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## **Alternative to Supplemental Educational Services and Public School Choice plan: 2016-2017**

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) for Title I, Part A, will go into effect for the 2017-2018 school year, and it does not require Supplemental Educational Services (SES) and Public School Choice (PSC) for Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring. Recent transition guidance from the United States Department of Education (USED) states that such schools will not be required to provide Supplemental Educational Services (SES) or Public School Choice (PSC) beginning with the 2016-2017 school year provided that an alternate to SES is developed, and students who have transferred through PSC are allowed to remain in the school to which they have transferred until reaching the highest grade in that school.

Under USED guidance for the transition from the current law to ESSA, Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring must provide students with an alternative to SES for the 2016-2017 school year in order to not offer SES. On April 12, 2016, the Montana Title I Committee of Practitioners met to discuss the transition plan. A proposal was developed, and then a bulk email sent out to Montana stakeholders for comment. The proposal was also posted on the OPI website. The comment period ran from April 22, 2016, until April 27, 2016. There were four comments, all in favor of the proposed change. Therefore, the OPI has adopted the following transition plan for SES and PSC for the 2016-2017 school year. All districts with Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring are required to do the following:

1. Districts with Title I schools in improvement, corrective action, and restructuring must provide one of the following for those students most at-risk of failing, or who are failing to meet state standards: before or after school tutoring, summer school, extended day intervention strategies, etc.
2. Districts will develop a system to identify those students who are eligible for these services using multiple, educationally relevant criteria with those in greatest need receiving priority for services.
3. Districts will determine the funds needed to run the program.
4. Districts will be required to monitor and evaluate the program for effectiveness.
5. This plan must be developed by school personnel and parents of affected students. Evidence of these planning meetings (agendas, sign-in sheets, and minutes) must be kept by the district.
6. Districts will describe this plan in the ESEA Consolidated Application for school year 2016-2017 in the E-grants system.

7. Districts may provide these services themselves and do not have to do so through third party providers. There will be no state approved providers for the 2016-2017 school year.
8. Students who have transferred under PSC may remain in the school that they have transferred to until reaching the highest grade in that school, but PSC will not be offered to new students for school year 2016-2017.