



ESEA FLEXIBILITY WAIVER REQUEST

January 12, 2012

Missouri Department
of Elementary and Secondary Education

Why Apply?

- Relief from restrictions and sanctions of No Child Left Behind (NCLB)
- Single System of Accountability
- Missouri Rules for Missouri Schools
- More autonomy and more focus



Missouri 2011 Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)

- 82.4% LEAs/districts did NOT meet
 - 290 LEAs in some level of corrective action
- 70.6% buildings did NOT meet
 - 663 Title I buildings receiving sanctions
 - 173 buildings in some level of Restructuring
- State takes on a larger responsibility for oversight of the district's improvement processes.

dese.mo.gov/qs/documents/qs-si-understanding-your-ayp.pdf



1,545 buildings did not meet AYP

■ 663 Title I buildings receiving sanctions

- Develop or revise a school improvement plan
- Provide technical assistance
- Parent Notification
- Offer Public School Choice (PSC)
- Spend not less than 10% of the building's Title I funds on professional development
- Include specified information on their web sites



Waiver Flexibility

■ An LEA would no longer be required to comply with the requirements in ESEA to identify "failing" schools

■ Neither the LEA nor its schools would be required to take currently required improvement actions

■ An LEA would be exempt from all administrative and reporting requirements related to school improvement under current law



Waiver Flexibility

■ The LEA and school do not need to take the required steps that accompany building identification

- developing and implementing a school improvement plan
- reserving funds for professional development
- providing public school choice
- providing supplemental educational services (SES)
- spending the requisite amount of funds on these activities



Waiver Requirements

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- Requires annual determinations of Adequate Yearly Progress
- Requires public identification of:
 - Priority Schools
 - Focus Schools
 - Reward Schools
- Incentives and supports in place of school improvement status and sanctions



NCLB 100% Proficient by 2014

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- Missouri's current 2012 AMOs
 - 75.5% to 83.7% in Communication Arts
 - 72.5% to 81.7% in Mathematics
- Multiple ways to "miss" targets
 - 10 subgroups
 - 5 indicators



Waiver Flexibility

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- State develops new ambitious BUT achievable AMOs in Communication Arts and Mathematics
- MSIP 5 scoring guide TAC currently underway



Single System of Accountability?

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Federal
(All students tested in grades 3-8 and once in high school)

State
(additional indicators)

Local
(formative assessment)

Highly Qualified Teachers

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- An LEA that does not meet its HQT targets (currently 185 LEAs) would no longer have to develop an improvement plan
- Flexibility in use of Title I and Title II funds
- Requires Annual Identification

Additional Flexibility

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- Title I 1003(a) and 1003(g) funds
- State awards program
- Limits on transferability of funds
- School-wide poverty threshold
- Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA) Program funds or Rural and Low-Income School Program funds

What the request is not...

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- > A retreat from accountability
- > A competition
- > A mandate



Flexibility from...?

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- > Ineffectual identification and determinations of schools
- > Restrictive use of federal funds supporting improvement
- > Requirements regarding highly-qualified teachers



Components of the Waiver Request

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Principle 1:

College and career ready expectations for all students

Principle 2:

State-developed differentiated recognition, accountability, and support

Principle 3:

Supporting Effective Instruction and Leadership



16 **Principle 1**

College and career ready expectations for all students



State Plan: Goals

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1. All Missouri students will graduate college- and career-ready
2. All Missouri children will enter kindergarten prepared to be successful in school.
3. Missouri will prepare, develop, and support effective educators.
4. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will improve departmental efficiency and operational effectiveness.



State Plan

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- 1. All Missouri students will graduate college- and career-ready**

Strategy 1: Provide districts and schools access to curriculum resources necessary to ensure high quality instruction aligned to state, national and international standards.

 - Develop rigorous model curricula based on state standards
 - Design professional development to support implementation of the rigorous model curricula



Principle 1:
College and Career-Ready Expectations

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- **Alignment and transition to college- and career-ready standards**
 - History and adoption of Common Core State Standard
 - Attention to special populations
 - WIDA
 - Access for ALL students



Principle 1:
College and Career-Ready Expectations

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- **Outreach to educators**
 - Initial professional development
 - Model curriculum
 - Professional resources
 - Training for leaders



Principle 1:
College and Career-Ready Expectations

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Collaboration with Higher Education

- **Standards alignment to aid transition**
 - Curriculum Alignment Initiative
 - Information alignment with Common Core State Standards
- **Implementing Common Core State Standards Team**
- **College Readiness Partnership**
 - Curriculum for K-12 students
 - Curriculum for pre-service teachers



Principle 1:
College and Career-Ready Expectations

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Next generation assessments

- SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium
- Dynamic Learning Maps
- Technology-enhanced items



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Principle 2

State-developed differentiated recognition, accountability, and support



Principle 2:
Recognition, Accountability and Support

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- History – state accountability system
- Development
- Implementation
- Annual Measureable Objectives
- District accreditation
 - Recognition
 - Intervention
- System of Support
 - Build district capacity to improve learning
 - More focused through one plan



Missouri School Improvement Program

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- Articulate the state's expectations for districts in driving actions for improving student achievement with the ultimate goal of all students graduating ready for success in college and careers;
- Distinguish performance of schools and districts in valid, accurate and meaningful ways so that districts in need of improvement can receive appropriate support and interventions to meet expectations, and high-performing districts can be recognized as models of excellence;
- Empower all stakeholders through regular communication and transparent reporting of clear data on performance and results, so they can take action appropriate to their roles; and
- Promote continuous improvement and innovation within each district on a statewide basis



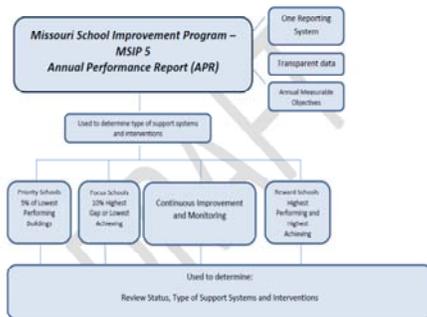
Single System of Accountability

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- Recognize high-performing and high-achieving buildings and districts
- Increase levels of SEA support for high priority and focus schools
- Close the achievement gap between student subgroups
- Align improvement efforts of schools and districts
- Coordinate federal requirements and state goals



Overview: Missouri's One Accountability System



Annual Measurable Objectives

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- MSIP 5
 - ▣ Steering Committee Meetings
 - ▣ Regional Meetings
 - ▣ Statewide Meetings
 - ▣ Technical Advisory Meetings



Regional Meetings: Intended Outcome of MO's Accountability System

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Identify Lowest 5% and Provide Drastic Intervention and Assistance	Ensure EVERY school is "Good Enough"	Ensure EVERY school Gets Better
0-1	3-1	18-1 Highest Priority
9-2 Second Priority	7-2	0-2
8-3 Third Priority	8-3 Third Priority	1-3



Regional Meetings: Design Decisions

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Decision	Spread	≤ 50%	50/50	≥ 50%
Status	0-70	8	6	3
Growth	30-100	3	6	8
Decision	Spread	≤ 50%	50/50	≥ 50%
Differentiated	5-100	7	0	10
Standardized	0-95	10	0	7
Decision	Spread	≤ 50%	50/50	≥ 50%
Simple/Transparent	0-75	12	5	1
Complex/Precise	25-100	1	5	12
Decision	Spread	≤ 50%	50/50	≥ 50%
Focused Dept. Resources	0-95	7	2	7
Dept. Resources for All	5-100	7	2	7

District Accreditation

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- Accredited with Distinction
- Accredited
- Provisionally Accredited
- Unaccredited

□ Priority, Focus, Reward Buildings



Statewide System of Support

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- Immediate
- Project management and instructional improvement support
- Monitoring based on outcomes
- Collaboration among stakeholders



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Principle 3

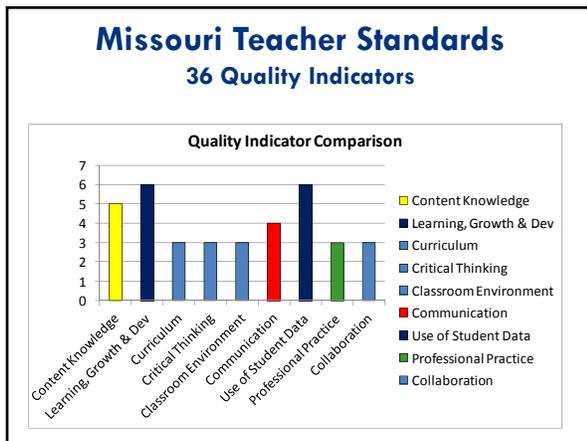
Effective Instruction and Leadership

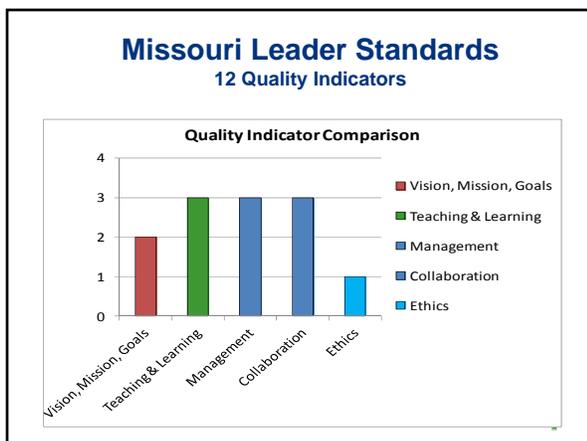


**Principle 3:
Effective Instruction and Leadership**

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- **Develop and Adopt Guidelines**
 - Standards ✓
 - Quality Indicators ✓
 - Professional Continuum ✓
 - Professional Frames and Rubrics ✓
- **Ensuring local LEA implementation**
 - Model evaluation system - *ongoing*
 - Pilot projects field-testing essential components
 - Available for district adoption, summer 2012
 - Minimum guidelines to ensure effectiveness - *ongoing* 





Missouri Model Educator Standards Pilot Project

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Pilot Projects and Field-Testing



Principle 3 Does Essential Components of Effective Evaluation Systems

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- Is aligned to research-based performance targets
- Includes a minimum of 3 performance levels (ideally 4 or maybe 5)
- Highlights the importance of probationary period
 - > Includes multiple observations/evaluations and deliberate feedback
- Uses student performance measures and evidence of student learning
 - > As a "preponderant" criterion, it "significantly" informs evaluation
- Provides ongoing, regular, timely and meaningful feedback for all
 - > Theory of Action: Everyone at every level grows every year
- Includes ongoing training for evaluators to ensure rating reliability
- Use results/data to inform personnel decisions, determinations and policy
 - > Identifies who is in need of targeted interventions (includes timeframes)
 - > Identifies who has earned recognition, tenure and/or compensation



Questions & Answers

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The screenshot shows the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home' and 'Quality Schools'. Below this is a search bar and a main heading: 'No Child Left Behind Flexibility Waiver'. The main content area contains several news items, including 'The U.S. Department of Education is inviting all states to apply for a flexibility waiver for how they will meet certain federal accountability requirements for our public education system...' and 'Department Invites Public Input to Draft Missouri ESEA Flexibility Waiver'. A sidebar on the left lists various categories like 'Missouri Office of Quality Schools', 'A+ Schools', 'Accountability & Assessment', etc. At the bottom of the screenshot, there is a blue banner with the number '43' and the text 'Review and Feedback'. Below the banner, it says 'On the Web: dese.mo.gov/qs/esea-waiver.html' and 'Email: esea@dese.mo.gov'.
