BUDGET CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE EXPANSION OF THE NEWCOMER ACADEMY

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NEWCOMER ACADEMY EXPANSION PROPOSAL

Richmond (City) Public Schools rolled out the Newcomer Academy to address the growing need for a bilingual English Language Learners program in Richmond, Virginia. River City Middle School and George Wythe High School are currently established Newcomer Academy.

NEWCOMER ACADEMY - RPS ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND SUPPORTS

NEWCOMER ACADEMY	PARTICIPATION CRITERIA
Instructional Delivery	Student Profile
 Students will receive social-emotional learning, language, and academic support through a bilingual and culturally relevant lens. 	 Newly arrived, immigrant students, ages 14-17, who have been in the country for 12 months or less are eligible for the academy
 Services and support will be offered by dual-endorsed content teachers, bilingual EL teachers, and support personnel including an academy coordinator, a bilingual school counselor, and a bilingual parent liaison. 	 Newly arrived, immigrant students who enrolled in the 8th grade in the United States during any point in the second semester are eligible for enrollment into the academy

PROPOSAL FOR EXPANSION OF THE NEWCOMER ACADEMY

Comparison Chart

The following chart provides a visual representation of the evaluation of the viability of an elementary Newcomer Academy at either Cardinal Elementary School or Broad Rock Elementary School.

Criteria	Cardinal Elementary School	Broad Rock Elementary School	
Enrollment	807	706	
English Language Learners	23.7% (191)	38% (268)	
ESL Certified Teacher	12	4	
Technology	1:1	1:1	
Administration	Doctorate in Education and bilingual	Admin endorsement, a Counseling degree	
Attendance (10-20% chronic absenteeism)	9.6%	19.1%	

NEWCOMER ACADEMY PROPOSAL

CARDINAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	BROAD ROCK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Move 193 students from Broad Rock Elementary to Cardinal Elementary as the new building has a capacity for 1,000 students.	Duplicate the Academic Structure of Cardinal Elementary School at Broad Rock Elementary.
Allocation: \$ 815,000	Allocation: \$ 585,000
+ \$29,000	+ \$256,000

2021-2022 Proposed Budget

Scenario 1: One Newcomer Academy - Cardinal

Allocations Per FY22	Proposed	Cardinal
ESL:8 teachers	\$652,000	12 - No additional staff required
ESL: 2 specialists	\$192,000	1 - No additional staff required
Bilingual Teachers	\$0	10 - \$815,000*
Total Budget	\$844,000	\$815,000

Scenario 2: Elementary Two Newcomer Academies

Allocations Per FY22	Proposed	Cardinal	Broad Rock*
ESL: 8 teachers	\$652,000	No additional staff required	+3 - \$244,500
ESL: 2 specialist	\$192,000	No additional staff required	+1 - \$96,000
Bilingual teachers	\$0	0	+3 - \$244,500
Total Budget	\$844,000	\$0	\$585,000

Proposal

As a result, we propose that Richmond Public Schools duplicate the student outcomes of Cardinal by placing additional ESL certified teachers, an additional specialist, and bilingual staff at Broad Rock Elementary. We removed bilingual staff from Cardinal in Scenario 2 because we did not add bilingual students and we only added three bilingual staff to Broad Rock because the percentage of bilingual students attending Broad Rock, 44.8%, is much lower than Cardinal at 81.3%.

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