

FY 2009 QUESTION NUMBER: 26

QUESTION:

Provide data on high school literacy coaches. What are the reading scores for schools with the position and those without? How does MCPS support the literacy coaches and how is success being evaluated and measured?

BUDGET PAGE REFERENCE: 1-22

ANSWER:

All 25 high schools, the Regional Institute for Children (RICA), and Mark Twain have literacy coach support based on the literacy needs of students as determined by scores on appropriate assessments, including MSA and MAP-R as well as grades.

All professional development was led by highly trained experts in the field of literacy. The Office of Curriculum and Instructional Programs (OCIP) provides days for literacy coaches to meet with local school leadership teams. In addition, the literacy coordinator visits the coaches individually at their schools to work on school-based literacy goals. A partnership with the University of Maryland has been established to offer the opportunity for literacy coaches to earn a literacy coach certificate. Certification is granted based on 18 credits in reading and writing. Literacy coaches are given priority placement in the program and the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) tuition reimbursement and the Maryland Higher Education Commission grant pay their entire tuition.

Implementation is being monitored by OCIP and the Office of School Performance. An evaluation of the efficacy of the different models of the implementation is planned.

