



Contract for Excellence

Needs and Strategies Report For School Year 2009-10

WATERVLIET CITY SD

SUPERINTENDENT PAUL PADALINO

Contract Plan: Describe the overall strategy your district will implement under the Contract for Excellence to address the above needs. Detail the new and innovative programs selected and how they will integrate with existing improvement plans.

The district has taken a global approach in implementing contract for excellence funding programs, with the greatest focus on special education and literacy. Both of these areas are in need of improvement as shown in the accountability report from the New York State Education Department.

The Reading first program is seen by staff and administration as a key to improving overall literacy and performance and improvement in every subject area and grade level.

Maintenance of Effort: Describe how you will continue your previous years' C4E expenditures. Districts are required to maintain total expenditures for C4E allowable programs at the level of their 2007-08 and 2008-09 amounts, as approved by the Commissioner. The total amount to be maintained in 2009-10 therefore is equal to the approved 2008-09 Contract amount, including the 2007-08 MOE amount.

The District will not be discontinuing any programs implemented with 2007/2008 contract funding.

Reading First will remain the corner stone of our literacy improvement program.

Reallocation: Specifically describe how you will reallocate any funds which will not continue to support prior year C4E programs. The reallocation of funds must be for new C4E allowable programs and be approved by the Commissioner. Reallocated funds will reduce the prior year's MOE by an equal amount. Describe specific programs and items to be purchased and how the new programs will improve student achievement. Revised Narratives, Programs, Options, Input Metrics, Performance

District will maintain Contract For Excellence spending on programs established and implemented in 2008-2009.

Achievement Issues: Describe the overall student achievement need presenting the greatest challenge in your school district which the Contract for Excellence addresses. In particular, describe the needs for those schools in improvement status that qualified your district for the Contract for Excellence.

The overall student achievement need in the Watervliet City School District is in the English Language Arts area. The district will be using Contract for Excellence funds to continue our Reading First program at the prek - 6 levels. The continuation of this program will assist us in sending students into their middle school years with greater skills and abilities in reading and literacy. The early intervention of Reading First will provide our students with the capacity to achieve competence on the New York State Assessments at the middle level, where the district is identified as in need of improvement. The reduced class size and increased instructional presence at the middle school level, coupled with increased academic intervention services will be employed to address the current middle level student who are in need of remediation.

Special Populations: The needs of special populations (LEP, students with disabilities, poverty and students with low achievement) should be assessed, with specific programmatic efforts identified.

The district will focus on improved achievement for special education students at the middle level with increased instructional support. One new special education teacher and two New York State Certified Teaching Assistants will be added to the middle school program. Special education students will also benefit from the additional reading teacher and the increased academic intervention services offered through this addition.

Teacher training in literacy, inclusion and differentiated instruction will provide greater guidance for our staff on effectively reaching students with disabilities.



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Targeting to Need: Provide evidence that funds are targeted to students with the greatest educational needs. Refer to the Educational Need Matrix e-mailed to each superintendent.

The district will use Contract funds to increase the student achievement level by 10% in the special education sub group (as illustrated above) and in the area of safe harbor at elementary school (ELA). An additional Math specialist will be added to the faculty to service struggling learners in mathematics.

Performance Targets: You will need to complete a detailed Performance Matrix in the application that will capture the specific gap reduction you expect in each school with C4E funds for specific accountability areas and subgroups of students. In this narrative, describe the overall achievement outcomes that you anticipate will result from the C4E programs.

The district will use Contract funds to increase the student achievement level by 10% in the special education sub group (as illustrated above) and in the area of safe harbor at elementary school (math). An additional Math specialist will be added to the faculty to service struggling learners in mathematics.

New vs. Continuation of Existing Programs: Describe how funds will supplement and not supplant current programs, except where allowed.

New programs will supplement current programs through the addition of greater support for the learning and skills that have been introduced through previous contract for excellence funded programs. The focus on literacy through reading first will be supplemented with an additional reading teacher at the middle school level. The focus on special education will be supplemented through the addition of greater support staff for special education students (Teaching Assistant and a Social Worker).
