

**SUMMARY OF June 25th Latino/a Bridge Program Summer 2010**

“Increasing Access for Latino (a) Students in Catholic High Schools”

**PLEASE IDENTIFY 2-3 AREAS OF ACADEMIC NEED FOR YOUR POPULATION IN YOUR SCHOOL THAT A SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM COULD HELP ADDRESS?**

Study Skills

Reading Comprehension

Writing Skills

Math Skills

**MISC. COMMENTS**

Build relationship/investment with parents.

Schools must be ready and willing to work with Latino students.

All communication sent home must be in Spanish as well

Most children in Catholic elementary schools will not attend Catholic High Schools because of financial need.

ESL students may not be able to function in the Catholic High Schools because there are no bilingual education programs to support these students. The need is not for social programming, the need is for academic programs.

Value and affirm second languages learners as a positive benefit to your school

Maintain high expectations and quality education – these are already present inherently in our Catholic schools

**ASSUMING THAT COST WAS NO OBJECT, WHAT MIGHT THIS PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?**

Primary Recommended Actions (based on participant input)

**Timeline**

4 weeks in August

Year round

Summer program should last a minimum of 6 weeks to be effective

WFIC Program and Marquette Frontier Program Models should be explored.

**Location**

Children should visit different campuses throughout the year

To make this a collaborative effort, students should rotate throughout all of the high schools throughout the year

**Grade Levels**

11 year olds

6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade

**Format/Content**

Set up a program where students acclimate themselves to high school culture. For example, they learn how to open student lockers, transfer to classrooms using the bell, use big sisters big brothers and peer support program.

Teach parents/students about access earlier – preparing for high school transition – including parents as central to this conversation

Devote resources (time) to bilingual/bicultural support persons

**SECONDARY RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Organize a focus group with students to discuss their concerns

Create an ongoing Faculty Bridge Program

**GMCEC WILL BE EXPLORING THE FOLLOWING OPTIONS TO CONTINUE THIS CONVERSATION...**

- School climate assessment and response plan team(s)
- Focus group with middle school and high school students to identify transitional needs and challenges
- Potential Swap Program
- WFIC College Readiness potential collaboration
- October 9, 2008 Catholic Teacher Conference – focus on Latino/a Admission and Retention

**GMCEC**  
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