



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION

December 28, 2017

Ms. Annie Brooks
Division Supervisor, Title Grants Administration
Illinois State Board of Education
100 North First Street
Springfield, IL 62777

Dear Ms. Brooks:

I am writing in response to the Illinois State Board of Education's request for a waiver of section 1113(a)(2) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act, on behalf of the Lincoln-Way Community District 210 (Lincoln-Way). Under the requested waiver, Lincoln-Way seeks to provide Title I, Part A (Title I) funds to East High School, which you indicate is ineligible for Title I funds, in addition to providing Title I funds to its eligible high schools (Central High School and West High School).

Under the authority in section 8401 of the ESEA, I am approving this waiver, which will remain in effect through school year (SY) 2020-2021. The waiver of ESEA section 1113(a)(2) will enable Lincoln-Way to provide Federal fiscal year (FY) 2017 (SY 2017-2018) Title I funding to East High School, which is ineligible for Title I because its percentage of poverty children is below the district-wide poverty rate and 35 percent. In addition, because Central High School, East High School and West High School have poverty rates of less than 35 percent, I am also approving a waiver of ESEA section 1113(c)(2)(A) to enable Lincoln-Way to allocate Title I funds to its schools based on a per-poverty child amount that is less than 125 percent of Lincoln Way's overall per-poverty child amount.

In implementing this waiver, if there are any eligible private school students who reside in East High School's attendance area, once East High School receives Title I funds through this waiver, the ESEA requires Lincoln-Way to provide them with equitable services in accordance with Title I requirements in the same manner it is required to do so for eligible private school students who reside in the Central High School and West High School attendance areas.

Additionally, please also note that ESEA section 8401(e) requires a local educational agency that receives a waiver to describe, as part of, and pursuant to, the required annual reporting under ESEA section 1111(h):

- (1) The progress of schools covered under the provisions of such waiver toward improving student academic achievement; and
- (2) How the use of the waiver has contributed to such progress.

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The Department of Education's mission is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access.

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Thank you for your efforts on behalf of students in Illinois. If you have any questions about this waiver, please contact Joseph Lee Suh and Brenda Calderon of my staff at: OSS.Illinois@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/

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

Cc: Dr. Aimee Feehery, Director of Instruction, Lincoln-Way Community District 210
Dr. Scott Tingley, Superintendent, Lincoln-Way Community District 210