

Priority: Education
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:

Lead Agency: Library
Program Contact: Jackie Partch

Program Characteristics: Measure 5 Education

Executive Summary

School Corps (SC) increases students' academic success by training K-12 students and educators, during and after school, to effectively conduct research using public library online research tools. To promote reading and get relevant books & materials into the hands of students, School Corps also creates customized booklists and book collections for classroom use.

Program Description

School Corps provides direct service to students, parents or educators during the school day, after school, and during the summer. Librarians collaborate with educators to increase students' academic success and literacy in the county's K-12 schools & SUN programs by training students to effectively and efficiently use public library resources for student research and pleasure reading. From FY 05 to present, SC has served 93% of public schools and 80% of private/alternative schools in the county. In FY 06, SC served 269 sites during the school day, after-school, and in summer programs, including SUN. When making multiple visits to a site, SC attempts to send the same staff member(s), in order to foster enduring relationships. Services include current, customized book collections for student research, and training in using the library's homework help resources. SC also promotes literacy through book presentations geared toward students' reading levels and interests, with specific programs targeted to grades K-3. SC organizes annual countywide student library card campaigns to increase the number of youth with library cards. SC also trains educators, parents & caregivers about homework resources and literacy, giving them effective tools to champion students' academic success. SC targets schools that have a high poverty population (according to the SUN System Poverty Index) to receive specific services. Other SC services are available to all county schools.

Program Justification

According to the Oregon State Library's 2006 Quality Education Model (QEM) Report, only 6% of Multnomah County schools meet the QEM standards for adequate school library staffing and expenditures on books and other library resources. If school funding does not improve, more school libraries will be run by aides and volunteers. This leaves the majority of students without adequate access to current, quality school library books, online research tools, books for independent reading, and public library research instruction. SC fills this gap & helps break down barriers to academic success (Strategy #5). SC's work with students, educators, & parents prepares students to learn, both directly and by assisting educators, parents, and caregivers (Strategy #2). SC's after-school services (to SUN and other community groups) provide additional learning opportunities that support academic success (Strategy #4). SC's reading motivation programs for grades K-3 promote reading at grade level by third grade (Strategy #3).

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY05-06)	Current Year Purchased (FY06-07)	Current Year Estimate (FY06-07)	Next Year Offer (FY07-08)
Output	Contacts with students, parents & educators (duplicated)	122,406	80,000	80,000	80,000
Outcome	% of students whose research skills increase after School Corps presentation	88.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Outcome	% K-3 teachers reporting students were more excited about reading after SC visit	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	90.0%
Quality	% of teachers indicating that they will ask for School Corps services again	100.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

✔ **Measure Changed**

Measure 3 is new for FY 08. Measure 1 counts contacts during the school day & during out-of-school hours. A special one-time collaboration with Portland Public Schools skewed the number of contacts higher for FY06. Data for measure 2 comes from a student pre/post test. Measure 4 comes from an online teacher survey. Data for all measures is kept in an Access database.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Measure No. 26-81 "Renew Five-Year Local Option Levy to Continue Library Services", November 2006 General Election – The levy language reads: "Continue programs for school age children, story hours for babies and toddlers, summer reading, literacy services for children in child care, programs for teens; Help teachers and students use library resources; provide homework helpers to assist children with school work; Maintain free access to information; Update books and materials; Continue books delivery to homebound seniors and nursing home residents; Open planned libraries in underserved neighborhoods of East County and North Portland: Keep libraries open; maintain current hours and services at Central and neighborhood libraries."

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
	2007	2007	2008	2008
Program Expenses				
Personnel	\$83,735	\$195,382	\$79,098	\$184,560
Contracts	\$135	\$315	\$0	\$0
Materials & Supplies	\$1,779	\$4,151	\$2,739	\$6,391
Internal Services	\$3,104	\$7,242	\$2,452	\$5,720
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$88,753	\$207,090	\$84,289	\$196,671
Administration	\$19,728	\$35,071	\$16,841	\$39,295
Program Support	\$8,261	\$14,685	\$7,283	\$16,994
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$27,989	\$49,756	\$24,124	\$56,289
Total GF/non-GF:	\$116,742	\$256,846	\$108,413	\$252,960
Program Total:	\$373,588		\$361,373	
Program FTE	1.00	2.00	1.00	2.00
Program Revenues				
Indirect for dep't Admin	\$1,279	\$0	\$0	\$0
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$108,413	\$252,960
Total Revenue:	\$1,279	\$0	\$108,413	\$252,960

Explanation of Revenues

The Admin revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (65%) and library-generated revenues such as overdue fines, interest earnings, and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (5%). General Fund revenue represents about 30% of the Library's total revenue.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #80003A, School Corps-Current Service Level

The following outcome measure was dropped from the previous year's program offer: "% of students who use the presented resources to help with their homework." The measure was too similar to measure #2, and the data proved difficult to collect accurately. FY 05-06 actual was 95%. FY 06-07 target was 90% and current year estimate is 90%.

No significant programmatic changes.