

Federal Stimulus Dollars Covers Short Fall in State Funding

by Brian Gillespie, Treasurer of Champion Local Schools

Champion Schools received \$820,000 in Federal Stimulus dollars this year. Part of these dollars is to be spent between school years 2009-10 and 2010-11. This one time stimulus payment was designed to give financial help for two years to struggling Ohio school districts. These stimulus dollars are restricted to certain uses and are a one time lump payment of federal dollars to school districts. These dollars must be targeted in 2 areas:

- Title I Federal program which provides funding targeted to educationally disadvantaged students based on poverty level
- Title VI B Federal program which provides funding targeted for special education students

The rest of these federal stimulus dollars were given to the State to insure that School Districts across the State received funding equal to what they had received the previous year. Without this Federal "bail-out" the State would have had to reduce the funding that went to these School Districts.

- ARRA (the American Renewal Recovery Recognition Act) which were federal dollars substituted to replace the dollars to school districts which were cut by the State.

Program	Amount of Stimulus Dollars	What the stimulus dollars financed
Title I – Educationally Disadvantaged Students	\$109,000	Computers, technology for classrooms for student instruction
Title VI B- Special Education	\$319,000	Funding toward cost of a special education teacher & special education aides for students
ARRA* - Foundation	\$392,000	State cut this much from the district's funding. Federal government through stimulus dollars replaced the amount cut by the State. Not an increase in funding. Just offset the State's funding cuts.

Champion Schools as with many school districts in Ohio is on the State Guarantee. This means the school district receives no more money from the State of Ohio than it did the prior year. For nearly the (10) years, the State of Ohio has provided the same amount of state funding to school districts. Champion Schools has been on the Guarantee for four (4) years.

For questions on Champion Schools' finances you are welcome to contact Pamela Hood, Superintendent or Brian Gillespie, Treasurer @ 330-847-2330.