

ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT APPROVAL



STATE BOARD MEETING DATE February 24, 2014

SUBJECT: Buckeye Union High School District – English language learner program

SUBMITTED BY: Kathy Hrabluk, Associate Superintendent, High Academic Standards Division

MANAGEMENT TEAM REVIEW: February 4, 2014

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes (A.R.S.) § 15-756.08(J), the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) is required to report school districts or charter schools that are not in compliance with state and federal laws applicable to English language learners (ELLs) to the State Board of Education (SBE) for a finding of noncompliance.

The Arizona Department of Education, Office of English Language Acquisition Services (OELAS) has set forth specific criteria used during monitoring reviews to determine whether a district or charter should be reported to the SBE for a finding of noncompliance. The compliance criteria requires a review of the following items:

- (1) district/charter's proper implementation of the Structured English Immersion (SEI) Models;
- (2) district/charter's reclassification rate of ELLs (number of students exiting the program); and
- (3) district/charter's passing rate for students who have exited the program within two years (FEP2 students) on Arizona's Instrument to Measure Standards (AIMS) in reading.

In the 2011-2012 school year, ADE completed an on-site review November 29-30, 2011, and found Buckeye Union High School District (BUHSD) out of compliance. The required corrective action letter was sent on January 13, 2012. BUHSD submitted a Corrective Action Plan (pursuant to A.R.S. § 15-756.08(E)) on March 6, 2012. This plan outlined how BUHSD would correct the noncompliance findings.

In the 2012-2013 school year, ADE completed a follow-up on-site review September 20-21, 2012, and again found BUHSD out of compliance. The required corrective action letter was sent on November 28, 2012. This letter included notification of the requirement to refer noncompliant districts or charters to the State Board. BUHSD submitted a Corrective Action Plan on December 18, 2012.

In the 2013-2014 school year, ADE completed a follow-up on-site review of Buckeye Union High School District's ELL program September 23-24, 2013. After review and analysis of the data captured per A.R.S. § 15-756.08(J), ADE issued a letter of noncompliance to BUHSD on November 27, 2013. The letter included notice that BUHSD was being referred by the Arizona Department of Education to the SBE for a finding of noncompliance. BUHSD is required to submit a third Corrective Action Plan to ADE/OELAS by February 26, 2014.

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED: [] INFORMATION [X] ACTION/DESCRIBED BELOW:

That the Board find, for the reasons stated in ADE's letter of noncompliance dated November 27, 2013, that BUHSD is noncompliant with the laws pertaining to ELLs, thereby barring the District from receiving any monies from the Arizona Structured English Immersion Fund established by A.R.S. § 15-756.04 for ELLs and from reducing the monies spent on its ELL programs despite the loss of monies caused by its noncompliance. As required by law, ADE shall monitor BUHSD to ensure that the District takes the necessary actions to comply with the laws applicable to ELLs and does not reduce the amount of monies spent on its ELL programs. BUHSD shall be entitled to receive monies from the Arizona Structured English Immersion Fund only upon confirmation to the Board by ADE that BUHSD has come into compliance with the laws pertaining to ELLs.

ATTACHMENTS: YES [X] NO []