

RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM THE FIELD

2018-19 NJDOE Title I STEM & Arts-Integration Pilot: Notice of Grant Opportunity – Technical Assistance Session

August 17, 2018

1. Can the NJDOE Title I STEM & Arts-Integration grant be split among multiple schools must all program activities related to the grant take place at one school within the district.

*No. The Title I STEM & Arts-Integration Pilot is a building level initiative, which requires extensive data collection and collaboration among instructional staff members. Schools must apply **individually** for consideration for funding and programmatic activity related to the grant must serve the students within that school.*

2. If a district chooses to do so, can they hire the instructional coach for more than the 21 days designated in the NGO – at the districts' expense?

Hiring instructional coaches beyond the amount of time stipulated in the NGO is up to the discretion of the district and subject to negotiation between the district and the instructional coach. However, local funds need to be dedicated to this purpose and willingness to work beyond the parameters of the grant should not be a condition of employment. Approved instructional coaches have the right of refusal of additional work.

3. It's understood that all project proposals for this grant must include a summer program as part of the stipulated project activities related to the grant. May additional Title I funds be used to support the summer programming?

Yes. However, the way in which the grant funds are used must be reported independently.

4. What previous districts have used these funds to integrate STEM and the Arts?

The STEM & Arts-Integration Pilot is a new initiative. However, many schools around New Jersey have endeavored to use arts-integration and STEM & Arts-Integration to support school improvement efforts aimed at bolstering Student Learning and Mastery, increasing levels of student engagement, or increasing student, family and community engagement. For additional information, and to see testimony from other schools in New Jersey that have embraced arts and/or STEM & Arts-Integration as an instructional intervention strategy and pedagogical tool, go to: www.titleIarts.org. The nine schools comprising the 2016-17 NJDOE Title I Arts-Integration Pilot Program include:

The Academy for Urban Leadership, Perth Amboy

West Ave. School, Bridgeton

James Garfield Elementary School, Collingswood Borough

Durban Elementary School, Hopatcong Borough

MLK School No. 6, Passaic City

Washington Elementary School, Roselle Borough

Pine Beach Elementary School, Toms River

Queen City Academy, Plainfield

Glenwood Elementary School, Wildwood

5. The NGO stipulates that LEAs provide timely and meaningful consultation with all non-public schools that enroll students who reside within district boundaries about the programmatic opportunities availed to students through the grant. If non-public students participate in the grant – must those programmatic activities be held at the public school – and/or at the non-public school?

No. Program activities related to the grant are designed to take place at the LEA that applies for consideration of funding. Access to program activities need to be availed to non-public school students residing in the district boundaries of funded applicants. However, program activities are not required to be replicated in the non-public schools and it is incumbent on the non-publics to ensure means of access to programmatic activities.