

**SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Trailing 4 Digit Implementation Recommendation Plan**

**Submitted by:**

**Frank Engle**  
**Title 1 Tiger Team**  
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## **OVERVIEW**

1. Databases outlining Title 1 expenses at a **Funding Source Budget Code** level for all Title 1 schools is **available**.
2. Narrative **SPSA's** that contain the specific programs/strategies where the Title 1 dollars are **planned** to be spent in each Title 1 school is **available**.
3. Databases that contain the specific programs/strategies where the Title 1 dollars are **planned** to be spent in each Title 1 school is **not** available.
4. Databases that contain the specific programs/strategies where the Title 1 dollars are **actually spent** in each Title 1 school are **not** available.
5. An index tying items actual spending with actual programs/strategies using Title 1 dollars is **not available**.

## **Summary**

The Title 1 Tiger Team and District Staff can identify how much money SDUSD gives each school but there is virtually no way to specifically know how, or to what degree, they have spent the money on the programs/strategies or the results of the programs/strategies they implemented. Existing Federal/State reporting documents provides general categorical spending but does not have the data granularity required to measure the success or failure of specific programs. Unfortunately there is currently no way to get the required granular data except for extensive, manual SPSA review and individual school Principal/Staff interviews to identify expense application to Title 1 specific programs/strategies.

## **Recommendations**

My recommendation is to have district staff take the following **5 Steps** to enable all stakeholders to easily access Title 1 (and other NCLB funds) to the site implementation level and achieve complete “transparency, efficiency and accountability”:

### **Step 1**

- Identify the data protocols and layout required to easily and automatically track each tactic and program funded by Title 1 through the finance system using the trailing 4 digits on the Funding Source Budget Codes to assign numeric values to each program/strategy.

NOTE: This tactic is currently being used in the Transportation Department to track “type” (Special ED, Choice, VEEP, Magnet, etc.) of service provided so they can accurately assign costs to that budget area. In addition, this tactic was used to track expenses during the SDUSD Blueprint for Education era.

### **Step 2**

- Create a "laundry list" glossary, with specific definitions, of programs/strategies currently being funded by Title 1 in SPSA's and, if possible, how many schools have utilized the general strategy in the last 1 - 5 years.

### **Step 3**

- Identify the top 10 - 20 programs/strategies and assign the defined new data protocols and layout. In addition, provide new data protocols and layout for programs/strategies outside of the top 10-20 using semi-generic placeholders.
- Align the Title 1 data protocols and programs/strategies via an SPSA implementation guideline document.

### **Step 4**

- Integrate the 4 digit code protocol into SSC, Principal and Staff Development trainings.

### **Step 5**

- Initiate a pilot pairing up a high performing and underperforming elementary, middle and high school using all of the newly created data protocols and to test and verify the concept with common programs they are already implementing.
- Identify “Best Practices” using data compile from new tracking system and provide all schools strong, customized, implementation support backed by data to insure Title program/strategy success.