

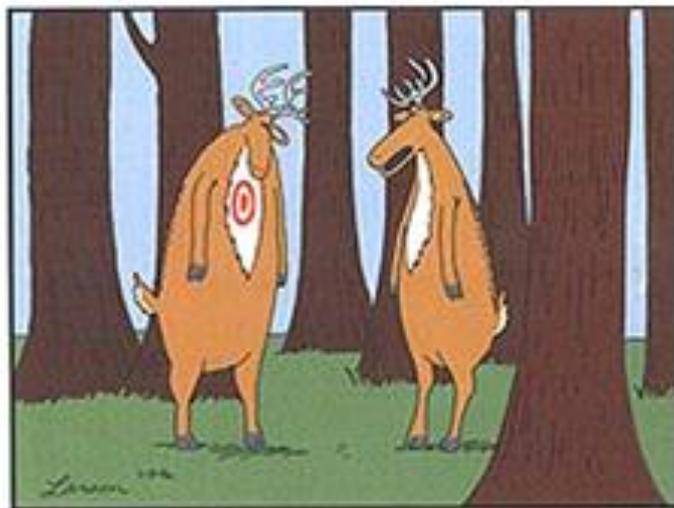


Persistently Lowest-Achieving Schools Title I School Improvement Grants

PRESENTED BY:

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"Bummer of a birthmark, Hal."

Defining Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools

TIER I TEST:

Is the school a Title I SINA school in 2010-11 with 30 or more full academic year students tested in the 2009-2010 school year?

No ↓

Is it a secondary school eligible for Title I but not receiving funds?

Yes ↓

Go to TIER II Test

Yes → Is the graduation rate less than 60% over the last three years?

Yes ↓

LOWEST ACHIEVING SCHOOL TIER I

No → Does the school fall in the lowest ten percent of Title I SINA schools for all students proficient and average less than 67 percent proficient for the last three years in reading and math combined, from 2007-08 to 2009-10?

No ↓

Not Persistently Lowest Achieving Tier I

Yes → Does the school rank in the bottom 5% of Title I SINA schools based on combined rank in (a) the three year average of percent proficient in reading and math combined, and (b) the rank in percent change of percent proficient from 2007-08 to 2009-10?

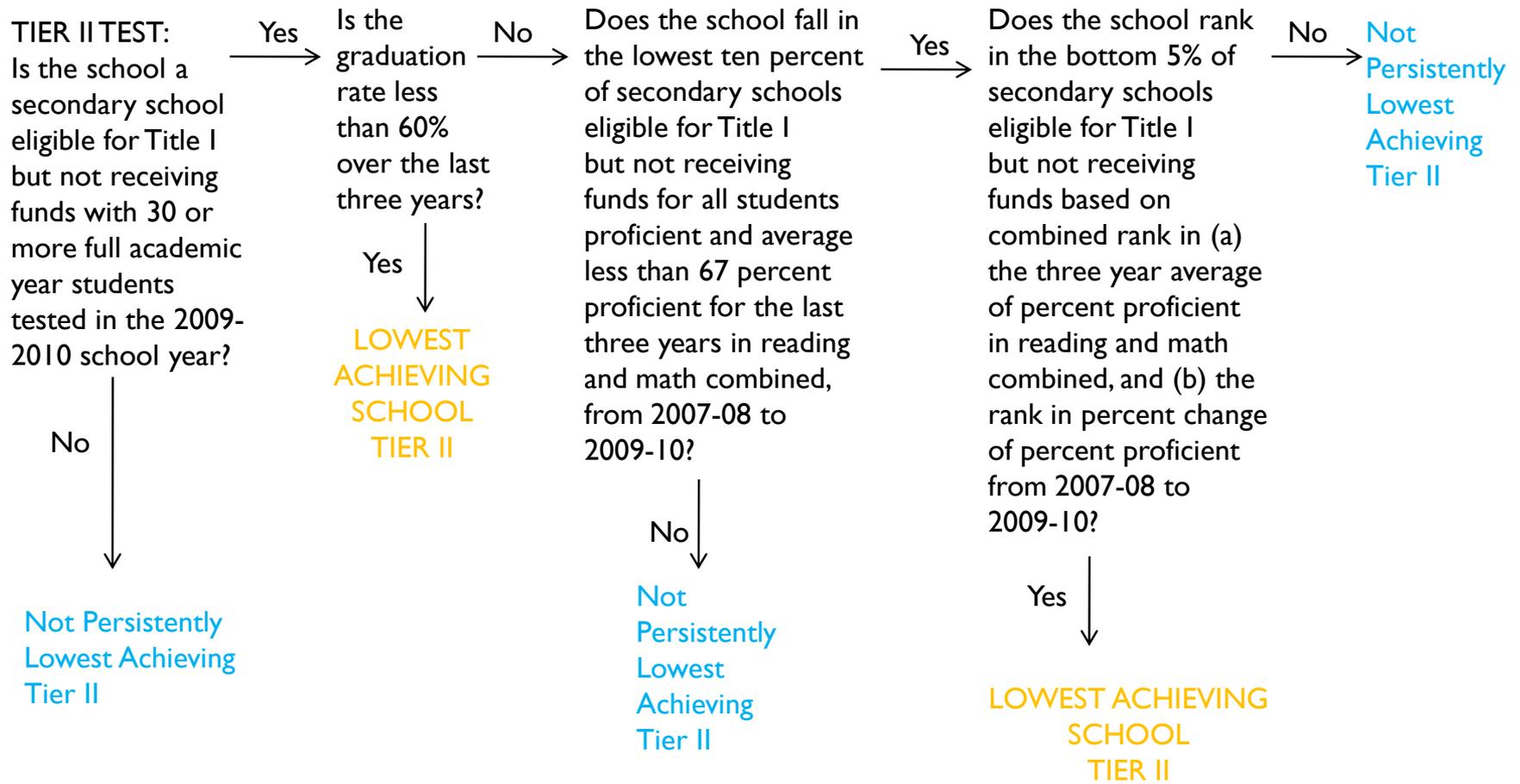
Yes ↓

LOWEST ACHIEVING SCHOOL TIER I

No → **Not Persistently Lowest Achieving Tier I**



Defining Persistently Lowest Achieving Schools



School Improvement Grants

Timeline

- **December 3, 2010** Submit Iowa's SIG application to US Department of Education for approval (includes preliminary list of PLA schools)
- **December 10, 2010** Preliminary notification of PLA schools
- **December 20, 2010** Appeals due
- **January 5, 2011** Release of final list of PLA schools and post LEA SIG application for eligible Tier I and Tier II schools (45 day timeline on agreement of Memorandum of Understanding {SF 2033} starts)
- **January 21, 2011** LEAs planning to submit a SIG application must file an "Intent to Apply" with the IDE
- **February 19, 2011** End of 45 day period to agree to a Memorandum of Understanding agreement between school district and local teachers' union
- **February 24, 2011** End of 5 day period to select a mediator
- **March 26, 2011** End of mediation period
- **March 30, 2011** SIG application due to IDE
- **April 8, 2011** LEAs notified of SIG application funding

Notice of Intent to Apply

- The criteria at the beginning of the application calls for email notification by **January 21, 2011** of an intent to file a SIG application. This information will assist the IDE in grant reading scheduling and possible awards.
- paul.cahill@iowa.gov

SF 2033 - MOU

- SF 2033 requires that districts with Tier I and II schools meet with their union representatives and try to negotiate an agreement on a federal intervention model and if no agreement is reached through the negotiation process, then mediation is the next step.
- Do not call the PERB board. This is not technically a labor issue.
- If the district applies on behalf of their Tier I and/or II schools a MOU needs to be filed with the SIG application at the time it is submitted.
- Tier I schools not applying for SIG funds must still submit evidence that they “lacked the capacity” to implement a federal intervention model.

4 Models for PLAS

- **Turnaround model**. Replace the principal and rehire no more than 50 percent of the staff, and grant the principal sufficient operational flexibility (including in staffing, calendars/time, and budgeting) to implement fully a comprehensive approach to substantially improve student outcomes.
- **Restart model**. Convert a school or close and reopen it under a charter school operator, a charter management organization, or an education management organization that has been selected through a rigorous review process.
- **School closure**. Close a school and enroll the students who attended that school in other schools in the LEA that are higher achieving.
- **Transformation model**. Implement each of the following strategies: (1) replace the principal and take steps to increase teacher and school leader effectiveness; (2) institute comprehensive instructional reforms; (3) increase learning time and create community-oriented schools; and (4) provide operational flexibility and sustained support.

Intervention Models

- MOU must indicate which intervention model was selected.
- The four models are:
 - Turnaround
 - Transformation
 - Closure
 - Restart
- The Restart or Charter school intervention is subject to Iowa Code which requires that an Iowa Charter School Application be filed with the Iowa Department of Education(IDE).
- The following steps would need to be completed:
 - SIG application is submitted for approval
 - Local school board approval of Iowa Charter School Application
 - Iowa Charter School Application is filed with the IDE

School Improvement Grants

Last Year

- * \$ 18 million – 3 years (15 million ARRA)
- * Awarded 6 Tier I grants covering 3 year period.

This Year

- * This year LEAs with Tier I and II schools may apply for SIG grants covering 3 year period.
- * \$ 2,939,883- guaranteed first year, develop second and third year budgets at \$3 million each. Expect to fund anywhere from 2 to 4 grants.

School Improvement Grants

- The Iowa Department of Education can not determine models that LEAs select for schools
- Applications will cover a three year period, but only the first year is guaranteed.
- Models need to be implemented by the beginning of the 2011-2012 school year. Some costs prior to the start of the year may be acceptable.
- Iowa Core must be addressed in LEA School Improvement Grant Application

Funding Priority and Levels

- Tier I schools must receive the highest priority.
- Schools will be funded by application score ranking.
- Tier I and II schools choosing the closure model will be last funded at the funding range minimum for one year.

- Application scoring ties will be broken using the following priority factors:
 - School enrollment
 - The # of years identified as a SINA and # of subject areas
 - Rank order in PLAS list
 - Evidence of coordination of resources and supports from AEAs
- Funding for PLAS schools covers a three year period with allocations that can range from no less than \$50,000 and no more than \$2,000,000 annually.

School Improvement Grants

- LEAs have freedom in determining TA needs and selecting provider(s)
- Turnaround model
 - * Staff
- Principal replacement
 - * Implemented one of the four reform models within last two years would in many cases allow principal to be retained.

External Providers

- There must be documented evidence regarding the qualifications, level of experience, and a history of successful past experience of the external provider.

SIG Application

- The 3 year application is posted on the website at - <http://www.iowa.gov/educate>
- Copies of last year's SIG applications are posted.
- Applications must be submitted to the Department by March 30, 2011 by 4:30 pm

Contents of Application

1. Applications must provide relevant, quality data Assessment and provider selection
2. Select one of the approved intervention models
3. Applications must include all components and essential activities of the implementation plan including the goals, activities, timelines, and indicators of progress. (Chart in Appendix of SIG application that list required and permissible activities)
<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/sif/legislation.html>

Narrative

No page limitations on the narrative sections of the application, however narratives should be explicit and to the point. Narratives should provide clarity.

The action plan should reflect a more general overview as opposed to day to day activities.

Restart Model

1. A description of the specific process that will be used to select a charter school operator, charter management organization (CMO), or an education management organization (EMO)
2. A timeline identifying the deadline for selecting a provider, submission of the required Charter School application to the Iowa Department of Education, and the projected start date for the Restart.

Closure Model

- Submit budget
- Timeline for closing the school
- Notice to the community, the school, parents and staff
- Plan for relocation of students

Sustainability

- Plan and budget must demonstrate that the intervention can be sustained after the three year funding has ceased.