

APPENDIX V – 107

SUMMER EXPERIENCE

The District designed the Summer Experience program for students in 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 8th grade who needed additional support to move to the next grade and/or to be successful in the subsequent school year. Two high school hubs serviced students 8th graders from across the District; nine elementary and K8 hubs serviced 2nd, 3rd and 5th graders from across the District.

Summer Experience Hubs	Pre test % / Post test %		
	% White Students	% African American Students	% Hispanic Students
Booth Fickett K-8	30/31%	14/13%	44/46%
Cragin Elementary	19/19%	8/8%	61/65%
Dietz K-8	43/42%	18/22%	31/31%
Holladay Elementary	*	33/29%	50/57%
Lineweaver Elementary	9/9%	9/9%	73/74%
Lynn Urquides K-8	*	*	88/90%
Morgan Maxwell K-8	*	9/10%	82/82%
Roskruge K-8	*	*	85/84%
Vesey Elementary	10/8%	*	69/72%
Pueblo High	*	*	39/83%
Rincon High	15/26%	8/18%	25/53%

The program included the use of intensive math and English language arts curriculum (see *Attachment 1, Curriculum Summary*). Students who successfully complete Summer Experience were promoted into the 4th or 9th grades.

The District recruited all at-risk students in the relevant grades, and engaged in additional efforts to recruit African American and Latino students (see *Attachment 2, Registration and Recruiting Materials*). The Summer Experience was one of a collection of strategies the District employed to address the academic achievement gap, and to support students at risk of being retained or of dropping out.

At the Elementary Level, the District identified 1193 students (565 3rd graders) for participation. Schools and central staff members identified students via

letters and phone calls home, and by one on one outreach through teachers and other site staff members. The District ultimately enrolled 887 students (461 3rd graders) into the program. Moreover, the District identified 108 Move on When Reading (MOWR) 3rd graders. Parents and families of these students were informed of the MOWR criteria, and options that the district had available in order to help these students promote. Of these MOWR students, 101 students were able to promote onto 4th grade. The Summer Experience will carry on into the fall for these students – students will receive additional interventions and support.

At the Secondary Level, the District identified 186 8th Grade students for participation. Schools and central staff members identified students via letters and phone calls home, and by one on one outreach through teachers and site counselors. The District ultimately enrolled 142 students into the program and, of those students, 141 students promoted onto high school. For these students, The Summer Experience carries on into the fall – targeted students will receive additional interventions and support once they start high school.

SY 2015-16 efforts emphasized the expansion of summer school access for African American and Latino students through active student recruitment and outreach, and the implementation of strategies to improve the quality of education across all Summer Experience offerings. These efforts included: hiring of highly qualified staff for summer experience hubs; active recruitment of Hispanic and African American students; professional development of staff; monitoring the quality of education; and providing transportation services.

Hiring of Highly Qualified Staff for Summer Experience Hubs

The District hired highly qualified teachers using a non-discriminatory and equitable hiring process to select motivated and passionate teachers to teach in the Summer Experience program. The District also selected additional staff to serve in the capacity of activity helpers, monitors, and site coordinators based on experience and a demonstrated focus on student academic achievement and/or safety.

Active Recruitment of Hispanic and African American students

The District introduced the Summer Experience program to all site principals during an Instructional Leadership Academy (ILA) meeting. All site principals were involved in active recruitment of students who were in need of additional academic support to be a success in the following grade level. Moreover, the District shared

program and registration information with office managers, counselors, Learning Supports Coordinators, teachers, students and parents. Mexican American Student Services Department (MASSD) specialists and African American Student Services Department (AASSD) specialists engaged in active recruitment and registration of students for Summer Experience. The District shared information via ILA presentations, the District website, parent link calls, phone calls to parents, and emails. In the spring of 2016, AASSD and MASSD Specialists called the families of Latino and African American 2nd 3rd, 5th, and 8th grade students to encourage them to register for summer school.

The District sent home information about the Summer Experience program, including registration forms in both English and Spanish. Central District staff, site principals, counselors, and office managers conducted follow-up phone calls to parents to encourage program registration. The District also maintained a separate email account to improve to field emails from parents who wanted more information about the program. The District also promoted the program on its website, including information about the program and location of the hub sites.

The Communications Department sent parent link messages to all registered students/parents in both English and Spanish to help ensure that all students who were registered for the program would attend. Moreover, to maximize parent participation and understanding of the program, the Language Acquisition department assisted with providing translators to site coordinators when needed. These translators helped parents understand the location of school bus stops, the schedule and curriculum, and opportunities to participate in the free breakfast and lunches at each hub site.

During Summer Experience, district personnel were pro-active and diligent in calling and continually recruiting students to attend classes, especially if students were on the 8th grade retention list. The majority of students on the 8th grade retention list was given the opportunity to promote to High School with the successful completion of the Summer Experience program.

On the last day of the Summer Experience program, staff included information on how parents could continue to support their child academically through the remainder of the summer. Moreover, the opportunity to continue academic support via the district's online Successmaker program was provided to each student.

Professional Development

During SY 2015-16, the District collaborated with Great Source Education Group to provide professional development to Summer Experience Teachers and Coordinators. Trainers provided information and strategies to help students in grades 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 8th grade transition to their next grade level. District personnel provided additional training to help staff understand strategies for exceptional education students, strategies for English Language Learner students, and student health and safety, prior to working with students.

Monitoring the Quality of Education

District personnel from the Grants and Federal Programs Department assisted Site Coordinators with monitoring classroom activities and lessons at each Summer Experience Hub site. District personnel, the site coordinator, or both visited classrooms at least twice each week to observe and to provide feedback in a timely manner. Staff utilized a standard observation form to ensure consistency. The Summer Experience program staff collaborated with the Assessment and Program Evaluation Department to develop a consistent protocol to monitor pre- program and post-program student assessment results, especially for Move on When Reading (MOWR) third graders and retained 8th graders attending the program.

Transportation Services

Summer Experience Hub sites were chosen based on the amount of student need in an area, the number of students registers for the program, and general geographic vicinity to other TUSD schools. The District's Transportation department collaborated with Summer Experience personnel to ensure that all students who needed transportation to and from Summer Experience Hub sites would have access to transportation services. Moreover, the District website also included information about the location of bus stops with pick up and drop off times for each hub site. During Summer Experience, site coordinators and parents were able to contact the Transportation Department in a timely manner when issues arose, e.g. late arrival of a bus to a bus stop.