

FY 2008 QUESTION NUMBER: 8

QUESTION:

Provide a brief synopsis of the scope of work for the four ESOL parent community coordinators added in the FY 2007 budget.

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: 3-78

ANSWER:

The Division of ESOL/Bilingual Programs has a total of 15.5 parent community coordinators (PCC). There are 5.0 PCC positions that provide orientation services to newly enrolling international families in various languages and 6.5 positions that provide regularly scheduled parent outreach services to an assigned group of schools. Of the four PCC positions added in the FY 2007 budget, three staff members were hired to provide parent outreach services in Spanish, French, and Chinese. The fourth position, designated to assist with Amharic language speakers, is still vacant due to the ongoing unavailability of suitable candidates. The Division of ESOL/Bilingual Programs continues to work with the office of Human Resources to fill the position.

The Spanish-speaking PCC provides regularly scheduled services to Montgomery Blair High School, Eastern and Takoma Park middle schools, and Highland View Elementary School. The French-speaking PCC provides regularly scheduled services to Wood Middle School and Burnt Mills, East Silver Spring, and Weller Road elementary schools, and countywide services as needed. The Chinese-speaking PCC provides regularly scheduled services to Albert Einstein, Bethesda-Chevy Chase, Walter Johnson, and Walt Whitman high schools, as well as Farmland and Glen Haven elementary schools. The Chinese-speaking PCC also provides countywide services in Chinese as needed. The determination of the specific schools served by a particular PCC is based upon the language needs of the ESOL students enrolled.

All PCC's work with ESOL teachers and other school staff to address referrals for services based on the particular needs of the families and the schools. Examples of services provided include scheduling parent/teacher conferences, interpreting for families at Individualized Education Plan and Collaborative Action Plan meetings, and assisting parents in completing parent questionnaires, forms, and reports. The PCC's monitor student attendance and academic progress to keep parents informed. They provide workshops and trainings on topics, which include High School Assessments, graduation requirements, consortia choice, MCPS programs, and community resources. They also work closely with the ESOL counselors and the school-based counselors to serve the whole family and often conduct home visits.

In addition to services to schools and families in the home, the PCC's collaborate with a variety of community organizations and with the MCPS Division of Family and Community Partnerships to support MCPS families. They deliver the Conquista tus Sueños program, provide workshops for the George B. Thomas Saturday Schools program, and facilitate Study Circles.

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There are additional parent involvement resources in MCPS that provide parent outreach services including approximately 100 FTEs at a cost of \$9.1 million. These resources are in the budgets for the Division of Family and Community Partnerships, the elementary schools, the Head Start/Prekindergarten programs, Special Education, Title I programs, and in the Division of ESOL/Bilingual Programs. The attached chart shows the MCPS parent involvement resources.