



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
OFFICE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION  
ACADEMIC IMPROVEMENT AND TEACHER QUALITY PROGRAMS

September 16, 2008

Michael W. Radke  
Assistant Director  
Office of School Improvement  
Michigan Department of Education  
P.O. Box 3008  
Lansing, MI 48909

Dear Mr. Radke:

On May 1, 2008, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) submitted a response to the monitoring report that resulted from a program review conducted by the Academic Improvement and Teacher Quality Programs office of the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Elementary and Secondary Education. The program office team reviewed your State's progress in meeting the highly qualified teacher provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001, and your State's administration of the ESEA Title II, Part A Improving Teacher Quality State Grants program. Thank you for sending this response to the monitoring report.

This response, in combination with additional information submitted on June 12, 2008, and September 11, 2008, satisfactorily addresses the findings identified in the monitoring report. MDE submitted a plan and a timeline ensuring that all districts with schools that receive Title I funds will notify parents when their children are taught by teachers who are not highly qualified. Also, the State will continue to work with districts and other offices to make sure they are collecting the correct HQ data for special education teachers. Additionally, plans, procedures, and timelines were provided that will ensure that LEAs' annual report cards will include the correct information and that the SEA will publish the report cards in a timely manner. The Department will follow up with MDE to ensure that progress is being made on these issues and that all agreed upon deadlines are met.

During the State agency for higher education (SAHE) portion of the monitoring review, the program team made one recommendation that the SAHE revise its materials and monitoring protocol to clarify that a high-need district, not school, must be an eligible partner in a SAHE grant. MDE has agreed to implement the recommendation.

We commend your excellent work in responding to the concerns raised by the monitoring report. We look forward to continuing to work with you and your staff to ensure that all teachers meet the highly qualified requirements and to help improve the delivery of ESEA Title II, Part A services in Michigan.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol Manitaras".

Carol Manitaras  
Program Officer

cc: Donna Hamilton

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