

December 19, 2002

TO: Selected Principals & Charter School Directors

FROM: Bill McGrady
Section Chief, Compensatory Education Section
School Improvement Division

Jerry Jailall
Coordinator, Comprehensive School Reform Grants Program



RE: North Carolina Comprehensive School Reform Implementation Grants – 2002/2003 Competition (Cohort 4)

Funding Availability: As you were alerted in a memo previously from Marvin Pittman, the Department of Public Instruction will be awarding grants, on a competitive basis, to selected schools for implementation of comprehensive school reform initiatives. Eligible schools are those with ABCs performance composites of 54 and below, with at least an enrollment of 50 students. Approximately \$2 million will be available on a competitive basis for new grants. The purpose of these grants is to support implementation of research-based, school reform programs that have a proven history of improving student performance and that are part of a comprehensive “whole-school” reform effort. We anticipate funding between 20 and 25 grants. Grants will range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year for up to three years. *See Appendix 1 for the list of eligible schools.*

Informational Meeting: One informational session/showcase will be held on January 21-22, 2003 at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park. **Attendance at this meeting (both days) is a requirement for any school wishing to apply for this grant.** The team should be comprised of the principal and at least two other persons who will be involved in the application and implementation process, but not more than three persons per school. Please complete the meeting registration form and “Intent to Apply” form and return by **5:00 p.m. on Monday, January 6, 2003.**

Website Information: The attached materials include all that you will need to apply for these grants. A copy of the application packet is also available on DPI’s website under the Compensatory Education Section (www.ncpublicschools.org/comped/index.html#reform_grants). More information on the comprehensive school reform program is available in the *Catalog of School Reform Models* through the Northwest Regional Education Laboratory (www.nwrel.org), or at (www.goodschools.gwu.edu).

Submission Deadline: Grants must be received at the Department of Public Instruction by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, April 4, 2003.** It is expected that grant awards will be made in July/August 2002. Schools intending to apply will be given up-front technical assistance in completing their applications at regional meetings across the state.

For More Information: If you have questions, please call Dr. Jerry Jailall, CSR Coordinator at 919-807-3965.

WFM/JJ
cc. Selected Superintendents
Attachments