

Fairfax High School: Impact of Immigration on Schools



“How We Closed the Achievement Gap for Hispanic
and Limited English Proficient Students”
BCAC Meeting – January 13, 2009

Scott S. Brabrand, Ed.D. – Principal

Outline of Presentation

1. Summary of Problem
2. School Program Changes
3. Parent Program Changes
4. Student Program Changes
5. Indicators of Success: Virginia Standards of Learning Tests Results
6. Other Indicators
7. Conclusions and Implications for Further Study



Summary of Problem

- Our **Hispanic and Limited English Proficient (LEP)** students were **not performing as well** as other students were on **Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) tests** and in **final course grades**
- Discipline, attendance and parental participation were also areas of concern
- These **two subgroups** (12% Hispanic and 15% LEP) **required attention** to ensure overall school success



School Program Changes

■ Rewards and Remediation Program

- Embedded period every other day allows for student enrichment and remediation DURING the school day
- Students with Fs are required to attend

■ Subschool Design

- A subschool for each grade level brings discipline and attendance under the same personnel increasing accountability and student contact

■ AVID Program Expansion

- National program targets “students in the middle”

■ Summer AP Boot Camp Growth from 65 to 300 Students

- 4 day summer camp targets first time AP, Pre-AP or Honors students



Parent Program Changes

- **Personal conferences and personal contacts** by phone and mail in native language
- **Primary focus** revolves around **academic** programs, resources and strategies
- **Secondary focus** revolves around **social and economic** resources and concerns
- **“Concierge style”** events provide food, child care/activities and translation services to ease barriers to attendance
- **Single point of contact** for Hispanic and LEP families



Student Program Changes

- **“Expanding Academic Horizons”** program instituted for Hispanic students and parents
- **Mott Community Center** after school program
- **Lunch and Learn** Program for SOL remediation
- **R&R program** for class grade remediation
- **Focused review** opportunity for SOL expedited retakes
- **Revised** student and parent course selection process



AYP for English: NO GAP for Hispanic Students!

	2006-2007		2007-2008	%Change from
Student Subgroup	Passed		Passed	06-07 to 07-08
English Reading				
All Students	95%		97%	increase 2.00%
Black Students	84%		86%	increase 2.00%
Hispanic Students	95%		98%	NO GAP!
White Students	97%		98%	increase 1.00%
Students with Disabilities	78%		86%	increase 8.00%
Students Identified as Disadvantaged	88%		91%	increase 3.00%
Limited English Proficient Students	88%		97%	increase 9.00%
AMO is 77%				



AYP for Math: NO GAP for Hispanic Students

	2006-2007		2007-2008	%Change from
	Passed		Passed	06-07 to 07-08
All Math Performance				
All Students	92%		96%	increase 4.00%
Black Students	82%		91%	increase 9.00%
Hispanic Students	85%		96%	NO GAP!
White Students	93%		97%	increase 4.00%
Students with Disabilities	67%		87%	increase 20.0%
Students Identified as Disadvantaged	83%		94%	increase 11.00%
Limited English Proficient Students	90%		95%	increase 5.00%

AMO is 75%



On-time Graduation Rate for Hispanics

**Closing the Gap
with ALL
Hispanic
Students!**

Virginia

70%

FCPS

74%

Fairfax High

86%



Other Indicators: % of Students with an F Final Grade

	<u>Last Yr 07</u>	% change	<u>This Yr 08</u>
ALL	14%	-14%	12%
Male	18%	-22%	14%
Female	10%	+10%	11%
9th grade	15%	-20%	12%
10th grade	13%	NC	13%
11th grade	13%	+8%	14%
12th grade	15%	-33%	10%
White	10%	NC	10%
Black	24%	+21%	29%
Hispanic	29%	-31%	20%
Asian	10%	-20%	8%
AP	1%	NC	1%
Honors/PreAP	2%	NC	2%
Spec Ed.	29%	-24%	22%
SOL courses	8%	-25%	6%



Conclusion and Implications for Further Study

- Parent outreach is a major key for Hispanic and LEP academic success
- Concierge service and information rich sessions drive participation
- Parent outreach must be matched by school and student program reform
- Expanded role of parent liaison



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