director

MISSOURI SPECIAL EDUCATION ADVISORY PANEL

*Advising the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on
Implementation of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*

August 30, 2012

Chair

Dr. Jerry Neal

Vice Chair

Angela Brown

Secretary

Dr. Patricia Kopetz

Ms. Pam Williams, Coordinator
Office of Special Education
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Dear Ms. Williams:

It is our understanding that the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education is applying for a State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) that is designed to address two goals and related objectives. We have been informed that, overall, it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

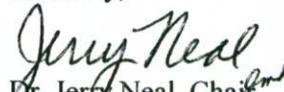
We further understand that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As the State Special Education Advisory Panel (SEAP), an organization that is dedicated to advising the State Education Agency on services and outcomes for students with disabilities, we would like to express our support for this SPDG grant which we believe will provide high quality, on-going professional development to Local Education Agency staff in order for them to improve and maintain instructional effectiveness with the ultimate goal of improving outcomes for students with disabilities.

Sincerely,


Dr. Jerry Neal, Chair

Special Education Advisory Panel



Department of Special Education
University of Missouri- Columbia

303 Townsend Hall
Columbia, MO 65211-2120
Phone (573) 882-3741
Fax (573) 884-0520

Dear Ms. Williams and Ms. Scott,

I am pleased to offer my support to your project

I understand that the State Personnel Develop Grant (SPDG) is designed to address two goals and related objectives. I also understand that it is expected that the activities of the SPDG will have an impact on student progress and achievement which results in improved performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general education environment,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

It is certainly of benefit that the following SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned to the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As an institution of Higher Education in our state that provides both pre-service and post-graduate programs to Missouri educators, I am happy to partner with you as we work to improve educational outcomes for Missouri's children. Please keep me updated on the status!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Erica Lembke, PhD".

Dr. Erica Lembke
Associate Professor, Department of Special Education
University of Missouri
lembkee@missouri.edu



Office of the Dean, College of Education
Lovinger 2190
Warrensburg, MO 64093
Office: 660-543-4272 FAX: 660-543-4167
www.ucmo.edu/ced

August 24, 2012

Pam Williams
Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education
P. O. Box 480
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480

Dear Pam,

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education, Office of Special Education's application for a State Personnel Development Grant (SPDG) from the US Department of Education. I have learned from my current work with your Office that the SPDG is designed to address two important goals and related objectives. I am pleased to be able to offer my support and assistance to the grant's work to impact student progress and achievement and improve performance for all students, but especially students with disabilities, including:

- Improved student achievement on academic measures,
- Improved access to the general curriculum,
- Increased levels of appropriate behavior, and
- Improved college and career readiness.

Because of my current work with the Department as the coordinator of the RTI Development Site Project, I am familiar with the Missouri Common Core, the Missouri Teacher and Leader Standards and the Missouri Top 10 X 20 plan. I am committed to ensuring that these SPDG goals and their accompanying objectives are aligned with this ongoing work:

Goal 1: Improve the educational achievement of all students, but especially students with disabilities through the development, implementation and evaluation of a system of high quality professional development, which includes training, technical assistance and coaching.

Goal 2: Increase and improve the use of technologies to support implementation of professional development and use of data for educational decision-making.

As researcher, technical assistance provider, and faculty member in an IHE that prepares future educators, I am distinctly aware of the importance of high quality, on-going professional development to improving and maintaining teacher and administrator effectiveness. I am happy to submit this letter in support of the Department of Elementary & Secondary Education's State Personnel Development Grant application. I endorse the goals of this SPDG application and hope you are successful in receiving the grant.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Holland". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "R".

Rebecca Holland, PhD
rholland@ucmo.edu

Missouri SPDG

Appendix D – Supplementary Information

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Goal 1: Objectives, Strategies, and Actions

GOAL 1: All Missouri students will graduate college and career ready.

- OBJECTIVE 1: The percentage of students:**
- A. Scoring at or above proficient level on National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) will increase by 1 percentage point at each test administration.
 - B. Scoring at or above proficient level on state assessments will increase each year to exceed 75% of students in all subgroups by 2020.
 - C. Scoring at or above the mean of the top 10 states on college and career ready assessments (e.g. ACT, SAT, COMPASS, ASVAB, TSA) will increase annually.

STRATEGY 1: Provide districts and schools access to curriculum resources necessary to ensure high quality instruction aligned to state, national and international standards.	Office & Person(s) Responsible	Timeline for Completion
<p>ACTION 1: Develop rigorous model curricula based on state standards that include the following components: course descriptions, unit outlines, measurable objectives, assessments (formative, interim benchmark and summative) and scoring guides, a variety of evidence-based instructional strategies, and instructional timelines.</p> <p>ACTION 2: Design professional development to support implementation of the rigorous model curricula.</p>		
STRATEGY 2: Promote quality teaching, leading, and learning by supporting a continuous improvement process and disseminating effective instructional practices.	Office & Person(s) Responsible	Timeline for Completion
<p>ACTION 1: Establish and apply appropriate measures of accountability to guide timely intervention strategies and improvement efforts based on best practices.</p> <p>ACTION 2: Identify, disseminate and support research-based models to guide school and district improvement.</p> <p>ACTION 3: Identify, disseminate and promote best practices.</p> <p>ACTION 4: Provide access to user-friendly data tools to make informed decisions.</p>		
OBJECTIVE 2: By 2020, all students will qualify for entrance into post secondary education/training.		
STRATEGY 1: Align policies and support with the demands of college and careers.	Office & Person(s) Responsible	Timeline for Completion
<p>ACTION 1: Develop incentives for districts to maintain a Personal Plan of Study for students in grades 7-12.</p> <p>ACTION 2: Promote the early identification of at-risk students and the use of effective intervention strategies.</p> <p>ACTION 3: Provide extended learning opportunities aligned with state standards to support positive academic and behavioral student outcomes.</p> <p>ACTION 4: Track meaningful indicators of college and career readiness in longitudinal data systems.</p> <p>ACTION 5: Identify Missouri future employment, skills and preparation needs and align policies to meet these needs</p>		