

# OFFICE OF SCHOOL SUPPORT

MAY • 2016



Superintendents and Principals,

The financial crisis continues to be a focus around our state, and each OSDE Federal Program is dedicated to providing districts their reimbursement dollars in a timely manner. In an effort to ensure sites have immediate access to School Improvement Funds, School Support will release SY15 allocations on July 1, 2016. Waiting until July 1st will prevent the new allocation from getting caught up in the FY15 closeout and carryover process. With an approved FY17 Schoolwide/School Improvement Plan and Budget, the FY15 allocation can be processed and claimed beginning July 1st. Sites with a Priority Designation will receive an allocation in the amount of \$20,600. Sites with a 3rd year Focus Designation will receive \$5,000 and sites with a 4th year Focus Designation will receive \$8,000. Remember, the purpose of these funds is to meet the academic needs of the lowest achieving students through educational supports, resources, and professional development.

As the school year comes to an end, please remember the Office of School Support continues to provide site visits with supports and resources throughout the summer. If you are looking to start the new school year off in August with specialized professional development, be sure and give your regional specialist a call. We are happy to develop trainings that meet the individual needs of your site and district.

Congratulations to all the 2016 Graduates!!!

**Desarae Witmer**  
Executive Director

## NEW TEAM MEMBER!

Elizabeth Warren comes to us from within the OSDE building, having last served as an ELL Program Specialist in the Office of Curriculum and Instruction. She will serve as one of two Focus School Specialists, and her role will have a particular emphasis on working with English Language Learners. Prior to coming to OSDE, Elizabeth taught at California State University, Fresno, East Central University in Ada, and OSU-OKC before serving for 7 years as Mustang Public Schools' Secondary ELL Specialist.



**REGISTER  
HERE**

**July 18-19  
Broken Arrow**

**July 20  
Sallisaw**

**July 21  
Durant**

**July 25-26  
Edmond**

**July 27  
Woodward**

**July 28  
Lawton**

## 515 VS 511 FUNDS: WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE?

As LEAs begin to develop budgets for the upcoming school year, schools with a Priority Designation or schools that are in their 3rd or 4th year Focus Designation may be asking, "What is the difference between Project 515 funds (School Improvement) and 511 funds (Title I)?" ESEA provides guidance in Section 1003(g)(1) regarding states' ability to provide support to schools with an academic designation. Section 1116 states that schools shall come up with strategies that:

*"...will strengthen the core academic subjects in the school and address the specific academic issues that caused the school to be identified for school improvement" [ESEA, Sec.1116(b)(3)(A)(i)].*

While 511 funds may be flexibly used in schoolwide schools to upgrade the entire educational program, 515 funds have the unique purpose of strengthening the core academic subjects used in student assessments, and addressing the specific academic issue that determined the school receive a specific designation.

## FY16 END OF THE YEAR CHECK LIST FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT

- Items purchased with 515 funds have been labeled "515 FY16."
  - For SIG Schools, "SIG FY16."
- Items purchased have been added to the site/district inventory.
  - Needed in case of an emergency for insurance purposes.
- June 1st is the deadline for FY16 claims for reimbursement within FY16. Claims submitted after the June 1st deadline may not be processed and reimbursed before June 30, 2016.
  - FY16 Claims will be accepted until August 1, 2016.
  - FY16 Claims received after August 1, 2016 will be considered LATE and will require special justification on the LEA's part.
- Non-Essential changes to FY16 budgets and applications may not be made to applications after June 30, 2016.

## UPDATE! FY17 PROJECT 515 BUDGET AND SCHOOLWIDE/SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

These trainings are focused on the budget component, and all school officials who are a part of that process should attend. You can register here: <https://oksdeevents.webex.com>

Tuesday, May 24th	1:00 PM	Tuesday, August 30th	1:00 PM
Wednesday, June 15th	9:00 AM	Wednesday, September 7th	9:00 AM
Tuesday, July 12th	1:00 PM	Tuesday, September 20th	1:00 PM
Thursday, August 4th	9:00 AM		

## SPOTLIGHT! ACSD SPRING CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Thousands of educators across the U.S. and abroad (and 4 OSS specialists) attended the ASCD conference in Atlanta, GA from April 2- 4. Both general session keynotes and break-out sessions carried the theme of meeting the needs of the *Whole Child*. The five tenets of the Whole Child include:

- Healthy
- Engaged
- Challenged
- Safe
- Supported

Below is a partial list of some of the keynote speakers and a link providing a snapshot of their work:

Alan Blankstein: *Failure Is Not An Option*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Rm4NTBlANBw>

Pedro Noguera: *Are We Failing Our Children?*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uSehZPz2NoY>

Pete Hall: *Building Teacher's Capacity for Success*

<http://www.samsconnect.com/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/Bldg-Teachers-Capacity-ppt.pdf>

Carol Dweck: *Growth Mindset*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hiiEeMN7vbQ>

Manny Scott: *Freedom Writers*

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTzzDm\\_e-Cc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BTzzDm_e-Cc)

Mike Schmoker: *Get Back to Basics*

<http://www.ascd.org/ascd-express/vol6/608-schmoker-abstract.aspx>

### About ASCD

ASCD (Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development) is a professional organization that focuses on learning, teaching, and leading. Membership benefits include:

- Research-based, tested products
- Access to conferences and institutes
- Subscription to Educational Leadership magazine
- Education Update monthly newsletter
- Unlimited access to more than 15,000 online tools, resources, peer communities and networks

Learn more at [www.ascd.org/membership](http://www.ascd.org/membership) or the Oklahoma affiliate (OASCD) [www.oascd.org](http://www.oascd.org).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR 3RD AND 4TH YEAR DESIGNATED SITES

- SY14 Designations: Designation for the 3rd year: 15 hours of Professional Development attended from June 2015-July 2016. These opportunities are at the discretion of the site and the district instructional leader. Documentation should be submitted by October 1, 2016, to the Regional School Support Specialists or the Focus Designation School Support Specialist.
- SY15 Designation: Designation for the 3rd/4th year: 15 hours of Professional Development attended from June 2016-July 2017. These opportunities are at the discretion of the site and district instructional leader. Documentation should be submitted by October 1, 2017, to the Regional School Support Specialists or the Focus Designation School Support Specialist.

## SISR AND JUNE 30TH

The School Improvement Status Report (SISR) is available through the Single Sign On account. All designated schools (with the exception of sites designated "Focus" for Graduation Rate) will be required to submit data on this application. The report tabs that are due on June 30, 2016, include the **Consultation**, **End-of-Year** and **Final Report**.

## SPOTLIGHT / ENID PUBLIC SCHOOLS

*What do you think is making the biggest impact for increased student achievement?*

### **Coolidge Elementary / Jennifer Cruz, Principal**

Over the last four years, Coolidge has experienced quite a few changes that have increased student achievement. The first and greatest change we made was the school-wide implementation of the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support (PBIS) model. By first creating an orderly and more structured environment for students, we began to change the culture of the building to one that focused on student needs and learning, rather than convenience for teachers. Once we began to change the culture, we began to focus more on improving academics. We began a daily intervention time for each student, every day. Students go to either intervention to work on reading skills or they go to enrichment to further enhance their reading and math skills. Finally, we entered into a partnership with Coach-a-Kid through the United Way and began placing mentors with some of our most in need students. Currently we have about 30 students who have mentors and are looking forward to placing an additional 20 next year.



By changing our culture, focusing on student learning, and giving students an additional caring adult in their lives, we are truly making great strides in our academics. At Coolidge, we believe that we must teach students how to be disciplined, provide them with targeted small group instruction, and give them positive role models if we are going to produce productive, contributing citizens in the future. Every day is a great day to be a Coolidge Colt!

### **Garfield Elementary / Jane Johnson, Principal**

In the last two years Garfield has experienced excellent growth in both our students and our staff. We began with a focus on increasing morale for teachers and for students. All of our teachers have completed Great Expectations training and we consistently implement the seventeen research based best practices for the classroom. Paired with the eight expectations for student behavior, our school has seen a dramatic decrease in office referrals and suspensions resulting in more learning time for students.



The faculty at Garfield set a goal for focused professional development in literacy. To assist in fulfilling this goal, the district instructional coaches provided professional development in the foundations of reading instruction. In addition, the entire faculty was trained in LETRS Foundations. Teachers have also participated in Professional Learning Community training from Solution Tree and training in English Language Learners provided by the National Education Association. Ongoing professional support is provided by our instructional coach.

Garfield teachers spend a minimum of one hour each week in Professional Learning Communities. During this time we focus on student achievement and data. Our conversations help build a collaborative spirit and collective responsibility for the growth of all of our Garfield Wildcats. Our data conversations focus on STAR Early Literacy, STAR Reading, STAR Math, Literacy First and teacher created formative assessments. Teacher teams determine, based on this data, which students may need intervention on a particular skill or strategy.

Garfield implements schoolwide intervention for everyone to ensure that we are teaching by student and by standard. Our intervention team uses scientific, research based, best practices to engage students in mastering the pre-requisite skills that are required in reading and math. Classroom teachers, in addition, provide reteach opportunities on grade level material.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Garfield is fortunate to have a very diverse student population. The unique talents and knowledge of these students create opportunities for multicultural learning for all students. As a faculty, we are also challenged with providing many of our students with language acquisition instruction. Fifty percent of our student body participates in a dedicated language acquisition intervention carried out by our intervention team.

As everyone in education knows, a community partnership is critical to the success of schools. Our primary community partner is St. Mary's Regional Medical Center. St. Mary's assists us in meeting some of the most basic needs of our students. With ninety-eight percent of our students qualifying for free and reduced lunch, St. Mary's fulfills an important role for our school. They support students by providing school supplies, attendance incentives such as t-shirts, beanies and water bottles, and healthcare education. St. Mary's supports teachers with a weekly classroom volunteer, wish list gifts, and in partnership with our local Vo-tech, nursing students who also spend volunteer hours at Garfield gain pediatric experience in our classrooms. Additional community partners include our high school basketball teams who work with students twice monthly, and three local churches that provide additional volunteers and teacher recognition.

Garfield is growing and changing every day. Our students are learning, our teachers are teaching, and our community partners are invested in our efforts. We look forward to continued growth and achievement in years to come.

### Longfellow Middle School/Scott Fitzgerald, Principal

- RTI time built in to the school day and additional time on Saturday
- Rotation of students during intervention times
- Tests that show mastery on standards
- Re-testing opportunities along with re-teaching
- Intervention teachers monitoring student test scores and using that data to drive their instruction
- Conferencing with students one-on-one about test scores
- Peer tutoring, using students that show mastery to help students that are not at mastery



### CONTACT INFORMATION

**Desarae Witmer, M.Ed. / Executive Director**  
desarae.witmer@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-3263

**Beth Steele, M.Ed. / SIG Turnaround Director**  
beth.steele@sde.ok.gov / (405) 521-2809

**Zada A. Farris / Grants Consultant**  
zada.farris@sde.ok.gov / (405) 521-4269

**Janie Stewart / Division Support Coordinator**  
janie.stewart@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-0140

**Nicholas Clayton, M.A. / Specialist**  
nicholas.clayton@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-1476

**Stephanie Schutt, M.A. / Specialist**  
stephanie.schutt@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-1493

**Jan Foreman, M.Ed. / Specialist**  
jan.foreman@sde.ok.gov / (580) 618-1000

**VaRhea Owens-Hopkins, M.Ed. / Specialist**  
varhea.owens-hopkins@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-8299

**Tina Spence, M.Ed. / Specialist**  
tina.spence@sde.ok.gov / (405) 521-4513

**Janel Cypert, M.Ed. / Specialist**  
janel.cypert@sde.ok.gov / (405) 521-2841

**Deborah Cornelison, M.Ed. / Specialist**  
deborah.cornelison@sde.ok.gov / (580) 421-5405

**Elizabeth Warren, M.F.A. / Specialist**  
elizabeth.warren@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-5073

**Beta Noel, M.Ed. / School Support Consultant**  
beta.noel@sde.ok.gov / (405) 522-0140

**Dr. Jill Shackelford, Ed.D. / School Support Consultant**  
jillshackelford@me.com / (405) 522-0140

**Linda Hibbs, M.Ed. / School Support Consultant**  
linda.hibbs@sbcglobal.net / (405) 522-0140

**Roberta Ellis, M.A. / School Support Consultant**  
robertacoleellis@gmail.com / (405) 522-0140

**Roberta Gaston, M.Ed. / School Support Consultant**  
mrs.gaston@sbcglobal.net / (405) 522-0140