January 28, 2005

INFORMATION ONLY

TO THE SUPERINTENDENT/ADMINISTRATOR ADDRESSED:

SUBJECT: Implementation of No Child Left Behind Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAOs)

Section 3122 of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) of 2001 requires that the Texas Education Agency (TEA) develop annual measurable achievement objectives (AMAOs) for limited English proficient (LEP) students served in Title III-funded local education agencies (LEAs). LEAs receiving Title III funds will be accountable for meeting the AMAOs. The AMAO accountability measures will be implemented beginning with this spring's test administrations.

NCLB requires Title III-funded LEAs to meet annual performance targets for three AMAOs, the first two of which relate specifically to English language proficiency.

- AMAO 1 measures the percent of LEP students who make progress in learning English.
- AMAO 2 measures the percent of LEP students who attain English language proficiency.
- AMAO 3 measures the adequate yearly progress (AYP) of LEP students as described in section 1111(b)(2)(B) of NCLB.

Attachment A provides the AMAO 1 and 2 performance targets for the 2004-05 school year. The performance targets for AMAO 3 are the AYP targets already in place.

The composite English language proficiency results of the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) will be used to determine each Title III-funded LEA's status on AMAO 1 and AMAO 2. TELPAS district and campus results will arrive in districts by May 6, 2005.

It is anticipated that LEAs will receive AMAO 1 and 2 preview data through the 2005 Performance-Based Monitoring Analysis System (PBMAS) in August 2005. AMAO 3 status will be determined from the reading and mathematics results used in AYP. In coordination with the release of 2005 AYP, the Division of NCLB Program Coordination will send notification to all Title III-funded LEAs that failed to meet the AMAOs. It is anticipated that this notification will occur no later than November 2005. Detailed information on parent notification requirements and consequences for not meeting AMAOs under NCLB is enclosed in Attachment B. The manner in which AMAO status will be used in performance-based monitoring is under discussion and will be communicated to school districts at a later date.

Questions about this information should be addressed to the following areas of TEA:

- TELPAS assessments, AMAO performance targets and score reports, Student Assessment, (512) 463-9536, studenta@tea.state.tx.us.
- NCLB parental notification requirements and AMAO accountability consequences, NCLB Program Coordination, (512) 936-6290, nclb@tea.state.tx.us.
- Instruction of LEP students, Bilingual Education/ESL, (512) 475-3555, curric@tea.state.tx.us.
- PBMAS, Performance-Based Monitoring, (512) 936-6426, pbm@tea.state.tx.us.

Sincerely,

Susan Barnes
Associate Commissioner for Standards and Programs

cc: ESC executive director
ESC and district test coordinator, bilingual/ESL coordinator, Title III director

Attachments A and B