# This is a decision paper

**MEMO TO:** Members of the Hardin County Board of Education

**FROM:** Mrs. Nannette Johnston, Superintendent

**RE:** Race to the Top and Scope of Work for CIITS

**DATE:** March 28, 2012

**ISSUE:** Race to the Top and Scope of Work for CIITS

**DISCUSSION:**

In December 2011, the Commonwealth of Kentucky received funding from Round 3 of the Race to the Top (RTT3) grant program from the U.S. Department of Education in the amount of $17 million. RTT3 focuses on supporting efforts to leverage comprehensive statewide reform, while also improving science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

The Kentucky Department of Education will be allocating these funds to districts based on a formula they developed. Per this formula, the allocated amount for Hardin County Schools over the next three years is $125,516. For districts wishing to receive the RTT3 funds, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) during the Round 1 application process in 2010 is still valid. Part of that MOU included the specification that districts would complete a final Scope of Work (SOW) if Kentucky received funding. Since the state received funding in Round 3, each school district wishing to participate must complete the Scope of Work (SOW) in order to receive the funding allocated to the district. The SOW includes a set of assurances districts must agree to and also asks districts to create an action plan. This action plan will ensure that our district achieves a set of performance measures laid out in the SOW.

The RTT3 application is almost exclusively about the deployment of the various modules of the Continuous Instructional Improvement Technology System (CIITS). As a district, our local share of the grant funding must be used to support the deployment of CIITS. Since CIITS will be the tool used by teachers and administrators for almost all of their work related to curriculum, instruction and assessment, it is strongly recommended by the Kentucky Department of Education that the SOW we create uses the funding to provide professional development and other supports to effectively implement CIITS.

The SOW we have created as a district is attached to this decision paper. It calls for using the RTT3 funds to be used for supporting professional development for our teachers focused on the implementation of CIITS.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

I recommend that the board of education approve the Hardin County Schools Race to the Top Scope of Work plan as presented.

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:**

I move that the Hardin County Schools Race to the Top Scope of Work plan be adopted as presented.