



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

March 18, 2014

Thomas E. Torkelson
IDEA Public Schools
505 Angelita Drive Suite 9
Weslaco, TX 78596

Dear Chief Executive Officer Torkelson:

I am writing with regards to the documentation that IDEA Public Schools (IDEA) submitted on February 28, 2014, in response to the conditions included in the U.S. Department of Education's (Department) February 24, 2014 approval of IDEA's Scope of Work. In response to the conditions IDEA submitted 1) revised student outcome goals that are aligned with Texas' approved request for ESEA Flexibility and in accordance with the Race to the Top- District NIA and 2) annual targets for all sub-groups for (A)(4)(c): Graduation rates and (A)(4)(d): College enrollment rates. Based on the documentation provided, the Department acknowledges that the LEA has met the conditions. The revised student outcomes tables are in Appendix A.

If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top, please do not hesitate to contact IDEA's Race to the Top Program Officer, Loveen Bains, at 202-453-5999 or Loveen.Bains@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

//s//

Ann Whalen
Director, Policy and Program Implementation
Implementation and Support Unit

cc: Emily Pyeatt

www.ed.gov

400 MARYLAND AVE., SW, WASHINGTON, DC 20202

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

Appendix A: Student Outcomes and Performance Measures

(A)(4)(a) Performance on summative assessments

Goal Area	Subgroup	Baseline SY 2010-11	Baseline SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
Increase percent of grade 3 students who end year on/above grade level in reading	OVERALL	N/A	70%	70%	70%	76%	83%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	70%	70%	70%	76%	83%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	57%	62%	62%	70%	76%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	37%	45%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	63%	62%	62%	70%	76%	80%
Increase percent of grade 4 students who end year on/above grade level in reading	OVERALL	N/A	71%	70%	70%	76%	83%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	79%	79%	79%	83%	83%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	48%	50%	55%	60%	70%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	31%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	65%	70%	70%	76%	83%	90%
Increase percent of grade 5 students who end year on/above grade level in reading	OVERALL	N/A	76%	76%	76%	83%	83%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	75%	79%	79%	83%	83%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	57%	57%	60%	65%	70%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	38%	40%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	70%	70%	70%	76%	83%	90%
Increase percent of grade 6 students who end year on/above grade level	OVERALL	N/A	78%	78%	78%	84%	84%	90%

in reading	African American	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	77%	77%	80%	84%	87%	90%
	White	N/A	87%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	41%	45%	50%	60%	75%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	41%	45%	50%	60%	75%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	74%	77%	80%	84%	87%	90%
Increase percent of grade 7 students who end year on/above grade level in reading	OVERALL	N/A	87%	87%	87%	90%	90%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	86%	86%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	White	N/A	96%	96%	96%	98%	98%	98%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	50%	50%	55%	60%	75%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	55%	55%	60%	70%	75%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	85%	86%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Increase percent of grade 8 students who end year on/above grade level in reading	OVERALL	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	56%	56%	60%	65%	75%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	47%	47%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	89%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
Increase percent of Grades 9 students who meet standard on ELA assessment (STAAR English I)	OVERALL	N/A	71%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	Hispanic	N/A	70%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	White	N/A	89%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	26%	30%	40%	50%	60%	80%

	Special Education	N/A	23%	30%	40%	50%	60%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	68%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
<p>Increase percent of Grade 10 students who meet standard on ELA assessment (STAAR English II)</p> <p>Note: 11th grade removed from this group because English III EOC was eliminated by TEA.</p> <p>(This assessment was only administered to 10 students District Wide in SY -2011-12).</p>	OVERALL	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	Hispanic	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	White	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	N/A	60%	70%	80%	85%	90%
	Special Education	N/A	N/A	60%	70%	80%	85%	90%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	95%
<p>Increase percent of Grades 3 students who meet standard on math assessment</p>	OVERALL	N/A	60%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	60%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
	White	N/A	67%	80%	85%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	57%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	27%	30%	40%	50%	60%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	57%	57%	60%	65%	75%	80%
<p>Increase percent of Grades 4 students who meet standard on math assessment</p>	OVERALL	N/A	61%	61%	65%	70%	75%	80%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	60%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
	White	N/A	83%	83%	85%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	49%	50%	55%	65%	75%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	26%	26%	30%	40%	60%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	58%	60%	65%	70%	75%	80%
<p>Increase percent of Grades 5 students who meet standard on math assessment</p>	OVERALL	N/A	70%	70%	75%	80%	85%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%

	Hispanic	N/A	69%	70%	75%	80%	85%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	48%	50%	55%	60%	70%	80%
	Special Education	N/A	19%	20%	30%	40%	60%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	64%	64%	72%	78%	84%	90%
Increase percent of Grades 6 students who meet standard on math assessment	OVERALL	N/A	84%	84%	84%	88%	88%	90%
	African American	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	83%	84%	84%	88%	88%	90%
	White	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	72%	72%	76%	84%	88%	90%
	Special Education	N/A	54%	54%	60%	65%	70%	75%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	82%	82%	82%	84%	88%	90%
Increase percent of Grades 7 students who meet standard on math assessment	OVERALL	N/A	82%	82%	82%	84%	88%	90%
	African American	N/A	N/A	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	81%	82%	82%	84%	88%	90%
	White	N/A	96%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	63%	64%	70%	78%	84%	90%
	Special Education	N/A	50%	50%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	80%	80%	82%	84%	88%	90%
Increase percent of Grades 8-9 students who meet standard on math assessment (STAAR Algebra I EOC) Note: 10th and 11th grades removed because EOC exams after Algebra I were eliminated by TEA.	OVERALL	N/A	86%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	African American	N/A	100%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Hispanic	N/A	86%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	White	N/A	85%	90%	90%	90%	90%	90%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	63%	75%	85%	90%	90%	90%
	Special Education	N/A	50%	50%	50%	60%	70%	80%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	85%	85%	87%	87%	90%	90%

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
	Special Education Students	N/A	-144	-100	-85	-75	-65	-50
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-78	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
Decrease math achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 5 th grade math	Overall at IDEA	N/A	-71	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+30	+30
	Hispanic	N/A	-78	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	White	N/A	74	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-140	-100	-85	-75	-65	-50
	Special Education Students	N/A	-209	-100	-85	-75	-65	-50
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-91	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
Decrease math achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 6 th grade math	Overall	N/A	-16	-10	-5	0	+5	+10
	African American	N/A	51	+70	+80	+80	+80	+80
	Hispanic	N/A	-23	-15	-10	0	+5	+10
	White	N/A	87	+90	+90	+90	+90	+90
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-98	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	Special Education Students	N/A	-109	-100	-85	-75	-65	-50
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-30	-20	-10	0	0	0
Decrease math achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 7 th grade math	Overall	N/A	-1	+5	+10	+15	+20	+25
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+15	+20
	Hispanic	N/A	-3	0	+5	+10	+15	+20
	White	N/A	29	+40	+50	+60	+70	+80
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-86	-60	-40	0	0	+10
	Special Education Students	N/A	-110	-60	-40	-20	0	+10
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-18	-10	-10	0	0	+30

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 3rd grade ELA	Overall	N/A	-72	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+15	+20
	Hispanic	N/A	-74	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	White	N/A	23	+30	+40	+50	+60	+70
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-119	-100	-85	-75	-65	-50
	Special Education Students	N/A	-154	-125	-100	-85	-75	-65
Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-94	-70	-50	-30	-10	0	
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 4 th grade ELA	Overall	N/A	-64	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	+12	+36
	Hispanic	N/A	-67	-50	-25	0	+5	+10
	White	N/A	10	+20	+30	+40	+50	+60
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-146	-100	-85	-75	-65	-55
	Special Education Students	N/A	-175	-125	-100	-75	-65	-55
Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-88	-70	-50	-30	-10	0	
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 5 th grade ELA	Overall	N/A	-38	-20	-10	0	0	+5
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	+5	+10
	Hispanic	N/A	-45	-20	-10	0	0	+5
	White	N/A	78	+80	+80	+80	+80	+80
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-115	-100	-75	-50	-25	0
	Special Education Students	N/A	-143	-125	-100	-75	-50	-25
Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-55	-45	-35	-25	0	+5	
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 6 th grade ELA	Overall	N/A	-41	-30	-20	-10	0	+5
	African American	N/A	32	+40	+50	+60	+70	+80
	Hispanic	N/A	-46	-30	-20	-10	0	+5

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
	White	N/A	35	+40	+50	+60	+70	+80
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-144	-100	-75	-65	-50	-40
	Special Education Students	N/A	-124	-100	-75	-65	-50	-40
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-57	-50	-30	-10	0	0
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 7 th grade reading	Overall	N/A	-10	-5	0	0	+5	+10
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+20	+30
	Hispanic	N/A	-12	-5	0	0	+5	+10
	White	N/A	20	+30	+40	+50	+60	+70
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-118	-100	-75	-50	-25	0
	Special Education Students	N/A	-121	-100	-75	-50	-25	0
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-20	-10	0	0	+5	+10
Decrease math achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 8 th grade or 9 th grade Algebra End of Course Assessment	Overall at IDEA vs.	N/A	-123	-100	-80	-70	-60	-50
	African American	N/A	200	+210	+220	+230	+240	+250
	Hispanic	N/A	-138	-120	-100	-80	-70	-60
	White	N/A	20	+30	+40	+50	+60	+70
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-425	-400	-375	-350	-325	-300
	Special Education Students	N/A	-488	-425	-400	-375	-350	-325
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-170	-150	-130	-110	-110	-90
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 8th grade ELA Assessment	Overall	N/A	-12	-10	-5	0	0	+5
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+20	+30
	Hispanic	N/A	-16	-10	-5	0	0	+5
	White	N/A	51	+60	+70	+80	+90	+100
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-139	-125	-100	-75	-65	-55

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
	Special Education Students	N/A	-159	-150	-125	-100	-75	-65
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-24	-20	-15	-10	0	+5
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 9th grade ELA Assessment	Overall	N/A	-62	-50	-40	-30	-20	0
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	+10	+20	+30
	Hispanic	N/A	-71	-60	-55	-50	-45	-40
	White	N/A	-65	-60	-55	-50	-45	-40
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	-292	-250	-225	-200	-175	-150
	Special Education Students	N/A	-276	-250	-225	-200	-175	-150
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	-84	-75	-65	-55	-45	-35
Decrease ELA achievement gaps between IDEA and State of Texas White Students Average Scale Score, 10 th grade ELA assessment	Overall	N/A	223	0	0	0	0	0
	African American	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
	Hispanic	N/A	218	0	0	0	0	0
	White	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
	Special Education Students	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	239	0	0	0	0	0

(A)(4)(c) Graduation rates

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
High school graduation rate	OVERALL	95%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Hispanic	95%	97%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	African American	n/a	n/a	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	White	n/a	n/a	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Limited English Proficiency	100%	80%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Special Education	88.90%	n/a	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Economically Disadvantaged	94%	96%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

(A)(4)(d) College enrollment rates

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
College enrollment rate	OVERALL	N/A	91%	92%	94%	96%	98%	100%
	Hispanic	N/A	91%	92%	94%	96%	98%	100%
	African American	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	White	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Special Education	N/A	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	90%	90%	92%	94%	96%	98%

(A)(4)(e) Post-secondary attainment

Goal Area	Subgroup	SY 2010-11	SY 2011-12	SY 2012-13	SY 2013-14	SY 2014-15	SY 2015-16	SY 2016-17
% of students graduating college in 6 years	OVERALL	N/A	N/A	35%	45%	55%	70%	85%
	Limited English Proficiency	N/A	N/A	35%	45%	55%	70%	85%
	Special Education	N/A	N/A	35%	45%	55%	70%	85%
	Economically Disadvantaged	N/A	N/A	35%	45%	55%	70%	85%