

Karen Butterfield

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL

STATE BOARD MEETING DATE January 28, 2013

SUBJECT: AZ ESA Professional Development Renewal Project Contract Abstract

SUBMITTED BY: Todd Petersen, Deputy Associate Superintendent of Educator Excellence

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: January 3, 2013

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The ADE has partnered with County School Superintendent offices on several matters related to professional development for educators since 1998. Since FY 2007, professional development grants to counties have been based on mutually agreed criteria and structured as three-year projects; annual applications were required. During the second year of the 2010-12 cycle, three county ESAs modified the capacity-building portions of their projects by partnering with ADE to support the Professional Development Leadership Academy (PDLA). The AZ ESA Professional Development Project and PDLA both increase the capacity of schools and districts to foster results-driven, best-practice professional development. While the AZ ESA project concluded on August 31, 2012, PDLA is concluding its current format by August 31, 2013. This Renewal grant allows the ADE/ three-county partnership to fulfill its capacity-building purpose and to bring closure to PDLA while repurposing its tools and processes to address needs related to implementing Arizona's Common Core Standards and Educator Evaluation Systems.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: INFORMATION ACTION/DESCRIBED
BELOW:

ATTACHMENTS: YES NO

CONTRACT ABSTRACT

Contract between the following parties; The State Board of Education has contracting powers pursuant to A.R.S. §15-203(B)(1).

Name of Contracting Parties:

The State Board of Education, acting for and on behalf of the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and:

Cochise County School Superintendent's Office;
Maricopa County School Superintendent's Office; and
Pima County Special Programs

Purpose:

The purpose of these agreements is to fulfill the capacity-building purpose of the ADE/ three-county partnership and to bring closure to PDLA while repurposing its tools and processes to address needs related to implementing Arizona's Common Core Standards and Educator Evaluation Systems.

It continues a collaborative, network of professional development providers who serve K-12 educators through three of the state's County Schools Superintendents' Offices. Under A.R.S. §15-301 all 15 County School Offices have been designated as education service agencies, ESAs, whose goal is the delivery of technical assistance and educational services to school districts and charter schools in each county.

Contract Amount:

Total not to exceed \$54,300.00

Source of Funds:

Authorizing Legislation: Federal NCLB–Title II-A

Index No.: 32363

Responsible Unit at Department of Education:

Highly Effective Teachers and Leaders Division

Associate Superintendent: Karen Butterfield

Deputy Associate Superintendent: Todd Petersen

Program Contact: Donna Campbell

Dates of Contract:

These agreements shall take effect on February 1, 2013, and shall terminate on August 31, 2013.

Explanation of Contract:**Previous Contract History**

Beginning in FY98 an IGA with the County School Superintendent's Offices – acting as fiscal agents for and on behalf of the county school superintendents of four of Arizona's counties – was developed to provide funding through the ESEA Title I and VI programs for a specified scope of work. Known as the Rural Counties Consortium (RCC), the purpose was to provide training and professional development, technical assistance, and content materials to the schools and teachers in Yavapai, Pinal, Gila and Coconino County schools—mostly rural with small student populations. Contracted services enable local educational agencies (LEAs) within these counties, and in adjoining areas through outreach activities, to successfully implement standards-based reform of instructional delivery consistent with the expectations of academic achievement for all students that is embedded in the various Titles of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). The IGA was renewed annually through FY04 and the funding source was changed to Title V-A funds (formerly Title VI). In FY05 and FY06 contracts with these same entities were developed to deliver a similar scope of work modified to more directly reflect the change in funding source back to Title I, as part of the State System of School Support required by NCLB.

An additional group of Math/Science/Reading Training Centers (MSRTECs) were established to serve 11 of the rural counties in Arizona, funded by Title II of the ESEA. IGAs with several county offices and LEAs – acting as fiscal agents for these rural MSRTECs – were accomplished to provide support in the areas of mathematics, science and reading as required by Title II. With the changes to the

Title II-A program in NCLB, these MSRTCs were replaced by Educational Service Agencies within all counties to provide professional development for instructional practices that are scientifically research based and to ensure the growth in the number of highly qualified teachers.

To respond to needs of all teachers and LEAs within the state, to meet the goals of NCLB regarding highly qualified teachers, and to more effectively utilize dwindling funding, a new organization of support utilizing the resources of the offices of the County School Superintendents was developed in 2006. Two three-year professional development projects involving all 15 counties were funded by ADE each year from FY2007 through FY2012. Reductions in Title IIA funding prevent the continuation of this project. These contracts are anticipated to be the final ones using Title IIA funds.

Number Affected (Students, Teachers, Public, as appropriate)

These contracts will directly benefit K–12 classrooms in three Arizona counties by effectively training teachers and principals who participate in PDLA and in two county-specific projects. These contracts will also benefit the affected County School Superintendent’s Offices by building their capacity for improved quality of professional development provided to LEAs and schools. The current grant recipients are encouraged to provide intensive professional development to participants, including coaching and observation. This means that fewer teachers may be served, but as research supports, these participants are much more likely to implement the new instructional and leadership practices that they’re learning.

Method of Determining Contract Amounts

The amount of each of the three renewal grants was determined based on the number and presentation assignments of PDLA faculty supported by that county and the number, if any, of PDLA participant team members sponsored in 2012-13 by the county. A prerequisite for the grant was prior year involvement by the county with PDLA and meeting prior benchmarks and goals.

Evaluation Plan

Grantees have demonstrated their ability to set SMART goals, to gather evidence that tracks their progress, to analyze and interpret data, and to report results. Based on this track record and the relatively short timeline for this project, grantees will provide “exception reports” if challenges emerge that may affect the ability to accomplish goals and a final report that provides evidence of the degree of attainment of their goals.

| COUNTIES | GRANT ALLOCATIONS |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Cochise | \$44,300 |
| Maricopa | \$4,000 |
| Pima | \$6,000 |
| TOTAL | \$54,300 |