

FY 2008 QUESTION NUMBER: 38

QUESTION:

Does MCPS provide summer academic support for students who will be taking their first AP class? If not, what would be the cost to provide the support?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: N/A

ANSWER:

Some high schools provide local summer programs to support students who will be taking their first AP class. For example, Wheaton High School conducts week-long AP preparation seminars in Chemistry, Government, Biology, Environmental Science, Calculus and Spanish Literature, with Chemistry as the most consistent summer support offering. Paint Branch High School holds open discussions designed to help students better understand the requirements of each AP course when efforts to engage students in week-long AP preparation classes failed to produce enrollment. Recently, Northwest High School has conducted one week preparation classes for Grade 11 students taking AP Language and Composition.

MCPS does not, however, provide a systemwide or regional AP preparation course. The cost for one teacher for a two-week, half-day summer session is \$1,813 per teacher. If AP preparation classes were to be offered in the seven most popular AP courses (out of a possible 32) at the 25 high schools, the cost would be \$317,275 for salaries and benefits.