

# **We Are Making the Dream of a Bilingual Barranquilla Real: Mayor Tuesday, April 29, 2014**



Mayor Elsa Noguera welcomed 11 new English-speaking World Teach foundation volunteers, to be included in the program 'Barranquilla Bilingual: English and Competitiveness Opportunities' program, which seeks to improve the quality of English teaching in the District, as a strategy for language development of students.

The program implemented by World Teach, through Colombia Volunteers Foundation, is based on the co-teaching methodology which seeks teachers and volunteers support each other in all matters relating to the teaching of English, while to exchange cultural aspects and skills of each are strengthened.

"The bilingual program in Barranquilla is a reality. Currently 67% of our district teachers are in category Very Superior B2 according to the Common European Framework of Reference, in management of a second language, a breakthrough because when we started it was only 8%," noted Mayor Elsa Noguera during welcoming ceremony at FDI Hilda Muñoz.

The president added: "Thanks to the volunteers for the beautiful work you are doing for our children and young people have a better future."

"The important thing is that students have fun while learning English," said Frank Hand, World Teach volunteer at FDI Jorge N. Abello, who demonstrated interactive learning through music with his students.

Pablo Jaramillo, director of Colombia Volunteers Foundation in alliance with World Teach-emphasized. "Our volunteers feel safe in Barranquilla. The bilingualism model implemented in the city is a national benchmark. Thanks to Mayor Elsa Noguera to promote the culture of bilingualism in the city."

The district schools currently benefit from the volunteer program are: IED Hilda Muñoz, IED Jorge Nicolás Abello, IED Mayor del Caribe, IED Madre Marcelina, IED María Inmaculada, IED Hogar Mariano, IED El Campito, IED Normal Superior.

## **Program Accomplishments 'Barranquilla Bilingual'**

- \* 100% of trained English teachers and advancing their level of linguistic pro-efficiency.
- \* 67% of teachers who presented Diagnosis with the Ministry of Education exceed the level B2 according to the Common European Framework.
- \* 65 Teachers trained in linguistics and methodology of teaching French.
- \* 1,500 students in grades 10 and 11 formed as Bilingual Technical Labor.
- \* 500 Alumni graduates 'Contact Barranquilla' program working in call centers in the city.
- \* 14 Institutions Institutional support for the implementation of interactive Reading Companion software in partnership with IBM and Dividendo by Colombia to teach English.
- \* 6 Institutions with bilingual emphasis creating a new curriculum and impacting on PEI.
- \* 31 beneficiary institutions with volunteers from English-speaking countries.
- \* 5 International Conference on Bilingual Framework Bilingualism Week with exponents of different countries.
- \* 150 primary teachers trained in methodology and didactics in teaching English.
- \* 60% of schools increased their test score to know in November 2013, compared with 2012.