MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 12, 2015

TO: Local and Intermediate District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers

FROM: Norma Jean Sass
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D.
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Requesting Public Comment for Special Waiver of the 15% Carryover for School District of the City of Saginaw

Michigan Department of Education (MDE), on behalf of the School District of the City of Saginaw, is requesting permission from the United States Department of Education (USED) to waive the limitation for MDE to grant a Title I, Part A 15% carryover waiver to the School District of the City of Saginaw more than once every three (3) years. MDE is providing an opportunity for public comment as required for this waiver.

In the summer of 2013, the State of Michigan (SOM) dissolved Buena Vista Schools. The boundaries of the School District of the City of Saginaw were redefined, and 165 Buena Vista students were enrolled in the School District of the City of Saginaw. The Title I funds were recalculated and added to Saginaw schools allocation in late April of 2014. In the fall of the 2014/15 school year, MDE requested a special waiver from USED which was granted in March of 2015. Enough time has not been allotted to expend all of the new funding appropriately. As such, we are requesting another special waiver for the School District of the City of Saginaw this year, on since the re-districting of their district boundaries.

MDE, on behalf of the School District of the City of Saginaw, is requesting this waiver to ensure that the students of the district receive the full benefit of the supplemental programs and services needed to accelerate their achievement consistent with the intent and purpose of Title I, Part A (see attachment).
MDE is opening this waiver request for public comment, on behalf of the School District of the City of Saginaw. If you would like to comment on this request, please email your comments to TitleICarryoverWaiver@michigan.gov. This mailbox will be available for ten (10) business days. All comments will be given consideration by MDE and attached to the request sent to USED.

Attachment:

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Michigan Department of Education  
Office of Field Services

Title I, Part A 15% Carryover Waiver for 2014-15 Funds

REQUIRED WAIVER INFORMATION:

Please describe the reasons the Local Educational Agency (LEA) was unable to obligate and expend at least 85% of the 2013-14 Title I, Part A allocation.

[In the summer of 2013 the State Superintendent and the State Treasurer dissolved Inkster Public Schools and Buena Vista Public Schools. The boundaries were redefined and our district received 165 students from the Buena Vista Public Schools. The Michigan Department of Education Office of Field Services began to re-calculate our federal funding based on the new boundaries and poverty levels. It was not until early April of 2014 our district received a Title I Part A and Title II Part A increase in our allocation. Then in school year 2015-2016 we awaited to hear on a waiver of the funds from the dissolved Buena Vista Public Schools. We received carryover at the end of March 2015. We were able to spend a portion of that carryover but due to the late date made it difficult for us to purposefully and meaningfully expend more than 85% of our new total allocation before the close of the year. We have had three special waivers in the last few years, but due to the highly unusual event of receiving students from the neighboring dissolved district, then getting the carryover funds at the end of March 2015, we are requesting a waiver to carryover more than 15% of our allocation from the 2014-2015 school year.]

After detailed description, complete the following assurance statement:

[Latoya Summey and Sarah Swift] of [School District of the City of Saginaw] submitted the following Certification of Title I, Part A 15% Carryover Waiver for 2014-15 Funds on [November 2, 2015]:

Our LEA acknowledges that when granted this waiver, we agree to abide by the following set of assurances:

• Our LEA will comply with the statutory and regulatory obligations associated with this waiver in respect to our **2014-15 Title I, Part A allocation** (ESEA Section 1127).

• Our LEA will comply with all reporting requirements associated with this waiver as set forth by the United States Department of Education and the Michigan Department of Education (ESEA Section 9401).

By sending this e-mail, I understand that our agency is requesting a Title I, Part A Carryover Waiver. This request will be reviewed based on Federal requirements.
The LEA will receive an e-mail confirming approval or denial by the Office of Field Services.

PLEASE SAVE THIS COMPLETED REQUEST AND ATTACH TO THE E-MAIL TO: TitleICarryoverWaiver@michigan.gov. Please maintain a copy of the submitted assurance and the e-mail from your “Sent Items” for your records.