



THE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1965. This new law authorized more than 1.3 billion of Federal monies to be spent strengthening and improving educational opportunities in the elementary and secondary schools throughout the United States.

The E. S. E. A. was designed to accomplish specific educational goals. These objectives are embodied in the titles which comprise the new law. Provisions of each title are as follows:

TITLE I provides financial assistance to local educational agencies for special educational programs in areas having high concentrations of children of low income families.

TITLE II provides school library resources, textbooks, and other instructional material.

TITLE III provides grants for supplementary educational centers and services which are innovative and experimental.

The law provided for the administration of Titles I and II by State Departments of Education. Title III was implemented directly by the USOE. At the local level public school districts were the operating agencies. However, the benefits of the law were to be extended to all qualified children attending both public and non-profit private schools.

The Buffalo Public Schools began to prepare proposals that would be applicable under Titles I, II, and III in the fall of 1965. Suggestions were solicited from teachers, administrators and interested citizens concerning the best possible programs that could be advanced to meet the educational and cultural needs of students. These proposals were submitted to the State Education Department for approval during the months of December, 1965 and January, 1966.

As soon as a proposal was approved and funds were allotted by the State Education Department, it was placed into operation. By June 1966 sixteen programs were in operation. These programs are reviewed on the following pages.