

**OFFICE OF SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT, OVERSIGHT AND RECOVERY**  
**Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items**  
**May 20, 2011**

**OFFICE OF SCHOOL RECOVERY**

06. Approval to award grant dollars in support of local improvement efforts for the persistently lowest-achieving schools in the State as authorized under Section 1003(g) of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965*

Purpose: To provide school improvement funds to local educational agencies (LEAs) reserved under the *American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009* (ARRA) as authorized for activities under Section 1003(g) of the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965* (ESEA) for the purpose of allocating adequate resources to schools and districts with the greatest need and those that exhibit the strongest commitment to substantially raising student achievement in the persistently lowest-achieving schools in the state.

Scope of Grant:

- Grant Period: July 1, 2011 – September 30, 2014
- Award Amount: \$19,492,899
- Method of Award: Competitive Applications
- Funding Source: School Improvement Grants, Recovery Act and School Improvement Grants

Summary of Selection Process:

Intent to Submit Application Form Due	January 14, 2011
Technical Assistance Meeting for Potential Grantees	February 15, 2011
Methodology Approved	February 18, 2011
Issuance of Application	February 18, 2011
Applications Due	March 25, 2011
Evaluation of Applications	March 29, 2011 – April 4, 2011
Interviews	April 18, 2011
Number of Applications Received:	14
Number of Applications Recommended for Approval:	5

<u>Scoring Criteria:</u>	<u>Maximum Points</u>
LEA Plan Overview:	48 points
School Proposal:	
Turnaround	221 points
Transformation	239 points
Closure	58 points
Budget:	28 points

Interview:

LEAs must earn 65% of the points in each of the three parts in order to advance to the interview round. Districts that demonstrate in the interview that they have the capacity and commitment to successfully meet the grant requirements will be recommended for funding.

Criteria for Continuation Grant: Grantees must complete a continuation application. MDE will make grant renewal decisions for each school based on whether the school has met its annual performance targets. MDE may grant exceptions to this rule only if highly unusual, extenuating circumstances occur, such as a natural disaster in the course of a school year.

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up material attached