

FY 2009 QUESTION NUMBER: 48

QUESTION:

What is the minimum required to support literacy and math in middle schools?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: N/A

ANSWER:

The plan to support literacy and mathematics in middle schools includes having an Accelerated and Enriched Instructional (AEI) literacy coach and an AEI mathematics content specialist in every middle school. These positions were created to provide direct support to staff, support critical thinking, reading, writing, and mathematics across the content areas, and coordinate the acceleration and intervention programs for students. The cost per middle school is an additional 1.4 FTE positions at a cost of \$91,683.

The challenge with a partial implementation of the middle school initiative is that school staff would not receive two major components of the initiative: cohort collaborative planning and focused professional development. The cohort collaborative planning provides teachers the additional time to work as a professional learning community with the AEI mathematics content specialist and AEI literacy coach using a specific process that is presented to the entire leadership team during summer professional development. This also is a time for all of the school's leaders to clearly define the roles and expectations of their individual positions and to develop a plan to coordinate and communicate innovative practices to staff.