



JANET BARRESI

STATE SUPERINTENDENT *of* PUBLIC INSTRUCTION
OKLAHOMA STATE DEPARTMENT *of* EDUCATION

TO: The Honorable members of the State Board of Education
FROM: Janet Barresi
DATE: January 31, 2013
SUBJECT: Approval of Reward School Grant Applicants

The purpose of the Reward School Grant is to offer a financial reward to schools designated as High-Performing and High-Progress Reward Schools, while incentivizing partnerships between Reward Schools and Priority Schools.

Major components of the grant:

- Applicants could apply for \$50,000; \$75,000; \$100,000; or \$125,000 depending on the number of certified staff in the school and their partnering Priority School.
- Grant period is from February 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014.
- Approximately 60% of the funds should be spent on Celebration of Success Activities in the Reward School.
 - Examples of Celebration of Success Activities include, but are not limited to, professional growth opportunities, instructional resources, activities to enhance school culture, competitive grants for faculty members, awards, scholarships, and ceremonies.
- Approximately 40% of the funds should be used for Partnership Activities that benefit both the Reward School and the Priority School.
 - Examples of Partnership Activities include, but are not limited to, research-based, job-embedded professional development; exploration of innovative approaches to teaching and learning; peer-to-peer mentoring; site visit exchanges of partnership schools; Collaborative Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and/or distance PLCs that bridge the partnering schools; piloting instructional materials and learning technologies; career-based internships for classroom teachers in STEM-related fields; professional development institutes and academies; in-depth training in literacy instruction across grade levels and subject matters; enrichment programs for students; and extended learning opportunities for students and educators.

State Board approval is requested of the attached Reward School Grant applicants.

- 229 High Progress and High Performing Reward Schools qualified to apply.
- 14 applications were received.
- \$925,000 were requested.
- \$400,000 were available for awards.

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Attachment