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GUIDANCE MEMORANDUM #19- 1

TO: All State District Superintendents

FROM: Jonathan Moore, Ed.D.
Acting Superintendent of Public Instruction 

SUBJECT: Release of CSI/TSI/ATSI Schools Guidance Document

The federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), passed by Congress in 2015, develops specific designations for state educational agencies to use in identifying and prioritizing schools that need additional support. ESSA offers a promising approach to school improvement by providing more flexibility in designating and reporting school performance. ESSA's three designations of schools identified as in need of school improvement are: Comprehensive Support and Improvement (CSI), Targeted Support and Improvement (TSI), and Additional Targeted Support and Improvement (ATSI).

The Nevada Department of Education has created the attached guidance document to assist local education agencies (LEAs) and schools with understanding school, district, and state responsibilities associated with all three designations, along with exit criteria for each. This guidance provides explanation around each federal designation and the specific components that must be included in each school's plan; it is intended to build upon the support your district is already providing to your schools, especially those that are underperforming. You will also find sample parent letters in English and Spanish for LEAs to use as a tool for communicating these designations with parents and families. LEAs should utilize this guidance document when supporting their schools in creating school performance plans for the 2019-20 school year.

For further assistance or questions, please contact Gabrielle Pingue Lamarre, Esq., Title I Programs Director at gpingue@doe.nv.gov/702-668-4309 and Dr. Tina Winqvist, CSI/TSI/ATSI Education Programs Professional at twinquist@doe.nv.gov/702-486-6434.