

Fulton City School District
Contract for Excellence Narrative
2008-09

The Fulton City School District's Contract for Excellence program for the 2008-09 school year will continue to focus on the district's students with disabilities (SWD) and low socioeconomic students who have not attained proficiency in their learning and achievement in the areas of English Language Arts (ELA) and mathematics, as well as the graduation rate of each of these two sub populations of students. The focus of the Contract for Excellence will be to address the current and future learning expectations of students from all six schools, most particularly the performance of SWD and low socioeconomic students relative to proficiency on the NYS Accountability System, through district wide initiatives.

The district's efforts for 2008-09 will specifically involve returning students with disabilities to Fulton School District operated classes and services within the school district, from classes the students have previously attended that were operated by the Oswego County BOCES Special Education Department. Through these actions the students will receive the FCSD regular education instructional and curricular program and the supports and services available in each school. The intended outcome is for these students to master the regular curriculum and NYS Learning Standards, earn course credit, pass required NYS assessments and ultimately graduate from high school with a Regents diploma.

Specifically, the district will hire six (6) special education teachers - five (5) at the elementary level and one (1) at the high school level, two (2) counselors, one (1) speech and language therapist, one (1) school psychologist, and eight (8) teacher assistants, who will provide services, instruction and support to these returning students. Additionally, one administrator will be hired to assist in providing supervision and support for these students and other at risk students within the school district.

The FCSD will also use the increase in NYS Foundation School Aid to expand the G. Ray Bodley High School advisory program from ninth grade into tenth grade, hire three teacher aides to supervised the FastForward leaning computer classes in the elementary schools, expand the Read 180 student learning program from grades 7 and 8 to grades 9 and 10.

The district will also purchase a new mathematics series and supplemental materials to support all students, particularly students with disabilities and low socioeconomic students with mastering the NYS Mathematics Learning Standards in order to meet grade level expectations, diploma and graduation requirements. The district will further provide professional development for teachers and administrators on differentiated instruction, literacy, fostering parent communication and involvement and delivering instructional and behavioral supports and services.

Accompanying links on the district web site illustrate the amount of Foundation Aid funds by school and Contract for Excellence Area to support student learning and achievement.

The 2007-08 Contract for Excellence initiatives will be continued during the 2008-09 school year.

Comprehensive Improvement Planning

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Commissioner's regulations require that Contract for Excellence allowable programs and activities be coordinated with those programs and activities included in the district's comprehensive educational plan. The Department expects that the district's Contract for Excellence will be integrated and consistent with other school improvement activities mandated by VESID, the federal government pursuant to Title I, NCLB or other provisions or entities, already underway, so that these efforts will have a synergistic effect.

DISTRICT NARRATIVE Please describe the extent and manner in which the Contract's allowable programs and activities are coordinated with other school improvement efforts the district is implementing, pursuant to its comprehensive education plan(s).

The FCSD has been engaged in implementing systemic educational change initiatives over the past twenty four to thirty months to improve the learning outcomes of all students in the school district. The former District in Need of Improvement (DINI) Plan provided a framework for each school's School Improvement Plan (SIP) which is a yearly requirement for submission to the Superintendent of Schools. The priorities of the DINI Plan, which continue to be the district framework, are: 1.) Focusing on literacy instruction PK-12; 2.) Interpreting and utilizing data to guide instruction and decision making; 3.) Aligning curriculum and instruction through implementation of curriculum mapping; 4.) Personalizing the school environment (PBIS) and enhancing students connectedness to their education; 5.) Targeting interventions to low performing students using the response to intervention model (RTI) ; and 6.) Increasing parental involvement in support of their child's education.

Lanigan Elementary school is a K-6 grade school with a student population of approximately 450 students of which 46% are economically disadvantaged. The school has 70 students with disabilities (SWD) who receive services primarily in integrated classes with a consultant teacher or in the three district (located at Lanigan) 12:1:1 classes for moderately developmentally disabled students.

The Lanigan SIP as submitted to and approved by the State Education Department <http://www.fulton.cnyric.org/schools/lanigan/index.cfm> comprises all of the initiatives of the district DINI Plan with specific strategies as a basis to improve the proficiency of all students including the subpopulations of SWD and LES.

The district has not targeted new Contract for Excellence funds directly to Lanigan Elementary School in 2008-09 due to other funding sources, including Year 1 Contract for Excellence funding (\$250,000), having been directed to the school to provide and leverage improvement strategies to address the performance of SWD and LES. This targeting of funding and resources is consistent with the district wide approach, former DINI Plan and the District's CDEP Plan. The funds and resources that have been instituted at Lanigan Elementary for the 2008-09 school year include: \$268,667 to support AIS, professional development, supplemental support services, special education staffing, extended year and day programs, mentoring, class size reduction, literacy instruction, cognitive coaching, differentiated instruction and parent involvement.

As the Lanigan Elementary SIP illustrates, the school staff, under the new school administrative leadership instituted in March 2007, the school

* School has NO Contract for Excellence Allocations

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community, district and additional funding and resources are all aligned and focused on student learning and success as measured by all students being proficient in regards to the NYS Learning Standards in ELA, mathematics and science as measured on the NYS Accountability System. Further, the approach to Lanigan School as in all other schools is to use a proactive district framework to prepare students for the secondary level diploma and exit requirements.

OTHER RESOURCES	IDEA	Title I	School Improvement	SURR Funding	Other	Total
FULTON CITY SD	\$104,534	\$130,000	\$65,000		\$73,667	\$373,201
OTHER RESOURCES	IDEA	Title I	School Improvement	SURR Funding	Other	Total
FAIRGRIEVE SCHOOL						
FULTON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL *						
G RAY BODLEY HIGH SCHOOL						
GRANBY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						
J E LANIGAN SCHOOL	\$104,534	\$130,000	\$65,000		\$73,667	\$373,201
VOLNEY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL						
TOTAL OF ALL SCHOOLS	\$104,534	\$130,000	\$65,000		\$73,667	

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