

APPENDIX V – 307

V.G.1.q.

A description of the process for providing academic intervention for struggling African American and Latino students;

The Unitary Status Plan (USP) requires the District to develop and implement a system for identifying African American and Latino students in need of targeted interventions to provide targeted support to those who are struggling or disengaged in school. In SY 2016-17, the District implemented the use of a computer software program to identify students in need of targeted interventions. The District purchased "Clarity" by BrightBytes. Clarity is a computer software program that monitors the attendance, academic performance (AzMerit), and behavior of students in need of additional support. Clarity is an early warning system designed to decrease risk factors associated with attendance, academics and behavior. The goal of the District is to decrease the risk factors associated with dropping out of school by identifying students in need of support sooner than later. The idea is that the early warning system will help the District to increase positive student outcomes through predictive analytics, thereby changing the trajectory of students and reducing the African American and Latino dropout rates.

Also, new in SY 2016-17 is the hiring of approximately 33 Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) coordinators. The MTSS coordinators are responsible for hosting weekly and bi-weekly meetings to discuss students identified for additional support, and to facilitate the implementation of supports.

In addition to the newly implemented Clarity program, and the hiring of the MTSS coordinators, the District continues to implement Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS) model at all schools. Approximately 33 schools have a full-time MTSS coordinator while the remaining schools were required to designate a site coordinator.

In SY 2016-17, the African American Student Services Department (AASSD) and Mexican American Student Services Department (MASSD) supported the District process to identify students in need of targeted interventions and support. Both departments implemented several strategies to provide targeted support to students. The strategies implemented were: 1) Student Success Specialists assigned to high need school-sites, 2) mentoring supports, 3) Multi-Tiered System of Supports, 4) use of the online request for services form, 5) tutoring and 6) parent engagement events.