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Local SES Coordinators Conference Call
January 21, 2009 10:00 a.m.

Conference Call Lead By—Dr. Mary Cross and Geri Taylor Lawrence of the Maryland State Department of Education, Program Improvement and Family Support Branch

In Attendance—Dr. Johnetta Smith of the Prince George's County Public School System and Ms. Naomi Hill, Mr. Michael Klapp, and Ms. Keshawn Golson of the Baltimore City Public School System.

The Topics Discussed

The meeting began with the announcement that the RFQ for the 2009-2010 school year has been drafted and is in the review and revision stage. We also informed the LEAs that the U.S. Department of Education, on January 14, 2009, issued a new non-regulatory guidance document pertaining to the regulations issued on October 29, 2008, which took effect on November 29, 2008. The links to the guidance are-
SES guidance: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/suppsvcsguid.doc> and
PSC guidance: <http://www.ed.gov/policy/elsec/guid/schoolchoiceguid.doc>

- I. In order to plan MSDE site visits, Local School Systems were asked to send updated information on providers that are currently serving in their counties and the days of the week they offer SES.
- II. The meeting turned to discussion about the new web site posting requirements for SES and Choice that have been adopted in the new U.S. Department of Education. LEA staff discussed the progress of their posting data. It was decided that the LEAs will post eligibility data on their web sites in two ways; 1) figures based on the poverty calculation and 2) figures based on the number of students who are fundable, given the LEA allocation. The LEAs agreed to send their posted data to MSDE as a link to their web site. The State will then be able to post the links on its web site, giving ready access to the information to those who visit the MSDE web page for SES.
- III. Finally, there was a discussion of the problem of providers who have had, or are in the process of having their services halted due to violations of the criminal background check or the liability insurance policies, which are also requirements in LEA contracts.

