

FY 2010 QUESTION NUMBER: 10

QUESTION:

Will the reduction of 8.7 elementary special program teacher positions impact the French Immersion classes at Sligo Creek Elementary School?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: N/A

ANSWER:

The special program position reduction will result in consistency of allocations at our immersion programs. Immersion programs are staffed first for classroom teachers and then the program is allocated additional staffing above and beyond the classroom teachers. Classroom teachers are allocated for the school so that class size can be maintained. Due to the size of the Sligo Creek immersion program, class sizes for immersion classes are within guidelines and are below the school system average.

In addition to classroom teachers for the program and a .6 reading initiative teacher to support the immersion program in grades 1 and 2, the larger full immersion programs will each be allocated an additional 1.0 teacher to coordinate the program. Sligo Creek currently is allocated 1.5 extra teachers and .5 will be reduced for FY 2010. This reduction will not significantly impact what is provided to students. Class sizes will be maintained at the same level and a 1.0 coordinator will continue to provide support to the program. Currently the .5 additional teacher is used to provide instruction to 4th and 5th grade immersion classes. These classes will already have class sizes well within Board of Education guidelines.