

Proposed Amendment to the FY20 Proposed Budget

Amendment #	014
Sponsor:	Larry Miller
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Date:	5/23/2019

Intent (required):

Negotiate pay with language (signing) interpreters with the objective of approaching industry rates. Hire an LTE to oversee the coordination of language interpretation work in the district. Apply the funds presently used for contracting for the services to pay for this effort. Create subs for necessary situations.

Funding Source:

Identify specific budget lines to be increased and budget lines to be decreased to fund the amendment (required; add rows as needed)

Page #	Budget Line to be Changed (To /From) Budget Code and Description	FTE Increase	Amount Increase	FTE Decrease	Amount Decrease
3C-55	SPH-H-I-EEN-XX-ESEA5729 & SPH-P-I-EEN-XX-ESEA5704	0.00	\$33,007		
3C-55	DWC-0-0-EEN-XX-EEBN	0.00	\$4,951		
3C-56	SPI-0-0-EEN-XX-EXED			0.00	\$37,958
	Total		\$37,958		\$37,958

Fund:

- School Operations Fund
- Extension Fund
- Construction Fund

Required Vote:

- Simple Majority
- Super Majority (2/3)

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Administration Response:

Information obtained from the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics revealed that as of May 2018 (latest data available; released on March 29, 2019), the national average hourly salary of interpreters in elementary and secondary schools is \$21.69 (the link may be found below). In comparison, MPS provides a higher average hourly salary of \$26.01 per hour. In addition, the current lowest hourly rate exceeds that of the national average.

The Department of Specialized Services has a designated staff person to coordinate the work of language (signing) interpreters in the district. Interpreters are centralized so that they can be assigned where there is a need. The Specialized Services staff coordinates services and professional development.

The contract for interpreter services provides for additional services beyond the school day and for substitutes when there are absences and vacancies. The contract allows for students and staff to receive interpreter services without interruption as required.

The funds needed to implement the proposed amendment would reduce necessary services for students, staff and families, which may extend beyond the traditional school day.

<https://www.bls.gov/oes/current/oes273091.htm#ind>