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TO: Members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Lillian M. Lowery, Ed.D. *Lillian M. Lowery*
DATE: April 23, 2013
SUBJECT: Race to the Top Project Update

PURPOSE:

To provide the State Board of Education a high-level assessment of the current status of the MSDE's 54 projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

MSDE wishes to provide the State Board of Education with a monthly assessment of its 54 projects. Each project has a Project Manager assigned to it and a Program Director who is responsible for supervising the progress of it along with an Executive Sponsor (Assistant State Superintendent). The status of each project differs based on a wide variety of circumstances. A project that is on schedule during one month may be behind schedule two months later due to the loss of a key staff member, delay in amendment approval, delay in procurement, etc. The attached document provides the State Board with staff's current analysis of each project according to the following scoring guidelines:

- 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required;
- 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention;
- 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention;
and
- 4 = on-track with high quality.

ACTION:

Information Only

Attachment

Monthly Project Report by Assurance Area (April 2013)

Note: The first project # is the one assigned by USDE staff after Maryland's submission. The second project # is Maryland's original budget number. The rating assigned means the following: 1 = substantially off-track and/or has significant quality concerns; urgent and decisive action is required; 2 = off-track and/or there are quality concerns; many aspects require significant attention; 3 = generally on-track and of high or good quality; only a few aspects require additional attention; 4 = on-track with high quality.

General	Rating	Comments (if rating is a 1 or 2)
1/78: Office of Academic Reform and Innovation	3	
2/1: Program Evaluation	3	
Standards and Assessments	Rating	Comments (if rating is a 1 or 2)
3/2: Formative Assessments	2	After meeting with USDE, it has been agreed that MSDE will meet the goals and performance measures of the original scope of work for this project. The project team is developing two amendments and revising the project schedule to reflect the work that needs to be completed to enable the project to be on track.
4/3: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development	3	
5/4: Curriculum and Formative Assessment Development for ITEEA	4	
6/76: Curriculum and Assessment Development CTE-SREB	3	
7/5: World Languages Pipeline	4	
Data Systems		
8/11: Develop Overall Technology Infrastructure	3	
9/27: Accessing and Using State Data-Dashboards	3	
10/28: Multi-Media Training	3	
11/29: LEA System Application and Infrastructure Upgrades	4	
12/60: Expansion to LDS - Data Exchange	4	
13/61: Enhancement to LDS - Develop Workforce Data Warehouse and Center	4	
14/31: Develop and Implement a State Curriculum System	3	
15/07: Expand Instructional Toolkit	3	

16/20: STEM Instructional and Career Support	3	
17/32: Implement a Test Item Bank System	3	
18/33: Implement a Computer-Adaptive Test Delivery System	3	
19/34: Item Load and Integration Setup for Test Item Bank System	3	
20/35: Adaptive Testing Units for High Schools	3	
21/42: Implement a Statewide System to Support Student Instructional Intervention	2	Cost to procure and maintain a centralized system is prohibitive. Discussed in March 2013 DC meeting with USDE where they requested additional information. Amendment is currently being prepared for Core Team for final review and approval prior to delivery to USDE.
22/6: Develop Online Instructional Intervention Modules	4	
23/55: Develop Framework for Teacher Toolkit Portal	4	
24/56: Develop and Implement Course Registration System	4	
25/10: MSDE-IHE Teacher Preparation Workgroup	3	
26/43: Implement a System to Support E-Learning for Instructional Intervention, Enhancement, and Enrichment	4	
27/46: Equating of MSA for Use on Growth Model	NR	Project Complete
Great Teachers and Leaders	Rating	Comments (if rating is a 1 or 2)
28/47: Develop and Implement a Statistical Model to Measure Student Growth	4	
29/48: Develop and Implement an Educator Evaluation System (Calculation Engine)	2	Field test simulations have been concluded and fidelity visits have been completed and documented. WestEd has begun the process for the greater TPE analysis. Technical assistance to LEAs continues and is providing encouraging feedback on the state measures. Work on the 2013-2014 Comprehensive Professional Development Plan (TPE, CCSS, & PARCC) has commenced along with the aligning of resources and calendars to support the plan. The final submission date for local TPE plans was extended to June 7 at the request of Superintendents; placing the TPE project work ahead of schedule.
30/49: Expand Educator Information System to Accommodate Additional Data	4	
31/13: Building Leadership Capacity in Low-	4	

Achieving Urban and Rural Districts			
32/73: Teach for Maryland	3		
33/50: Compensation to Teachers and Principals in Lowest 5% Schools	3		
34/51: Compensation Incentives for Teachers in Shortage Areas	3		
35/26: Elementary STEM Certification	3		
36/75: LEAs, Providers, and IHEs (U Teach Maryland)	3		
37/54: International Partnerships to Recruit Teachers in Critical Needs Areas	NR		Project closed in 2012
38/53: Incentives for Teachers who Obtain ESOL Certification	4		
39/25 Teacher Induction Academies	4		
40/15: Professional Development for Executive Officers	4		
41/24: Educator Effectiveness Academies	4		
42/17: Priority Schools Academy	4		
43/21: Develop Online PD on Educator Instructional Improvement Content	3		
Lowest-Achieving Schools	Rating	Comments (if rating is a 1 or 2)	
44/41: The Breakthrough Center	4		
45/67: RITA Team Audits	NR		Audits completed in Priority schools as of July 1, 2012
46/57: Extend Student Learning and Improve School Culture, Climate, and Support	2		Since the last reporting, the content and process for the 5-day summer institute has been completed. The plans for the summer institute were presented to and endorsed by BCPS leadership. They are in the process of identifying which schools will participate. The presentation to PGCPS had to be postponed due to inclement weather, and the new date is being identified. The hiring of individuals who will comprise the School Culture and Climate Team is in progress.
47/45: Coordinated Student Services	3		
48/69: School Health Services	3		
49/63: Physical Activity	3		
50/58: Extended Learning	3		
51/71: Project Lead the Way – Gateway to Technology	3		

52/77: Primary Talent Development	3	
53/44: Charter Schools	2	<p>Prince George's County Public Schools has identified the Chesapeake Math and IT Academy for replication (replicating the current 6-8 program at another location) through an RFP process. At this time, the superintendent has approved and confirmed this school for replication. However, discussions are also taking place for the expansion of a second school into a high school model. All decisions will be made by the end April and the County has indicated that they will be ready to complete the MOU in May 2013.</p>
Other	Rating	Comments (if rating is a 1 or 2)
54/79: Implement Statewide Centralized Student Transcript System	3	