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If you have questions or need additional information, you can reach us at 877.485.1973 or info@nifdi.org.

NIFDI-Sponsored Charter School Gets Approval

Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Superintendent Jon Fernandez has authorized the deduction of up to \$687,500 from the GDOE reserve account for the use of the Guahan Academy Charter School (GACS). GACS, an independent subsidiary of NIFDI, is devoted to implementing the comprehensive (full immersion) model of Direct Instruction school wide as the core curricula for all students.

In a letter addressed to Department of Administration Director Benita Manglona, Fernandez said the amount is based on GACS' maximum number of students, which is pegged at 500, multiplied by the fiscal year 2013 budget act-approved amount of \$5,500 per enrolled student.

Read the entire article from the Marianas Variety Newspaper at <http://mvguam.com/local/news/28845-reserve-funds-for-charter-school-okd.html>.

Time to Placement Test!

It's that time of year again! With spring upon us, it's time to placement

test students for the fall. For schools beginning DI for the first time this fall, this process is particularly important, as *all* students who are planning to attend in the fall will need assessed. This initial assessment provides a basis for ordering specific levels of the DI programs and to determine in which levels of the programs teachers and staff will need training.

Learn more about placement testing at: <http://www.nifdi.org/placement-testing-students>.

See our online brochure of other critical steps to take to implement Direct Instruction effectively for all students at: http://nifdi.org/documents-library/doc_download/250-nifdi-booklet.

For more information on assessment training of staff and placement testing of students in the DI programs, go to: <http://nifdi.org/services/training/assessment-training>.

Renewal for the Cape York Reform Trial Approved

Over the past three years, the National Institute for Direct Instruction (NIFDI) has worked with schools in Cape York, Australia serving indigenous communities through a social welfare reform program. Recently, the program garnered approval to continue the efforts to serve these communities, including ones where NIFDI provides on-site support.

The Queensland Government has decided to extend the Cape York Welfare Reform Trial, Premier Campbell Newman announced today. The provincial government is also considering extending the trial to additional indigenous communities in Cape York and Torres Strait.

If approved, the expansion of the program will allow many more at-risk students in northern Australia to receive effective instruction through the comprehensive Direct Instruction model.

Source: <http://statements.cabinet.qld.gov.au/Statement/2013/3/28/cape-york-welfare-reform-trial-extended>.



How NIFDI's Annual Training Institute is Unique!

The First Annual Training Institute sponsored by the National Institute for Direct Instruction is designed to help teachers, paraprofessionals, building coordinators and administrators successfully implement Direct Instruction for all students. This powerful professional development event will provide the most thorough program training possible in all levels of the main DI reading, language and mathematics programs. Specialized academies for administrators and future DI trainers will round out the program offerings.

Read more about this important training event at: <http://nifdi.org/unique-nifdi-training>.

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