



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SECRETARY

March, 18 2014

Superintendent John P. Welch
Puget Sound Educational Service District
800 Oakesdale Ave, South
West Renton, WA 98057

Dear Superintendent Welch:

I am writing in response to Puget Sound Educational Service District's (PSESD) Race to the Top - District amendment request. On March, 6 2014, the grantee submitted amendment requests to the U.S. Department of Education (Department). On March 27, 2013, the Department provided the "Scope of Work Grant Amendment Submission Process" document to grantee Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) indicating the process by which amendments would be reviewed and approved or denied during the Race to the Top- District scope of work review process. To determine whether approval could be granted, the Department has applied the conditions noted in the document, and compared it with the Race to the Top - District Principles, which are also included in that document.

I approve the following amendments:

- In Project Deep Dive 3: Investment Fund for Community School Partnerships, PSESD will increase the Project Manager position from .25 FTE to .5 FTE. The additional investment will allow the LEA to meet the demands of the technical assistance activities required during the investment fund application and implementation processes. To support this position, PSESD will shift \$48,548 from Years 2-4 Contractual in Project 7 to Years 2-3ⁱ Personnel, Fringe, and Indirect. These funds are available because the grantee negotiated lower costs for certain contracts in Project 7.ⁱⁱ
- In Project Management, PSESD will hire a second Fiscal Coordinator to manage grant funds. The LEA reported that an evaluation of the overall project indicated

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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.

that additional support was needed to carry out the project's 60 contracts in a timely manner, as well as manage grant reporting, billing and fiscal forecasting. To fund this position, PSESD will shift \$275,899 from Years 2-4 Contractual in Project 7 to Years 2-4 Personnel, Fringe and Indirect. These funds are available because the LEA negotiated lower costs for certain contracts in Project 7, as described above.

It is our understanding that these amendments will not result in a change in your LEA's performance measures and outcomes, nor will it substantially change the scope and objectives of the work. Please note that this letter will be posted on the Department's website as a record of the amendment.

If you need any assistance or have any questions regarding Race to the Top-District, please do not hesitate to contact PSESD's Race to the Top-District Program Officer, Melissa Siry, at 202-260-0926 or Melissa.siry@ed.gov.

Sincerely,

//s//

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

cc: Jessica De Barros

ⁱ The Project Manager position will revert back to .25 FTE in Year 4.

ⁱⁱ In Project 7, the grantee anticipates a total savings of \$933,689 in Years 2-4 due to negotiating lower costs. The use for the balance of the savings will be described in a future amendment.