

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, SC 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 06-07 to the present, SC has served 94% of public schools and 78% of private schools in the county. In FY 06, SC served 290 sites during the school day, after school and in summer programs, including SUN. When making multiple visits to the same students, SC connects the same librarian(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 library card campaigns to increase the number of children and teens with library cards. SC also trains educators, parents and 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 2007 Quality Education Model (QEM) Report, only 1% of Multnomah County schools meet the QEM standards for adequate school library staffing and expenditures on books and other library resources (down 5% from 2006). If school funding does not improve, more school libraries will likely 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 (Education Outcome Team Strategy #5). By assisting educators, parents, and caregivers, as well as working directly with students, SC prepares students to learn (Education Outcome Team Strategy #4). SC's reading motivation programs for grades K-3 promote reading at grade level by third grade (Education Outcome Team Strategy #3).

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY06-07)	Current Year Purchased (FY07-08)	Current Year Estimate (FY07-08)	Next Year Offer (FY08-09)
Output	Contacts with students, parents & educators (duplicated)	101,679	80,000	80,000	80,000
Outcome	% of students whose research skills increase after School Corps presentation	78.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Outcome	% K-3 teachers reporting students were more excited about reading after SC visit	96.0%	90.0%	90.0%	90.0%
Quality	% of teachers indicating that they will ask for School Corps services again	98.0%	95.0%	95.0%	95.0%

Performance Measure - Description

Measure 1 counts contacts during the school day & during out of school hours. A special one-time collaboration with Oregon Children's Theatre skewed the number of contacts higher for FY07. Data for Measure 2 comes from a student pre/post test. Measures 3 & 4 come from online teacher surveys.

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
Program Expenses	2008	2008	2009	2009
Personnel	\$0	\$263,658	\$0	\$267,014
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$9,130	\$0	\$12,730
Internal Services	\$0	\$8,172	\$0	\$11,025
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$0	\$280,960	\$0	\$290,769
Administration	\$0	\$56,136	\$0	\$74,633
Program Support	\$0	\$24,277	\$0	\$27,428
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$0	\$80,413	\$0	\$102,061
Total GF/non-GF:	\$0	\$361,373	\$0	\$392,830
Program Total:	\$361,373		\$392,830	
Program FTE	0.00	3.00	0.00	3.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$392,830
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$392,830

Explanation of Revenues

The Library Fund revenue allocated to this program offer represents a pro-rated share of Library Levy taxes (66%) and library-generated revenues such as book fines, interest earnings, and user charges for services provided to Library patrons (6%). General Fund revenue represents about 28% of the Library's total revenue.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #80003, School Corps
No significant changes.