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**From:** Fewel Teresa  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 21, 2020 8:58 PM

**Subject:** Quick update

School Leaders,

I am sure many of you have watched the news today. The Governor held a Press Briefing this evening stating our COVID-19 numbers are “likely declining” but lifting restriction is more likely “turning of a dial, not a flip of the switch.” The Governor also restated the criteria upon which reopening our state will be decided. There was no mention of schools, but he did imply that there would be no lessening of state wide restriction for many prior to May 4<sup>th</sup>.

The Senate has passed the second PPP and EIDL bills today that provides:

- \$310B in additional funding for the Paycheck Protection Program (with set asides for community banks and credit unions)
- \$60B in additional funding for Economic Injury Disaster Loans
- \$75B for hospitals
- \$25B for COVID testing

There are not major changes to the EIDL or PPP programs that would affect your qualifying for the loans. Rather, the bill sets aside some PPP funding for the smaller lenders. This bill passed the Senate by unanimous consent today and heads to the House to pass it on Thursday. You should be eligible and qualify for this new PPP funding. Have your applications ready with the lenders as soon as possible, before the funding is officially available.

I also want to let you know that working with WSCC and Legal, OCS is looking at the language of the K-12 stimulus dollars (GEER funds) that are coming into the state and will be distributed by the Governor. Distributing GEER funds will be **“in the same manner”** as Title 1 funds, meaning that the **process** will be the same.

Here is what the bill says the “public control” of the GEER funds would look like:

- The State will ensure that a public agency will maintain control of funds for the services and assistance provided to a non-public school under the GEER Fund.
- The State will ensure that a public agency will have title to materials, equipment, and property purchased with GEER funds.
- The State will ensure that services to a non-public school with GEER funds will be provided by a public agency directly, or through contract with, another public or private entity.
- There will be “strings attached” to GEER money.

The first three bullets actually follow how money is controlled for Title 1 currently by the local school district and then allocated to our schools. More needs to be known about the “strings attached”. OCS will be seeking clarification on these “strings” and will distribute to schools.

You are on the frontlines every day! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

“Help us to look for God within ourselves!”

St Teresa of Avilla pray for us!

Terri

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