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Santa Fe Public School K-3 Plus Program
Presentation to New Mexico Legislative
Education Study Committee

June 14, 2017

Presented by:
Dr. Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Santa Fe Public Schools



Historical Overview of K-3 Plus
Program in SFPS

- The Santa Fe Public Schools has had K-3 Plus funding since 2007.
- The program has consistently grown as has the demand from our families for these important services.

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Summer 2016 K-3 Plus Program Overview Information

- 13 Schools- Aspen Community Magnet School, Cesar Chavez Community School, Chaparral Elementary School, EJ Martinez Elementary School, El Camino Real Academy, Gonzales Community School, Kearny Elementary School, Francis X. Nava Elementary School, Nina Otero Community School, Ramirez-Thomas Elementary School, Salazar Elementary School, Sweeney Elementary School, Tesuque Elementary School.
- June allocation \$256,411.07 – 8 days of instruction.
- July allocation \$951,315.75 -17 days of instruction.
- Allocated funding to serve: 1,155 students.
- One day of Professional Development in June.


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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Program Allocations and Communication with PED

- March 15, 2017 – K-3 Plus application submitted to PED.
- April 11, 2017 –request from PED, via Samantha Koroneos, K-3 Plus Coordinator, by phone to Ms. Trina Raper, Ex. Director for Curriculum and Professional Development SFPS, to reduce number of days of the program in June 2017 from 10 to 8.
- Ms. Koroneos further stated that the reduction of days was due to, “... we don’t have the funds for June.”

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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Program Allocations and Communication with PED


- April 24, 2017 Received Memo from Michael Miller, Director Literacy and Early Childhood Bureau, on 2017-18 Allocations. See Attachment A.
 - 15% reduction across all awards -3 year average.
 - PD day reduced to half day.

 - Allocation for June 2017 was reduced from \$495,538 to \$372,332. A reduction of \$123,206 or 24.8%.

 - Allocation for July 2017 was reduced from \$951,315 to \$743,272. A reduction of \$208,043 or 21.8%.

The actual reduction in students to be served is 21%.

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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Program Allocation and Communications with PED

- April 25, 2017 –Ms. Raper contacted K-3 Plus Coordinator Samantha Koroenos for clarification on the reduction of days. Ms. Koroenos provided the following information:
 - Given cap on number of students at 915—reduction of 252 students (21% reduction).

 - Confirmed amounts provided in link from memo.

 - Was told the award letter with the specifics given verbally would be forthcoming.


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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Program Allocations and Communications with PED

- K-3 Plus Award letter dated May 1, 2017 and received via email May 3, 2017. Attachment B.
 - Cap on number of students served at 915.
 - Reduction of funding from original application.
 - From \$1,443,854 to \$1,115,604 (Includes June and July) Total dollar reduction: \$328, 250- a 22.7% reduction.
 - Reduction of full day for Professional Development to half day.
 - Project 1167, awarded 915 or a 21% reduction of students served.


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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Program Allocations and Communications with PED


- May 5, 2017 Article in *The New Mexican* Secretary Skandera stated, “When districts pick up the phone and work to find ways to collaborate, the PED is a partner in brainstorming solutions.” See Attachment C.
- May 5, 2017 Superintendent Garcia emails letter to Secretary Skandera asking for restoration of funding and flexibility in administering the program. See Attachment D.
- May 18, 2017 Phone conversation with Priority Schools Director Debbie Montoya and Superintendent Garcia and Ms. Trina Raper to discuss SFPS need for:
 - Restoration funding (full or partial).
 - Flexibility in using other funding sources.
- Advised by Ms. Montoya to put request in writing.

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Summer 2017 K-3 Plus Related Communications with PED

- May 18, 2017 as per directive from Ms. Debbie Montoya, Superintendent Garcia emails letter to Secretary Skandera and select staff delineating SFPS plan for use of Title I funds and requesting increase in cap of 915 students, as well as full or partial restoration of funding to allow students from closed school to open school, how to report if allowed. See Attachment E.
- No response from PED other than from Ms. Montoya confirming receipt of May 18- 2017 letter.
- May 21, 2107 Superintendent Garcia sent email to Ms. Montoya and Deputy Secretary Paul Aguilar asking when the District might hear back on funding flexibility. See Attachment F.
- May 23, 2017 email asking if there is a response regarding increased K-3 Plus funding and or flexibility. See Attachment G.
- June 1, 2017 email from Ms. Trina Raper to Ms. Debbie Montoya and Deputy Secretary Paul Aguilar outlining the District's plan and seeking a response to the District's request from May 18, 2017. See Attachment H.
- June 6, 2017 at 4:04 p.m. Superintendent Garcia contacted Deputy Secretary Paul Aguilar via cell phone to ask for the status of inquiry. Thus far, no response from PED has been forthcoming. 9



SFPS Response to Funding Reductions

- Closed four elementary sites that were originally funded for K-3 Plus: EJ Martinez, Nava, Salazar and Tesuque.
- In addition, reduced total projected number of students to be served by 252.
- SFPS Allocated \$40K from Title I funds to fund educational assistants in classes that are now overloaded due to program funding reductions. We are still waiting to hear from PED if the District will be allowed this program flexibility.
- May 15, 2017 Santa Fe Community Foundation utilized the Dollars 4 Schools fund to provide \$20K and secured a matching \$20K for a total of \$40K to provide a K-6 summer program at Salazar Elementary School. Some students who would have been served in the K-3 Plus program will avail themselves of these services.
- Approximately 80 of the 252 displaced students will receive some form of service this summer.

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Where we are now?

- SFPS does not know if the reimbursement will be forthcoming for these students.
- SFPS has moved forward with enrolling students into different K-3 Plus schools – the families needed to know.

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Questions...

Thank you!

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TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Re: K-3 Plus Summer 2017 Allocation

1 message

Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 2:44 PM

To: "Miller, Michael, PED" <Michael.Miller2@state.nm.us>, TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>, Linda Sink <lsink@sfps.k12.nm.us>, ALMUDENA ABEYTA <aabeyta@sfps.k12.nm.us>, JAMES LUJAN <jalujan@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Thank you, we are thrilled to provide this program to our students.

Veronica

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Santa Fe Public Schools

On Mon, Apr 24, 2017 at 8:44 AM, Miller, Michael, PED <Michael.Miller2@state.nm.us> wrote:

April 24, 2017

MEMORANDUM

TO: Superintendents and Charter School Administrators

FROM: Michael Miller, Director, Literacy Bureau

RE: K-3 Plus Summer 2017 Allocations

Over the course of the last several weeks, the PED's Literacy Bureau met with many of you and your district teams regarding the K-3 Plus application. Thank you for your ongoing input and partnership on behalf of our students.

Projected costs associated with the Summer 2017 K-3 Plus program continue to increase as our schools are serving more students than ever before. This increased demand for the program, alongside budget reductions during tight fiscal times, have necessitated allocation adjustments. Throughout the budgeting process, our team sought to maintain program levels for students and to partner with you to expand services. With more districts participating and more students

accessing summer programming, combined with solvency measures being put in place statewide, the following actions are required:

- A 15% reduction across all awards (based on a 3 year average of funded enrollment); and
- A shift from a full planning day to a half day in order to maximize dollars flowing to classrooms and students

The Summer 2017 K-3 Plus awards have been posted on the PED's website for your review. Please find them at: <http://www.ped.state.nm.us/ped/AdminServicesDocs/planningdocs/K-3PlusFY17FY18summer17allocationtable.pdf>.

Award Letters for your schools' program(s) will follow in the next several days. Please don't hesitate to contact me with questions. Thank you for all you do for the students of New Mexico

Michael Miller

Literacy and Early Childhood Director

New Mexico Public Education Department

300 Don Gaspar G-5

Santa Fe, NM 87501

505-827-6567

michael.miller2@state.nm.us



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
 PUBLIC EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
 300 DON GASPAR
 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
 Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us

HANNA SKANDERA
 SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
 Governor

May 1, 2017

Dr. Veronica Garcia, Superintendent
 Santa Fe Public Schools
 610 Alta Vista
 Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: K-3 Plus FY17 Award

Dear Superintendent Garcia:

The Public Education Department (PED) has reviewed and approved the Santa Fe Public Schools' FY17 June application for the K-3 Plus extended school year program. The initial awarded amount is \$372,332.63 which is based on allotted enrollment and available funding:

	Number of Students	Planning Day Amount	Amount (Including Planning Day)
District Total:	915	\$22,557.50	\$372,332.63

The final allocation noted above provides for the maximum number of students authorized for the June 2017 program.

The funding provided shall not be used by districts to add new sites in 2017 and shall not exceed the approved enrollment numbers from the award letter. If a district or charter adds other schools sites or students, the district or charter is liable for all additional costs. The PED will not reimburse districts or charters for additional students or programs.

The K-3 Plus program provides funding for additional educational time for students in kindergarten through third grade with at least 25 instructional days, beginning up to two months earlier than the regular school year. If services, as required by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) exceed the available funding from the K-3 Plus award, then the district's special education federal budget should be used as a funding source to meet the IEP's requirements. It is important to note that school districts must meet the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements at 34 CFR § 300.203, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regulations. The expenditure levels for special education and related services must

be maintained or must exceed the previous year, unless a district has allowable exceptions under 34 CFR § 300.204. School districts can only use IDEA funds for the excess cost of providing special education and related services for students with disabilities.

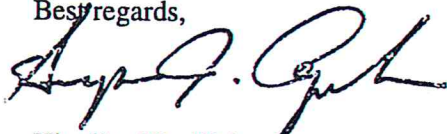
Funding under this award must be used as specified by legislation. All expenditures must be in accordance with fiscal regulations and the approved application through the Literacy and Early Childhood Bureau of the Public Education Department. Any budgetary items within the K-3 Plus District/Charter application, considered unallowable, will not be funded or reimbursed. All expenses designed to encourage student attendance in the program must have an instructional focus in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

In order to budget these funds, please submit an electronic FY17 Budget Adjustment Request (BAR) through the Operating Business Management System (OBMS) for \$372,332.63 no later than **May 26, 2017**. Use **Fund Code 27166 and Revenue Code 43202**. The flow-through BAR process is located on the PED website at <http://ped.state.nm.us/PED/Fiscal/GrantsMgmtIndex.html>.

These funds are provided on a reimbursement basis only using OBMS Requests for Reimbursement (RfR) and must be accompanied by an expenditure report with documentation supporting the claim. The FY17 K-3 Plus award must be expended by **June 30, 2017**. Carryover is not allowed. **All RfRs must be submitted on or before July 7, 2017.**

If you have questions regarding your K-3 Plus award, please contact Michael Miller, Literacy Bureau Director, at (505) 827-6567 or Michael.Miller2@state.nm.us. To reach the Fiscal Grants Management Bureau, please contact Susan Lucero at (505) 827-3848 or susan.lucero@state.nm.us.

Best regards,



Hipolito "Paul" Aguilar
Deputy Secretary, Finance and Operations

HA/MM/myp



STATE OF NEW MEXICO
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 300 DON GASPAR
 SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87501-2786
 Telephone (505) 827-5800
www.ped.state.nm.us

HANNA SKANDERA
 SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
 Governor

May 1, 2017

Dr. Veronica Garcia, Superintendent
 Santa Fe Public Schools
 610 Alta Vista
 Santa Fe, NM 87505

RE: K-3 Plus FY18 Award

Dear Superintendent Garcia:

The Public Education Department (PED) has reviewed and approved the Santa Fe Public Schools' FY18 July and August application for the K-3 Plus extended school year program. The initial awarded amount is \$743,272.16 which is based on allotted enrollment and available funding:

	Number of Students	Planning Day Amount	Amount (Including Planning Day)
District Total:	915		\$743,272.16

The final allocation noted above provides for the maximum number of students authorized for the July and August 2017 program.

The funding provided shall not be used by districts to add new sites in 2017 and shall not exceed the approved enrollment numbers from the award letter. If a district or charter adds other schools sites or students, the district or charter is liable for all additional costs. The PED will not reimburse districts or charters for additional students or programs.

The K-3 Plus program provides funding for additional educational time for students in kindergarten through third grade with at least 25 instructional days, beginning up to two months earlier than the regular school year. K-3 Plus programming for students with disabilities should be paid for by K-3 Plus funds. If services, as required by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) exceed the available funding from the K-3 Plus award, then the district's special education federal budget should be used as a funding source to meet the IEP's requirements. It is important to note that school districts must meet the Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements at 34 CFR § 300.203, of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) regulations. The expenditure levels for special education and related services must be maintained or must exceed the previous

year, unless a district has allowable exceptions under 34 CFR § 300.204. School districts can only use IDEA funds for the excess cost of providing special education and related services for students with disabilities.

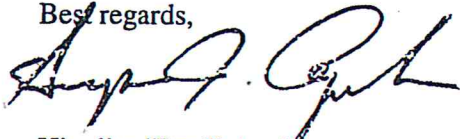
Funding under this award must be used as specified by legislation. All expenditures must be in accordance with fiscal regulations and the approved application through the Literacy and Early Childhood Bureau of the Public Education Department. Any budgetary items within the K-3 Plus District/Charter application, considered unallowable, will not be funded or reimbursed. All expenses designed to encourage student attendance in the program must have an instructional focus in order to be eligible for reimbursement.

In order to budget these funds, please upload the initial budget for FY18 through the Operating Business Management System (OBMS) for \$743,272.16 no later than **June 1, 2017**. Use **Fund Code 27166 and Revenue Code 43202**.

These funds are provided on a reimbursement basis only using OBMS Requests for Reimbursement (RfR) and must be accompanied by an expenditure report with documentation supporting the claim. The FY18 K-3 Plus award must be expended by **September 30, 2017**. Carryover is not allowed. **All RfRs must be submitted on or before December 1, 2017.**

If you have questions regarding your K-3 Plus award, please contact Michael Miller, Literacy Bureau Director, at (505) 827-6567 or michael.miller2@state.nm.us. To reach the Fiscal Grants Management Bureau, please contact Susan Lucero at (505) 827-3848 or susan.lucero@state.nm.us.

Best regards,



Hipolito "Paul" Aguilar
Deputy Secretary, Finance and Operations

HA/MM/myp

Budget woes kill summer program at four schools

District plans to cut K-3 Plus from E.J. Martinez, Nava, Salazar, Tesuque Elementary

Santa Fe New Mexican, USA May 5, 2017 A-1 By Robert Nott

The state government's fiscal challenges are taking a toll on a nearly decade-old summer school program that has offered 25 extra days of instruction to more than 15,000 of New Mexico's poorest students in kindergarten through third grade, including about 1,000 children in Santa Fe.

Four elementary schools in the local district are among dozens across the state that won't be able to provide K-3 Plus, a growing initiative that often has been touted by Gov. Susana Martinez and state Public Education Secretary Hanna Skandera as helping to narrow an achievement gap for low-income children in a state that consistently ranks at the bottom for educational measures.

Among the K-3 Plus programs that Santa Fe school officials chose to cut are those at E.J. Martinez and Nava elementary schools, both of which faced the threat of a shutdown this spring as the district wrangled with a projected budget shortfall from reduced state operating funds. The school board decided Tuesday to abandon that plan for now.

The K-3 Plus programs at Salazar and Tesuque elementary schools also will be dropped unless the district can find another way to fund them. The cuts will affect about 100 kids in the city, school officials said.

"Let me tell you, we have whiplash at E.J.," said Megan Perkins, president of E.J. Martinez Elementary School's Parent Teacher Association. "It's really challenging, when all we want to do is provide a safe, exciting, educational space for kids this summer."

The state Public Education Department late last month sent a letter to school districts, informing them that "increased demand for the [K-3 Plus] program, alongside budget reductions



Jaclyn Gonzales, a kindergarten teacher at Nava Elementary School, talks Wednesday to her class about the weather. Four elementary schools in the Santa Fe district are among dozens across the state that will no longer be able to provide the K-3 Plus summer school program because of the state's budget problems.

during tight fiscal times, have necessitated allocation adjustments.” The news was a further blow to districts. Public schools, as well as colleges and universities, already have seen funding cuts and are struggling to prepare budgets for the 2017-18 school year amid uncertainty about whether they will take another hit.

Gov. Martinez and the New Mexico Legislature have not agreed yet on a state spending plan for the fiscal year that starts July 1, largely because Martinez vetoed all funding for higher education. She has said she will restore that money through tax reforms and other measures during a special session that hasn't yet been scheduled. Martinez and lawmakers have said they don't plan further cuts to school districts, but there is no guarantee.

Meanwhile, President Donald Trump has proposed cuts to federal education funding.

Santa Fe Public Schools announced earlier this spring that it could face a shortfall of more than \$9 million and was considering school closures to help fill the gap. The district's outlook has improved in recent weeks, but it is still grappling with an expected deficit of \$1.78 million.

According to a legislative report, state lawmakers cut about \$1 million from K-3 Plus, a nearly \$24 million statewide program. As a result, the Public Education Department said, districts must prepare for an average funding reduction of 15 percent per year over the next three years. For Santa Fe Public Schools, that means a \$300,000 drop, from about \$1.4 million last summer to \$1.1 million this summer, officials said.

Superintendent Veronica García said the district is working to ensure that many of the students displaced from K-3 Plus will be able to enroll in other summer school programs.

“This will be tough on those communities that were counting on the K-3 Plus program,” García said. “It is problematic. ... I am looking at how I might be able to patchwork one or two programs, but I don't think I can restore all four.”

In an email sent through a spokeswoman, Skandera said, “When districts pick up the phone and work to find ways to collaborate, the PED is a partner in brainstorming solutions. Several other districts, for example, are working with us and are making sure students have access to k3Plus this summer.”

Skandera's comments come amid a dispute between the agency and the district over a half-day “snow day for action” that García called in mid-March, canceling classes after lunch so that teachers, parents and students could participate in a pro-education funding rally at the Capitol. Skandera has accused district officials of wasting a quarter of a million dollars on its “snow day” and possibly violating state law.

García said the district chose to cut K-3 Plus at Nava, E.J. Martinez, Salazar and Tesuque elementary schools based on enrollment, teacher and food-service availability, and whether the principals are on extended summer contracts.

Perkins, the E.J. Martinez PTA president, said over 60 students were ready to take part in that school's program, and now parents and teachers are scrambling to build an alternative program that would yield similar results.

By tracking the data at E.J. Martinez, Perkins said, she discovered that the test scores of children who participate in K-3 Plus are “dramatically higher than those who do not. It's a really important program, and if anything, should be expanded, not cut.”

García and Trina Raper, the district's assistant director of curriculum and professional development, also are among the proponents of K-3 Plus. “Twenty-five days with any teacher before school starts — we think you are going to be ahead of the game,” Raper said.

A five-year legislative study of the program released in December 2015 found mixed results, with students making significant short-term gains in reading, writing and math that tended to flatten out over time.

"It's a shame that our state financial situation has put us in this place," said Tesuque Elementary Principal Tina Morris. "Our kids would benefit from going to summer school programs."

Kathleen Jimenez, a Tesuque mom whose four children have participated in K-3 Plus, said, "Of all the cuts we are having to take at our school, this is pretty painful. It's huge."

Her children were loath to attend the program, she said — until the end of the first day, when they fell in love with it. "They got to do a lot more science, math and other hands-on activities that kids love to do."



Memorandum

Date: May 5, 2017

To: Hanna Skandera, Secretary of Education

From: Veronica C. Garcia, SFPS Superintendent of Schools

Re: **K3 Plus Funding Cuts-Request for Collaborative Support**

As we are preparing for our K3 Plus programs, I am asking if there is any availability to increase the funding for the Santa Fe Public Schools?

Earlier we agreed to assist PED by changing our beginning and ending dates as verbally requested by the Literacy Bureau.

We are asking to keep the programs open for all the schools in our original budget.

We are willing to work together to design a workable solution. Any flexibility that could be provided such as allowing children who were previously in a K3 Plus school to attend a funded K3 plus program would be appreciated.

Please note we have identified \$40,000 that we will redirect to fill the funding gap. Further, we are working with community partners to find additional funds for this much needed program.

I thank you in advance for your consideration.

CC: Paul Aguilar, Deputy Secretary of Education
Samantha Koroneos, Literacy Bureau Chief
Trina Raper, Director Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development



Memorandum

To: Debbie Montoya, Director Priority Schools Bureau

From: Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.

Date: May 18, 2017

Re: K3Plus flexibility

Santa Fe Public Schools is requesting flexibility in providing quality summer academic programs for our students through the current K3 Plus schools.

The budget reduction and the cap on the number of students meant we closed four K3 Plus programs at Nava Elementary, EJ Martinez Elementary, Salazar Elementary and Tesuque Elementary Schools.

Two hundred eighty-six thousand dollars (\$286K) from our current Title 1 funds were allocated for summer school as listed below:

- Pinon Elementary-our traditional June summer school for students K-6: \$76,000
- Additional funds for Chaparral K3Plus to allow students to attend from Nava and EJ Martinez, and Aspen K3Plus to allow students to attend from Tesuque Elementary: 8 FTE:-\$40,000
- Scrub Club-a summer science program for mid-school students: \$40,000
- Santa Fe High School and Capital High School credit recovery: \$130,000.

Please note that \$87K of the \$286K is allocated from carry-over funds and the remaining Title I carry over dollars are encumbered for other programs and services.

We were fortunate to have partnered with the Santa Fe Community Foundation and they have allocated \$40,000 for a June summer school at Salazar for students in grades K-6. The program for Kg-3rd grade students will be modeled after the K-3 Plus program.

To provide K3Plus programming for the other three schools we are requesting for your consideration:

1. Can we have an increase in our current cap of 915 students to cover the cost of the students from Tesuque, Nava and EJ Martinez to attend Aspen and Chaparral? Our extra allocation for 8 FTE does not cover the classroom staffing needs.
2. Is there any extra funding from PED to allow for this flexible attendance from a closed K3Plus school to ones we can keep open?
3. As K3Plus is budgeted by school, if approval is given for students to attend a K3Plus school that is not their neighborhood school, how should we report these students as we will be over the cap assigned by PED?

We thank you in advance for your consideration.

CC: Linda Sink, Chief Academic Officer

Trina Raper, Director Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development



TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Re: Letter as requested

3 messages

Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Sun, May 21, 2017 at 3:31 PM

To: "Montoya, Debbie, PED" <Debbie.Montoya@state.nm.us>, TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>, Linda Sink <lsink@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Hi Debbie,

Do you have an idea when we might hear back?

Best,

V.

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Santa Fe Public Schools

On Thu, May 18, 2017 at 5:38 PM, Montoya, Debbie, PED <Debbie.Montoya@state.nm.us> wrote:

Thank you Dr. Garcia. I have received your request.

Debbie

From: Veronica Garcia [mailto:vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us]

Sent: Thursday, May 18, 2017 4:53 PM

To: Montoya, Debbie, PED

Cc: Aguilar, Paul J, PED; Skandera, Hanna, PED

Subject: Letter as requested

Dear Debbie,

I am sorry I wasn't able to get this to you earlier. I thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best,

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.

Superintendent

Santa Fe Public Schools



TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Follow up to Memos dated: May 5th and May18th Requests -- K3 Plus

2 messages

Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us> Tue, May 23, 2017 at 4:45 PM
To: "Montoya, Debbie, PED" <Debbie.Montoya@state.nm.us>
Cc: "Aguilar, Paul J, PED" <paulj.aguilar@state.nm.us>, "Skandera, Hanna, PED" <hanna.skandera@state.nm.us>, TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Hello Debbie!

I was just wondering if you have a response for us regarding increased K3 Plus funding and or flexibility.

I hope you're having a great day!

Best,

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Santa Fe Public Schools

Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us> Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 1:16 PM
To: TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Santa Fe Public Schools

[Quoted text hidden]



TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Santa Fe Public Schools K3Plus flexibility request- Urgent

2 messages

 TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Thu, Jun 1, 2017 at 4:06 PM

To: debbie.montoya@state.nm.us, paulj.aguilar@state.nm.us

Cc: Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us>, Linda Sink <lsink@sfps.k12.nm.us>

SFPS has a plan in place to augment K3Plus as a result of the budget cut. We do not want to put this plan into place without the guidance and approval from PED.

We are asking:

1. Can we send students from the K3Plus schools we closed to another K3Plus school which has lower enrollment?
2. If yes, will we be reimbursed for these students as long as we do not go over the 915 student cap?
3. If we need to increase the number of teachers or paraprofessionals hired for K3P, can we use Title 1 funds?
4. If yes, how would we report these salaries from Title 1?
5. If yes, how would we report any student we serve over the 915 cap in STARS?

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We start our program on June 21, 2017 and need to let our families know as soon as possible.

Regards,

Trina Raper

Executive Director for Curriculum and Professional Development
 Santa Fe Public Schools
 505-467-2569 office
 505-660-4273-cell

There is a magic bullet in education, it is the teacher.

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 Veronica Garcia <vcgarcia@sfps.k12.nm.us>

To: TRINA RAPER <traper@sfps.k12.nm.us>

Thu, Jun 8, 2017 at 10:54 AM

Veronica C. Garcia, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Santa Fe Public Schools

[Quoted text hidden]



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HANNA SKANDERA
SECRETARY OF EDUCATION

SUSANA MARTINEZ
GOVERNOR

June 13, 2017

Veronica Garcia
Superintendent, Santa Fe Public Schools
610 Alta Vista Street
Santa Fe, NM 87505

Dear Dr. Garcia:

Thank you for the continued communication and collaboration around K-3 Plus. We commend the district's efforts to identify additional federal and local funding and in garnering philanthropic and community support for students in Santa Fe Public Schools (SFPS). As you know, K-3 Plus has grown significantly in size over the years and is continuously evaluated for efficacy, and going forward the initiative will need the type of local leadership and prioritization that SFPS has shown as more students and families seek continued summer learning.

In your most recent correspondence, three questions were put forward for the Public Education Department (PED) to consider as part of the district's request. We've included those questions here:

1. Can we have an increase in our current cap of 915 students to cover the cost of the students from Tesuque, Nava and EJ Martinez to attend Aspen and Chaparral? Our extra allocation for 8 FTE does not cover the classroom staffing needs.
2. Is there any extra funding from PED to allow for this flexible attendance from a closed K-3 Plus school to ones we can keep open?
3. As K-3 Plus is budgeted by school, if approval is given for students to attend a K3 Plus school that is not their neighborhood school, how should we report these students as we will be over the cap assigned by PED?

We remain encouraged that student, family and district demand for New Mexico's targeted investments are up—from Pay-for-Performance to Truancy & Dropout Prevention Coaches to Pre-K expansion. However, given the Legislature's decision to reduce targeted investments even when both student achievement is rising and district demand is at an all-time high, it has been incredibly difficult for the PED to accommodate additional requests. More than ever, we have seen substantial requests for programmatic increases, from Principals Pursuing Excellence to

Reads to Lead to AP Fee Waivers for students from low-income communities. SFPS is an important partner in each of these efforts. The PED continues to be deliberate and fiscally responsible in considering applications and requests for each of these—many of which are fundamentally changing our children’s lives.

Regarding your request for additionally flexibility, while K-3 Plus has been budgeted “by school” in the past, the award for Summer 2017 was made to the district, recognizing that FY17 legislative solvency cuts and increased summer demand would impact programming. SFPS has already worked to ensure more students are being served—hence there is no cap on the number of students served. Your district grant provides flexibility that allows SFPS to refine and assign/re-assign K-3 Plus programs as needed in order to maximize the number of students who are served in the Santa Fe community. While the PED does not have “extra funding” to allocate for ad hoc requests at this time, we will continue to work with your team regarding student assignment, student data reporting, and site selection options to best meet the local needs of your district.

Please contact me or Michael Miller, Director, Literacy Bureau with further questions at: Michael.Miller2@state.nm.us.

Warm regards,



Debbie Montoya
Director Student Achievement and School Turnaround Division

HS/CR/dm

cc: Hanna Skandera, Secretary of Education
Christopher Ruskowski, Deputy Secretary for Policy and Program
Paul J. Aguilar, Deputy Secretary for. Finance & Operations
Michael Miller, Director Literacy Bureau