



JOY HOFMEISTER

STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

December 10, 2015

Nkemjika Ofodile, MSA, Ed.D.
Education Program Specialist
United States Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW 3W112
Washington, DC 20202

Dear Education Program Specialist,

The Oklahoma State Department of Education (OSDE) would like to provide the following justification for the carryover request of FY12 SIG funds and FY13 SIG funds to Cohort 4 and 5:

- Oklahoma Cohort 4 schools have made great strides in implementing the Transformation Model and three of the sites made growth on their overall student achievement scores in year one. Looking to the future, additional funding would allow Cohort 4 to roll forward their original grant funding for a possible sustainability year 4 of SIG. The funds received for FY16-17 would be used to provide quality imbedded professional development during the Oklahoma required 5 day SIG academy prior to the beginning of 2016-2017 school year, and provide stipends to staff not yet on contract.
- All Oklahoma Cohort 5 schools received less SIG funding than they requested in their 5 year applications. The funds received for FY16-17 would be used to provide quality embedded professional development during the Oklahoma required 5 day SIG academy prior to the beginning of 2016-2017 school year, and provide stipends to staff not yet on contract.
- We have a severe teacher shortage in Oklahoma, and the additional funds could also be used to recruit and retain quality teachers.
- Other allowable options would include benchmarking tools for data analysis and management, parent-community involvement activities, technology, classroom remediation centers, and additional professional development.

Respectfully,

Beth Steele, Director
School Improvement Grants