

FY 2007 QUESTION NUMBER: 32

QUESTION:

What is the cost of providing Conquista tus Suenos at all high schools?

BUDGET REFERENCE PAGE: N/A

ANSWER:

The Conquista tus Suenos program has been offered to Latino parents in MCPS since FY 2002. The purpose of this program is to empower Latino parents, whose children are enrolled in Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), to communicate with their children's schools and teachers, and to better understand the school system's organization and procedures as well as the academic and behavioral expectations for students.

The Conquista tus Suenos program includes five training sessions that focus on the family, self-esteem, and the operational norms of MCPS. Through this program, parents will learn to:

- Develop leadership skills.
- Understand how resentment works against self-interest.
- Help children make cultural transitions and achieve success in school.
- Help parents navigate the MCPS system.
- Nourish family relationships and promote better parenting.
- Develop a model for empowerment and goal setting.

The FY 2006 Conquista tus Suenos program is offered through two consultants at nine sites for a total cost of \$45,000. MCPS provides an instructional specialist to support the program for 10 hours per month at a cost of \$5,756, including employee benefits. The current contract includes certain proprietary rights of the contractor to the developed ideas, concepts, knowledge, techniques, tools, approaches, methodologies, and materials used in the program.

To use MCPS staff to provide Conquista tus Suenos, MCPS would negotiate the cost of purchasing these rights, and the cost of contracting with the present consultants to provide training to MCPS facilitators. Other costs for planning, presentation, training stipends for facilitators, publicity, and other materials costs is \$31,400 for one program at each of 25 high schools and Rock Terrace and Mark Twain schools and \$60,709 for two programs.

The attached worksheet sheet provides two scenarios for implementing Conquista tus Suenos in all high schools. The first scenario provides one 5-session program at each high school, and the second scenario provides two 5-session programs at each high school.