1/30/2013

Why Summer Matters for Our Students

Goal One: Increase Academic Achievement for All Students

Goal Two: Eliminate Racial Disparities

Program Goals

- Minimize the effects of summer learning loss
- Prepare students academically and socially
- Encourage a passion for learning
- Motivate students to persevere in the face of challenges
Program Design

- 90 minute literacy and math block
- Breakfast, lunch and snack
- Afternoon activities - local providers
- Transportation (<1.5 miles)
- Student choice of activities
- Tiered selection process
- 21 Local providers; 26 activities

Program Elements

- All-camp meetings
- Chants
- Awards and recognition
- Spirit Stick
- Library partnership
- Book fair
- Pittsburgh Pirate’s baseball game

Program Evaluation

- Camper surveys
- National Summer Learning Association, RAND evaluation support
- Attendance a big challenge - ADA 69%
- Data systems
- Sustainability- 2,300 campers, five sites
- Middle School Scholastic Reading Inventory gains related to attendance
Our Advice...

- Prioritize evaluation from the start
- Staff for program is a full-time job
- Extra work bleeds into other departments
- Start planning early
- Utilize available resources- NSLA
- Educate families and community

More of Our Advice...

- Go big or go home
- Be creative to solve problems
- Winter challenges are summer challenges - attendance