

### **Role of Evaluation Coaches:**

Special Education Administration is working to redefine the role of Evaluation Coaches. In looking to build capacity within schools through an equity lens it has been requested that the following be shared with all school teams:

### **Evaluation Coaches partner with schools to achieve racial equity throughout the intervention, referral and evaluation processes for students who are emerging bilinguals.**

#### **Intervention**

Evaluation Coaches will consult with teams as needed regarding developing and implementing appropriate interventions for students with diverse cultural, linguistic and educational backgrounds.

#### **Referral**

In order to assure equity in district practice, Evaluation Coaches will work as part of the ELL Assessment Team to isolate race, culture, and language. Evaluation Coaches consider a student's diverse language, cultural, and educational background by reviewing referrals including interventions and data, gathering multiple perspectives (interpreter, parent, classroom & ELL teachers, etc.), reviewing student history, gathering additional information or data as needed. Evaluation Coaches then collaborate with teams to determine next steps.

#### **Evaluation**

When working with teachers who have not yet been trained to administer and interpret locally-normed Curriculum-Based Measures (CBM) for academic evaluations, Evaluation Coaches will complete both the CBM & Brigance measures. Evaluation Coaches will then collaborate with the Special Education Teacher in the building (as well as other team members as needed) regarding interpreting results and discussing potential eligibility.

When working with trained evaluators, Evaluation Coaches will consult on each case following the administration of academic measures to collaboratively interpret the results and discuss potential eligibility. While there is concern about over-identification in speech and language as well, this pertains primarily to the academic evaluation and educational/cultural implications of emerging bilinguals.

### **Please contact the Evaluation Coach assigned to your school when:**

- An ELL student is referred for an initial evaluation.
- An ELL student is being referred for reevaluation and a new area of eligibility is being considered.
- An ELL student who is receiving DD services and is being reevaluated due to turning 7.
- An ELL student enrolls in SPPS with an out-of-district or out-of-state evaluation. In these cases, I will work with you to determine if the evaluation can be accepted.
- Any student who has a history of instruction in an immersion program is referred for an initial or reevaluation when a new area of eligibility is being considered.
- An ELL student is being evaluated for dismissal from special education services.