April 23, 2018

The Honorable Susan Bunting
Secretary of Education
Delaware Department of Education
The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, DE 19901-3639

Dear Superintendent Bunting:

I am writing in response to Delaware’s request to the U.S. Department of Education (Department) on February 22, 2018, to amend its approved consolidated State plan under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act. Under ESEA Section 1111(A)(6)(B)(i), if a State makes any significant changes to its plan at any time, such information shall be submitted to the Secretary in the form of revisions and amendments to the State plan.

I have determined that the amended request meets the requirements in the ESEA and, for this reason, I am approving Delaware’s amended State plan. A summary of Delaware’s amendment is enclosed. This letter, as well as Delaware’s revised ESEA consolidated State plan, will be posted on the Department’s website. Any further requests to amend Delaware’s ESEA consolidated State plan must be submitted to the Department for review and approval.

Please be aware that approval of this amendment to Delaware’s consolidated State plan is not a determination that all the information and data included in the amended State plan comply with Federal civil rights requirements, including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and requirements under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. It is Delaware’s responsibility to comply with these civil rights requirements.
Thank you for all of the work that the Delaware Department of Education has put into its consolidated State plan under the ESEA. If you need any assistance regarding the implementation of your ESEA consolidated State plan, please contact Dr. Tiffany Forrester of my staff at: OSS_Delaware@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

Jason Botel
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary,
Delegated the Authority to Perform the Functions and Duties of the Assistant Secretary of Elementary and Secondary Education

Enclosure

cc: Karen Field Rogers, Deputy Secretary of Education
Amendment to the Delaware Consolidated State Plan
The following is a summary of Delaware’s amendment request. Please refer to the U.S Department of Education’s website https://www2.ed.gov/admins/lead/account/stateplan17/map/de.html for Delaware’s complete consolidated State plan.

School Quality or Student Success Indicator(s)
- Delaware is removing the following two School Quality or Student Success indicators from its system of annual meaningful differentiation for school identification at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year: (1) proficiency on science assessments (grades 5, 8, and 10) and (2) proficiency on social studies assessments (grades 4, 7, and high school). These measures will not be included in the State’s accountability system for identification of schools at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year. Instead, these measures will be included in the State’s accountability system at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. The School Quality or Student Success indicators that will be used in DDOE’s system of annual meaningful differentiation for school identification at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year will be Delaware proposed to use the following School Quality or Student Success indicators: (1) chronic absenteeism (grades K-12), (2) college and/or career preparedness (grades 9-12), and (3) on track in 9th grade.

In regards to weighting, in school year 2017-2018 (which will impact school identification at the beginning of the 2018-2019 school year), the weight allocated to science and social studies proficiency will be redistributed across the remaining measures without having an impact on the overall weight of the indicator. More specifically, for elementary and middle schools, Chronic Absenteeism will absorb all of the weight from science and social studies proficiency. For high schools, Chronic Absenteeism, On Track in 9th Grade and College and Career Preparedness will equally absorb the weight from science and social studies proficiency. Science and social studies assessments will be administered again during the 2018-2019 school year and therefore will be reintroduced into State’s system of annual meaningful differentiation for school identification starting at the beginning of the 2019-2020 school year. At that point, each School Quality or Student Success indicator will take on its original weight.