

FY 2007 QUESTION NUMBER: 3

QUESTION:

Regarding the testimony of the Damascus cluster, what occurs with regard to school staffing if enrollment declines?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: NA

ANSWER:

The Office of School Performance (OSP) works very closely with principals of schools projected to have fewer students for the coming school year to assure that all staffing and program needs are met. This is especially true when student feeder patterns change as new schools open and sending schools experience loss of student enrollment. Exceptions are made as needed to avoid drastic reductions in staffing to lessen the impact on the instructional organization.

Community superintendents meet with principals and their instructional leadership to review how their students' educational needs and system-wide goals will be addressed as they begin preparing the master schedule for the new school year. They work closely with the principal to identify any staffing issues that need to be addressed and will approve additional staff, if appropriate, to assure the needs of students are met in a timely manner.