

Office of the Superintendent of Schools
MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Rockville, Maryland

March 8, 2023

MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Board of Education
From: Monifa B. McKnight, Superintendent of Schools
Subject: Special Populations (CSP-01-26-2023-01-A)

During the *Special Populations* discussion, Ms. Smondrowski requested the following information:

Question

During the ELD instruction and Latina/o Student Achievement presentation, Ms. Smondrowski asked how many Bilingual assessment interpreters/translators does MCPS have? What training do they receive?

Response

The Language Assistance Services Unit (LASU) does not provide translation for bilingual assessment. However, the LASU staff does provide interpretation services during assessments. Currently, the LASU has 21 interpreters trained to provide interpretation services for special education assignments, some of whom speak multiple languages. The languages and the number of interpreters available for each follow:

Amharic (1)	Arabic (1)	French (2)
German (1)	Hebrew (1)	Portuguese (1)
Spanish (18)	Vietnamese (1)	

It is the goal of the LASU to have all 123 interpreters trained to provide translation services for assessments. The Office of Special Education and the Bilingual Assessment Team (BAT) developed the training for these interpreters. It is a 96-slide presentation, followed by a test. The BAT is in the process of reviewing and updating the training.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Maria E. Campos, language services supervisor, Language Assistance Services Unit, Department of Communications, Office of the Chief of Staff, via email.

MBM:PKM:PAP:DKW:pgw

Copy to:
Executive Staff
Mrs. Campos
Ms. Webb