

## **Response to Questions on the FY 2009 Advertised Budget Plan**

**Request By:** Supervisor Hudgins

**Question:** Describe the K-2 initiative for at-risk students and the impact of the potential reduction.

**Response:** Fairfax County Public Schools have provided the following information:

The local K-2 initiative, begun in FY 1997, provides 2.0 additional positions at Centre Ridge, Dogwood, and Rose Hill Elementary Schools. Initially, the positions were used to provide Reading Recovery teachers for first grade students, but over time, schools have been permitted to use the positions for either resource teachers or to lower class size in grades K-2. In FY 2005, the elementary staffing formula was revised to eliminate “exception based” staffing and promote equity among schools. The new formula weights the ESOL and the free and reduced lunch populations and is applied annually to capture shifts in the student membership. These schools will continue to receive resources based on their membership.