*****Massachusetts Department of***

***Elementary and Secondary Education***

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| Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.  *Commissioner* |  |

October 6, 2016

Dr. Stephen Zrike, Receiver

Holyoke Public Schools

57 Suffolk Street

Holyoke, MA 01040

Re: Turnaround Plan for Holyoke Public Schools

Dear Dr. Zrike:

I have reviewed your request to modify the district Turnaround Plan for Holyoke Public Schools

to simplify the titles of the plan’s priority areas and revise the titles of specific staff members and support teams. (See attached Holyoke Public Schools Level 5 District Turnaround Plan Modifications dated September 23, 2016.)

As you noted, these changes are refinements to existing language, after a year of learning. Accordingly, for the reasons set forth in the proposal, and pursuant to G.L. c. 69, § 1K(h), I am modifying the Holyoke Public Schools Turnaround Plan to revise names of priority areas and titles of specific staff members and support teams. The work and the essence of the plan remain the same, and the modifications represent a change in terminology.

Sincerely,

**SIGNED BY COMMISSIONER CHESTER**

Mitchell D. Chester, Ed.D.

Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education