

LOC Site Visit

Tuesday, July 14, 2015

10:00am-12:15pm

Time	Program	Arrival Info
10:00-10:45am (45 min)	Southwest Youth & Family Services (4555 Delridge Way SW)	Park in SWYFS parking lot Meet in main office, receptionist will direct to room
10:45-11:00am (15 min)	Travel	
11:00-11:45am (45 min)	Denny Middle School (2601 SW Kenyon St)	Park in Denny parking lot at 2601 SW Kenyon St Meet in main office - large conference room
11:45-12:15pm (30 min)	Lunch and Presentation on Levy Summer Programs @ Denny	Meet in main office - large conference room

Revised 7/13/15



City of Seattle

Edward B. Murray, Mayor

Department of Education and Early Learning

Holly Miller, Interim Director

DATE: July 14, 2015

TO: Families and Education Levy Oversight Committee

FROM: Holly Miller, Interim Director, Department of Education and Early Learning

RE: **Summer Learning Investments**

Briefing Objective: Provide an overview of the City of Seattle's Summer Learning programs funded by the Families and Education Levy.

Key Takeaways

- **The City of Seattle believes in the importance of summer learning in closing the achievement gap.** This summer, the Families and Education Levy ("the Levy") is investing \$1.7 million in summer learning programs that serve 1,500 of Seattle's students.
- **The Levy currently supports 16 summer learning programs at 25 sites across Seattle,** the majority of which are located in Southeast and Southwest Seattle.
- **Programs span the continuum, including kindergarten readiness, elementary, middle and high school.** They are located in Seattle Public Schools buildings as well as at community partner sites.
- **The students we serve during the summer are similar to those we serve during the school year:** students who are behind grade level or not proficient in math and reading, as well as English Language Learners. We also look for students without prior preschool experience or students who have not met standard on Teaching Strategies GOLD, the early childhood assessment.
- **This summer, the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) is expanding its partnership with School's Out Washington (SOWA) to improve program quality** across our summer learning sites by supporting a continuous improvement process that utilizes the Program Quality Assessment (PQA) tool along with coaching, professional development, and data training.
- **The Levy plans to invest in approximately 15 new summer learning programs** through the Request for Investment (RFI) process over the remaining four years of the Levy, through summer 2019.

Today's Site Visits

Summer Young Writers' Workshop

Site: Southwest Youth and Family Services

Grades: Rising 10th – 12th graders

of Students: 20 students from Interagency Academy

The Summer Young Writers' Workshop serves rising 10th -12th grade students who are primarily low-income and students of color, and are at risk of failing to graduate from high school on time, or who need support to pass required state assessments in reading and writing.

Each student will receive a total of 12 hours of academic instruction and 10 hours of enrichment programming per week for a total of 192 hours of summer learning programming. Academic instruction focuses on poetry as a form of observation, analysis and communication, and culminates in one or more public presentations of student work. Academic instruction may also be delivered in community sites such as parks or other public areas, in order to expose students to environments or cultures new to them as part of research and writing exercises.

Enrichment activities include weekly field trips to a variety of local institutions, cultural events and recreation sites. Field trips provide environments for students to utilize and practice developing skills, as well as gain experience and background for communicating personal observations and reactions. Students are asked to record observations and analyses for use in later communication. Students earn .5 Language Arts/Creative Writing credit for successful completion of the program.

Westside Scholars Summer Academy

Site: Denny International Middle School

Grades: Rising 6th – 8th graders

of Students: 160 students

The Westside Scholars Summer Academy serves:

- 80 incoming 6th grade students from the Delridge, High Point, South Park, Westwood and Highland park neighborhoods of Seattle who have attended Roxhill, Concord, Highland Park or West Seattle elementary schools and who have been identified by their schools as not meeting grade level standards in math and reading;
- 40 incoming 7th grade students and 40 incoming 8th grade students who have been identified as not meeting grade level standards in math and reading;
- Any English Language Learners (ELLs) who would benefit from additional support

Each student receives a total of 15 hours of academic instruction and 17.5 hours of enrichment programming per week for a total of 162.5 hours of summer learning programming. All students receive reading/writing and math academic instruction. In addition, all ELL students receive English language acquisition instruction.

Enrichment activities and field trips will be managed by Seattle Parks and Recreation and feature hands-on activities that develop skills such as peer collaboration and critical thinking, informed by and aligned with their academic classes (such as tying language arts to photography).

Why is Summer Important?

Learning shouldn't stop when the school doors close. Each summer, students lose critical academic skills learned over the school year, known as summer learning loss.

- **Studies show that kids lose as much as two to three months of math and reading skills over the summer**, with low-income students potentially losing more (Cooper, 1996).
- **Research also tells us that more than half of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth can be explained** by unequal access to summer learning opportunities (Alexander et al, 2007).
- **Summer learning loss accounts for about two-thirds of the 9th grade achievement gap** in reading (Alexander et al, 2007).
- **Parents with means invest more time and money than ever before in their children**, by supplementing their education with enriching experiences such as summer camps, time with family, and trips to museums, parks and libraries.
- **Low-income youth lack options during the summer**, and sometimes come to the library because it's air conditioned. But for every line of print read by low-income children, middle-income children read three (Bailey, Dynarski).

As a result, summer learning programs focused on low-income students can help close the achievement gap that has been attributed, in part, to cumulative learning loss during summer.

Levy Summer Programs

In summer 2015, DEEL is investing \$1.7 million in summer learning programs that serve 1,500 of Seattle's students at 16 programs across 25 sites (see Exhibit 1 on next page). Levy-funded summer learning programs are intended to provide struggling students with additional learning time during the summer to catch up with their peers, in pursuit of the goal of improving academic outcomes and closing the achievement gap. Levy-funded programs must serve students meeting one or more of the following criteria:

- **ELL students:** English Language Learners who are Level 1 or 2 on the State English Proficiency Exam, and/or students enrolled in English language support programs for 5+ yrs.
- **Struggling students:** Students with low or very low math or literacy skills (Level 1 or 2 on MSP Math or Reading).
- **Incoming kindergarteners:** Students entering kindergarten without prior pre-K experience, and/or students served by Step Ahead, Head Start or ECEAP who did not meet standard on Teaching Strategies GOLD.

Levy-funded programs must include both an academic component and enrichment component, with a minimum of 120 hours of total programming. Structured academic classes must focus on building students' skills in one or more of the following areas: reading/writing, math or math with science, English language acquisition, or key developmental domains in Teaching Strategies GOLD.

Enrichment activities must be paired with academic classes to provide engaging opportunities to build important academic skills and to foster other skills that support learning such as collaboration and creative problem solving. These activities may include STEM, visual and performing arts, college & career readiness, elementary to middle school transition, or middle school to high school transition.

Exhibit 1. Overview of Levy Summer Programs

Program	Description	# Students	Sites
Elementary			
Denise Louie	Kindergarten readiness	68	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Hill • ID/Chinatown • Rainier Valley
NEW Neighborhood House	Kindergarten readiness	90	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Point • New Holly • Rainier Vista
Southwest Early Learning	Kindergarten readiness	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delridge
NEW Chinese Information and Service Center (CISC)	Serving rising 1 st -3 rd grade Asian immigrant children	18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ID/Chinatown
John Muir Elementary	Serving rising 1 st -5 th graders	96	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John Muir ES
Seattle Parks and Recreation	Serving rising 1 st -5 th graders	48	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northgate ES
Middle School			
EXPANDED Denny Middle School	Serving rising 6 th -8 th graders	160	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Denny MS
El Centro de la Raza	Serving rising 7 th -8 th graders in Spanish-speaking immigrant & refugee households	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beacon Hill
Seattle Parks and Recreation	Serving rising 6 th -8 th graders	400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aki Kurose MS • McClure MS • Mercer MS
NEW UW Native Youth Enrichment Program	STEM focused cultural enrichment program for Native youth	25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University of Washington
Woodland Park Zoo	STEM focused academic & enrichment program	13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Woodland Park Zoo and Mercer MS
YMCA	Serving rising 7 th -8 th graders	50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Madison MS
High School			
Refugee Women's Alliance	Science academy and credit recovery program for rising 9 th -12 th graders who are low- & very-low income newcomer immigrant & refugees	100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seattle World School
Seattle Public Schools	Credit recovery and college & career exploration program	300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleveland HS • Franklin HS
Southwest Youth and Family Services	Young Writers' Workshop serving rising 10 th -12 th graders from Interagency Academy	20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delridge
YMCA	Middle school to HS transition program for rising 9 th graders	120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief Sealth / Franklin • Cleveland HS

Improving Program Quality

DEEL is committed to the continuous improvement of our summer learning programs. To that end, DEEL is expanding its partnership this summer with School's Out Washington to improve program quality across our summer learning sites. The continuous improvement process includes several components: 1) use of the Program Quality Assessment (PQA) tool, 2) training, coaching and technical assistance, and 3) implementation of a continuous improvement cycle throughout the school year.

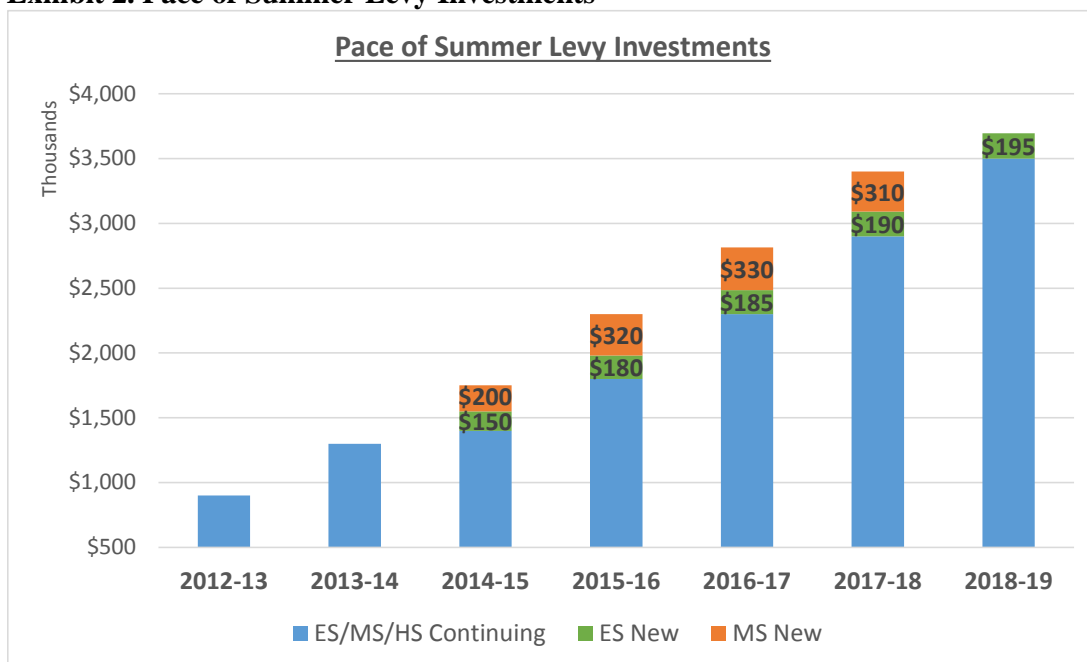
The Summer Learning PQA is a tool designed by the Weikart Center for Youth Program Quality (a division of the Forum for Youth Investment) and the National Summer Learning Association. The PQA tool uses both observational evidence and interviews with site managers to collect data that can be used by summer programs to improve practice and program quality. The PQA tool will be used at 16 of our 25 sites this summer to support continuous improvement, with plans to expand to all sites by next summer.

Each participating site receives approximately 10 hours of professional development this summer, including data training and one-on-one coaching. DEEL is in the process of creating a year-round professional development schedule to include periodic professional learning communities and participation in the annual Bridge Conference, hosted by School's Out Washington.

Future Summer Investments

Investments in summer learning programs began in fall 2012, with implementation in summer 2013. This summer is the third year of summer learning implementation, with 4 new investments totaling \$350K. During the last RFI cycle, there was overwhelming demand for elementary summer programs. We received 8 RFI applications for a pool of \$150K. For middle school summer programs, we received 2 RFI applications seeking \$200K and funded both applications. Going forward, we expect to invest in approximately 4-5 new summer programs each year over the next four years, for a total of 15 new summer programs (see Exhibit 2).

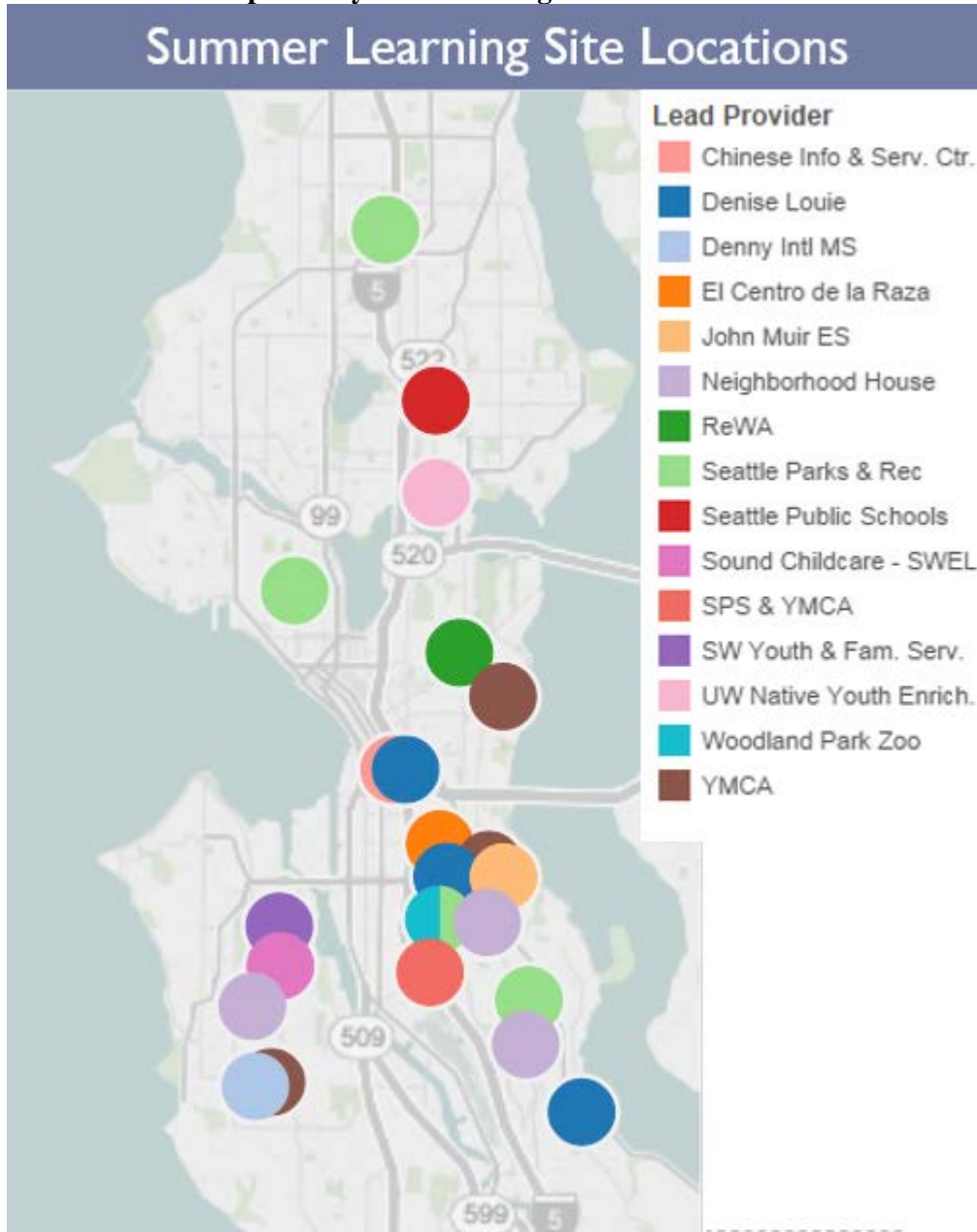
Exhibit 2. Pace of Summer Levy Investments



Supporting materials:

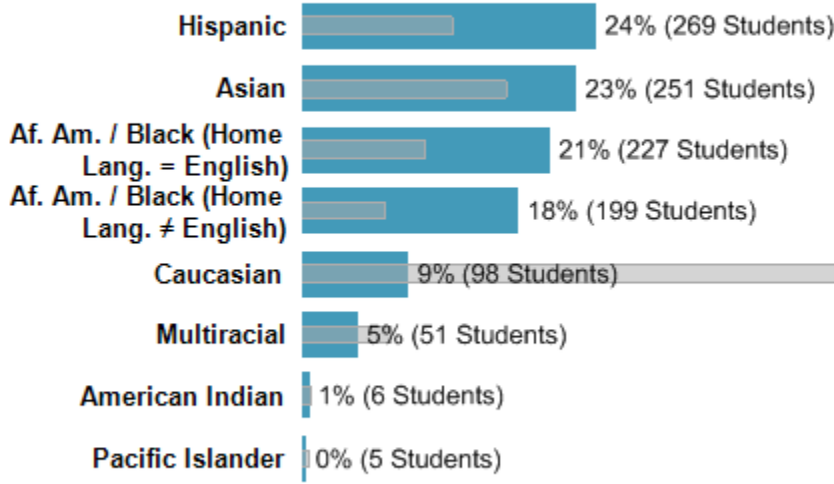
- Attachment 1 - Map of Levy Summer Programs
- Attachment 2 - Demographics of Levy Summer Programs

Attachment 1 - Map of Levy Summer Programs



Attachment 2 - Demographics of Levy Summer Learning Programs

Demographics of **Students in Levy Summer Learning Programs** vs. Students Enrolled in Seattle Public Schools (Excludes Children at Early Learning Sites)



English Language Learners: Levy 31% vs. District K-12 10%

Special Education Students: Levy 17% vs. District K-12 14%