



...the educational prism through which students realize meaning and purpose in their lives...

**TO: Members, Board of Education
Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent**

**FROM: Lynn Allen, Multicultural Education Administrator
Dr. Kevin Anderson, Asst. Supt. for Teaching and Learning**

RE: Multicultural Education Department Report

DATE: July 13, 2010

This report summarizes the activities of the Multicultural Education Department, including the Multicultural Resource Center (MCRC), for the 2009 - 2010 school year. Additional information about presentations to schools will be highlighted during the presentation.



Presentation to the Board of Education

Outline

(for July 13, 2010)

1. **Fulfilling the Strategic Plan** – Many activities in which the Multicultural Education Department has been actively engaged on a consistent basis are specified in Strategy 3 of the District 97 Strategic Plan. To date, those Action Steps focus primarily in Strategies 3 and 4.

- a. **Strategy 3** We will establish a culture of inclusion that respects and promotes diversity

- **Result 1:** Establish an environment that celebrates differences (Actions Steps: 1, 2, 4, and 6).
- **Result 2:** Establish a Diversity Leadership Network (Action Steps: 1, 2, 3, and 4)
- **Result 3:** Establish district-wide diversity goals one of which called for rotating cultural exhibits to the schools (Action steps 1 and 2)
- **Result 4:** Substantially increase the use of the MCRC (Action Steps 3, 5, and 6)
 - Partnerships with VOP Community Relations Department, Fellowship Community Services, Thrive Center, Oak Park YMCA, Volunteer Center, Oak Park and River Forest High School, CEDA, Representative LaShawn Ford, and Ten Thousand Villages Oak Park
 - Support for cultural groups and activities with church groups (1st United and Fellowship Community), parent groups (FAASt, APPLE, SEA)
 - Working with professors, teachers and students from the following colleges and universities: Loyola, Concordia, Roosevelt and Kennedy King.
 - MCRC Library Statistics: circulation, facilities use and patron information
- **Result 7:** Provide diversity training for staff and students (Action Steps 1, 3, and 6)
 - New teacher orientation / Why Cultural Proficiency is an important characteristic for people throughout education and educational institutions
 - Updating of the D97 Holocaust curriculum Teaching the University 97 – Holocaust class (completed our 3rd year teaching this class)
 - Presentations to various faculties on an “as needed” basis
 - Salad Bowl newsletter

- Working with individual teachers to address specific issues in the classroom: the N” word, racial slurs against various ethnic or cultural groups
- Working with principals to address specific cultural or diversity issues in the classroom with teachers
- **Result 8:** Maximize interaction between special education and general education students, including such MSAN initiatives as F.L.O.W. and Summer Student Empowerment which include Special Ed students; and *The Martin Luther King Health Challenge* held at OPRF High School which incorporated *West Suburban Special Recreation Department* activities for children with and without disabilities
- **Result 13:** Offer Parents/Guardians and students individualized support, as needed, through mentoring programs. (Action Step 1 included F.L.O.W. for young men and women, Summer Student Empowerment, and Friday Night Place)

b. Strategy 4 Ensure learning experiences that develop the whole child to accomplish our missions

- **Result 1:** Increase interdisciplinary projects (involving librarians, classroom, music, art, and gym teachers). Also includes Action Step 6.
 - Latin American dance classes for all grades at Lincoln
 - Walking/Day Trips
 - Standing reservations: World Music, French and Spanish classes at Julian
 - Frequent reservation: Social Studies, Art, Language Arts classes at Julian and Brooks
- **Result 4:** Integrate a progressive education philosophy into learning activities (through experiential learning, teacher as guide, student collaboration and opportunities for choice). Action Steps 5, 7, 8, and 9
- **Result 5:** Provide a variety of after-school enrichment programs (Action Steps 4 and 6)
 - Girls F.L.O.W. (15 girls – Julian only; 2009 – 2010 school year)
 - FNP Girls Volleyball Initiative (10 girls – Julian only; Spring 2010) Partnership with Loyola Law School professor and student coaches
 - Summer Student Empowerment (56 students – Julian and Brooks; summer currently in progress) – partnership with Elmhurst College’s Golden Apple program Illinois Literacy Workshops

- Recruited students for the UIC Young Men's Writing Workshop
- Recruited students for the UIC Young Women's writing workshop
- **Result 9:** Expand age-appropriate opportunities for all students to participate in art, music, drama, dance, world languages, and physical curricular activities. (Action Steps 1, 2 3, and 4)

2. Support for student achievement initiatives (2009 – 2010)

- a. Dr. Jelani Mandara's student achievement research
- b. MSAN/Pipeline for Success initiatives (See Strategy 4 Result 5)
- c. Making the NCEBC's Blueprint for Action available to school stakeholders
- d. Partnership with Black Star Project to promote activities, programs and presentations

- ## **3. Resource development for staff** - Many of the Multicultural Education Department's presentations and field trips are topics initially requested by faculty members and then expanded to other classrooms and schools. When teachers are looking for cultural information to incorporate into their classroom lessons, the MC Ed Department develops materials for their use or to present in classrooms, assemblies and field trips. These included: cultural units on slavery, El Dia de los Muertos, Arab Americans, Francophone countries, Patsy Mink, Manzanar, Human Commonality, American Cultures, The Holocaust, the Tuskegee Airmen, and Bullying.

2009 – 2010 MCRC Library Statistics

	Total Circulations
2010	5,419
2009	4,296
2008	3,655
2007	3,211
2006	3,074
2005	3,195
2004	3,490
Total	26,340
	Report generated via Destiny Library System on 7/5/2010

	2010 Library Snapshot	
Materials		
	Titles	12,947
	Copies	14,456
Patrons		
	Total	1,289
	Active	1,238
	Report generated via Destiny Library System on 7/5/2010	

2009 – 2010 MCRC Library Collection Statistics

Library Copy Cultural Categories	Copies
African/African American	3,333
Arab American/ Middle East	465
Asian/Asian American/ Pacific Islander	2,075
Australian/Australian American	134
Caribbean	178
Cultural Diversity	218
European/European American	3,016
Family Diversity / GLBT	63
Hispanic/Latino	1,441
Jewish/ Jewish American / Israeli	390
Native American Indian	1,166
Our World	1,149
People with Disabilities / Human Rights	166
Student Achievement	65
Women	768
Other Categories	Copies
Art and Literature	1,054
Math and Science	65
Music	403
Library Copy Types	Copies
Artifacts	1,808
Audiotapes and CDs	167
Clothing	250
Games	111
Maps and Posters	3,231
Teacher Resources	1,026
Videotapes and DVDs	781
Please note: Categories often overlap Report generated on 7/5/2010	

Lynn Allen
Multicultural Education Department Administrator