



To: Harlem School District Board of Education
Dr. Terrell Yarbrough, Superintendent
Josh Aurand, Assistant Superintendent for Business and Operations
From: Dr. Michelle Erb, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Ana Luisa Dominguez, Director of Multicultural Education
RE: Adelante Educational Specialist Group: Biliteracy Professional Development
Date: April 24, 2026

Adelante Educational Specialist

To support the continued growth of bilingualism and biliteracy among students in our Harlem Language Academy program (HoLA), it is essential to strengthen staff capacity and deepen knowledge of effective biliteracy programming and instructional practice. This includes intentional alignment of Illinois Spanish Language Arts Standards and the WIDA English Language Development (ELD) 2020 Standard to ensure cohesive and high-quality instruction for multilingual learners (MLs). We propose to partner with Adelante Educational Specialist.

Adelante Education Specialist will provide two days of Biliteracy Professional Development for bilingual and ESL staff before the end of August 2026. The specialist will bring expertise in biliteracy development and standards alignment to support high-quality instructional practice.

Professional Development Components

- a. Full Day Sessions:
 - 1. Day 1 - Building the Foundation for Dual Language & Biliteracy Instruction
 - 2. Day 2 - English Language Development (ELD) using the WIDA ELD 2020 Standards
- b. Curriculum Alignment
 - Provide guided support for bilingual and ESL teachers in developing a comprehensive dual language pacing guide
 - Ensure alignment between Spanish Language Arts (SLA) and English Language Development (ELD) Standards
 - Identify and prioritize key standards to strengthen instructional coherence across languages

This professional development will strengthen biliteracy instruction by equipping teachers with effective, research-based strategies to support the language development in both Spanish and English. Improved alignment between SLA and ELD standards will promote cross-linguistic transfer and more cohesive Biliteracy instruction. Students in the HoLA program will benefit from more rigorous, consistent, and culturally and linguistically responsive instruction, leading to improved outcomes in reading, writing, listening, and speaking in both languages.

Funding Source: FY 26 Title III \$7400