**Middle School Spanish Immersion/FLES Report**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**Purpose of Report:** To provide the School Board an update on the Spanish Immersion and FLES programs in middle school.

In keeping with the District’s commitment to provide a continuum of courses to advance each learner, students in the Spanish Immersion Program have been able to continue their experience with a special track created for them at Edison Middle School. These students will continue their studies of social studies, science and language arts in the Spanish language as 7th graders in the fall, while also receiving additional language arts, math and encore classes in the English language.

Students who previously took part in the Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) Program have been able to hone their Spanish skills at Patrick Henry and Whittier Middle Schools. Sixteen of the 35 of the 6th grade students who took high school Spanish I successfully earned .5 high school credit. However, in the Fall of 2015, it is recommended that FLES students continue to develop their Spanish literacy skills during the 15 minute PRO-Time while in the 6th and 7th grades and then enroll in high school Spanish I as 8th graders to better solidify their Spanish-speaking abilities.

**Administrative Recommendation to School Board:** Acknowledge the curriculum for the Spanish Immersion/FLES program that will be continued into Grade 7.
Middle School Spanish Immersion/ FLES Board Report

Purpose of Report: To provide the School Board an update on the Spanish Immersion and FLES programs in middle school.

District Priority Area: Student Achievement

Goal: All students will improve content skills to achieve high standards.

Strategy: Multiple programs and pathways will support improved student achievement across the curriculum.

SA6.7 Develop and finalize curriculum for Spanish Immersion/FLES into middle school at Grade 7.

Explanation:

The Spanish Immersion program and the Foreign Language in the Elementary School (FLES) program were implemented in middle school at Grade 6 in the fall of 2014. The Middle School Spanish Immersion program is located Edison Middle School, and the Middle School FLES program is offered at Patrick Henry Middle School and Whittier Middle School. Students in the Spanish Immersion program are immersed in the Spanish language and will become proficient in both Spanish and English, while learning the same curriculum content as their peers outside the program in science and social studies. Students in the FLES program continue to learn Spanish literacy skills in one class during the school day. These programs will be continued into 7th grade in the fall of 2015.

Middle School Spanish Immersion

Eighteen 6th grade students enrolled in the first Spanish Immersion class at Edison Middle School, and these students will continue in the Spanish Immersion program in 7th grade next fall. A new class of 38, 6th grade Spanish Immersion students will transition from the Elementary Spanish Immersion Program to the Middle School Immersion Program. The Spanish Immersion students will continue to receive instruction in Spanish in three classes each day: Spanish social studies, Spanish language arts, and Spanish science. The 6th and 7th grade Spanish social studies and Spanish science use the same curriculum as the English social studies and science, although the resources are in Spanish. In the Spanish language arts class, students continue to learn Spanish to develop their reading, writing, grammar, and speaking skills. For the remainder of the day, the students receive instruction in English including English language arts, math, and encore classes.

Middle School FLES

At Rosa Parks, the elementary FLES students received 15-minutes of Spanish instruction each day in grades K-5. Of the Rosa Parks 5th grade students, 35 participated in the FLES program at Patrick Henry or Whittier. To continue the Spanish instruction for the middle school FLES students, the students were enrolled in high school Spanish I every day during first semester. Because the students were enrolled in Spanish I, the FLES students were given the opportunity
to take the high school Spanish I semester test, and 16 of the 35 of the students earned .5 high school credit for the first semester of Spanish I. The 16 students who earned high school credit in 6th grade will take the second semester of Spanish I in 7th grade and high school Spanish II in 8th grade.

It is recommended that beginning in the fall of 2015, the FLES program in middle school be offered during the 15-minute PRO-Time, which allows all of the FLES students to continue to learn Spanish in 6th and 7th grade. In 8th grade, these students will enroll in high school Spanish I with an opportunity to earn high school credit. During PRO-Time, Spanish lessons will be implemented to help the students continue to improve their Spanish literacy skills and to learn about the Spanish culture. The middle school teachers will work with the FLES teacher at Rosa Parks this summer to develop a progression of lessons for the middle school FLES program using print and online resources.

Committee Participation: NA

Costs: The cost of curriculum writing and resources for the 7th grade Spanish Immersion and FLES curricula are included in the current FY15, 057 budget.

Summary: In the fall of 2015, the Spanish Immersion at Edison Middle School and FLES program at Patrick Henry and Whittier Middle Schools will be continued into 7th grade. The Spanish Immersion students will continue to take three classes in Spanish each day. It is recommended that the FLES program in 6th and 7th grades at Patrick Henry and Whittier be offered for 15-minutes each day during PRO-Time.

Administrative Recommendation to School Board: Acknowledge the curriculum for the Spanish Immersion/FLES program that will be continued into Grade 7.