

MONTEREY PENINSULA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

TO: Board of Education

DATE: March 19, 2007

ITEM: REPORT: MPUSD's Summer School Program for 2007

INTRODUCTION:

Summer school programs are effective in serving students when they are targeted and purposeful. In addition, summer school programs need to offer students alternative learning experiences while incorporating opportunities to further develop knowledge and skills required for future school success.

By appropriately identifying students based on specific criteria, developing effective and integrated programs that are highly engaging and that promote success, summer school can be a value added program.

In addition, evaluation of summer school programs is necessary to determine which best practices are most successful in addressing student needs.

BACKGROUND:

MPUSD has offered summer school for primarily remediation for students who are considered for retention and/or failed required courses at the high school level. The format of the summer school program focused on English language arts and mathematics skills at the K-8 level, with a required test to demonstrated skill mastery at the end of the summer session. If a student passed the test, they were to be considered ready to be promoted. In addition, at the high school level, a student would repeat the course they failed and success was obtaining a passing grade for credit.

Also, many summer school programs were offered at a variety of school sites, with the exception of the high school program. Transportation was not provided for students in the K-8 grades.

OBJECTIVE(S):

Summer school programs for K-8 students, including incoming 9th graders at the high school level, will address the needs of more students while providing an engaging and skill based model that integrates a variety of standards or skills students often need.

The summer program will offer academies at appropriate grade levels to not only develop and extend learning of core content (English language arts, mathematics, science, social science) but incorporate other frameworks such as visual and performing arts, physical education, health, and counseling. The academies are designed to be of high interest and engaging, even for the most reluctant learner.

To maximize resources, summer school programs at the K-8 levels will be three weeks, June 18th-July 6th (no school on July 4th) and will be full day programs. The high school course make-up program will continue to July 16th to allow for 20 days of instruction. Regional transportation will be provide for all summer programs, along with breakfast and lunch.

Orientation training and teacher preparation time will also be provided. Extended professional development opportunities for Algebra I teachers are incorporated into the Algebra Readiness Academy. The Algebra Readiness Academy is for incoming 9th graders to promote a good transition to high school and assist students in successfully completing Algebra I the coming school year.

COST/FUNDING SOURCE/FISCAL IMPACT:

Summer school funding is generated from the State through the hourly reimbursement programs. The entire summer school budget is based on categorical funds that are specifically providing additional instructional support during the summer.

The summer school budget will be developed when the initial number of student referred for summer school is complete the first week of May. All K-8 schools are following a recommended criteria for referring students. A final list of students who will be attending summer school will be available in April.

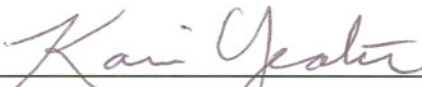
OPTION(S):

N/A

RECOMMENDATION (S):

To become familiar with the program design for the 2007 summer school offerings for MPUSD students.

PREPARED BY:



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Curriculum & Instruction

**APPROVED FOR SUBMISSION
TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**



Marilyn K. Shepherd, Ed.D
Superintendent

MPUSD Summer School 2007

MPUSD will be providing two different Summer School Programs during the 2006-07 school year one for K-8, and the other for High School Students. The K-8 program will provide a differentiated approach to intervention to fully support student learning. The purpose of this three-week, academy style, summer school is to provide students with the basic skills necessary to be successful in their academic career. The desired outcomes for this program are:

- Increased content based skill development/mastery for the students,
- Increased confidence and esteem levels for students,
- Experience in differentiated instruction for the instructors,
- Enriching, engaging and meaningful learning experiences for everyone.

The desired outcomes for the students regarding increased skill development and mastery will be measured over the course of the 2007-08 school year to provide data to help guide school year intervention to ensure student success.

The resources of the district (facility, bussing, supervision, maintenance, etc.) are being efficiently aligned to support the summer school program. Student referrals are being used to determine staffing, bus routes, the number of school sites to be utilized, and other support resources. If the numbers of students justify the use of multiple sites, regional programs will be planned for Marina, Seaside and Monterey (K-8 only). Due to the funding for remediation funding being uncapped, it has not yet been decided what the cut-off for program enrollment (number of students) will be.

The structure of the program will consist of a full-day program for 3 weeks (closed for July 4, 2007) from June 18, 2007 through July 6, 2007. The course offerings will be project-based classes that utilize a multiple intelligence approach to the students learning. The course will also provide many opportunities for the students to experience the subject matter through a variety of learning modalities to ensure that each student's learning style is addressed in the course curriculum. The courses are also designed to establish connections between learning and life skills to provide the students the opportunity to integrate the information and skills more naturally, and thereby recall the skills with more fluency for increased confidence and motivation to lead to success.

The course offerings are as follows:

The Apprentice (5th – 8th grades)

Business Academy to cover math and language art development through group business development. Students will be responsible for developing a business concept through brainstorming and assessment, developing a business plan to support the delivery of the product or service, and a mock sales presentation with community panel (students, teachers, other invited people, etc) that will provide recognition and feedback on business plan and presentation. Could be competition if donations can be sought for prizes...

Curious Minds (K-8th grades)

Science and Math Academy to cover science, math, and language arts development through a lab approach. Students will have group opportunities to construct an automated LEGO robot or rocket (group competitions may be held at higher grades). Also, a few simple science projects will be interwoven that encourage hypothesis development, testing, and research analysis. Final projects will be displayed at Open House.

Change Agents (3rd-8th grades)

Social Science and Language Arts Academy to cover social studies and language arts through the creation of a newspaper/magazine. Students will do research on a historical or current event or cultural group (or other teacher approved topic), use a form of expression that can be visually conveyed on paper (digital photographs do count) to share out information learned (with written explanation of non-written products), verbally share their research and visual presentation, and use the computer to put the journal together. All students will receive a copy of their published works, as well as the items being on display during the open house.

Future Teachers (3rd- 8th grades)

General Content Mastery for peer teachers (students) that love to help. Participants will be provided an opportunity to develop two lesson plans – one for math and one for language arts for their classmates or a buddy class of younger students, and teach the designed lesson plan during the summer school session. Lesson Plans will be documented and put in a book that all students will all receive a copy of. Pictures of them teaching and samples of their work will be on display during the open house.

Masterpieces (K-8th grades)

A creative arts approach to language arts. Students will be exposed to three short stories and/or poems, and develop an art/writing/dance/music project which conveys the general theme (student derived) of the story. Activities will be captured and displayed either digitally, physically or in performance at the open house.

Gear Up (8th grade)

An Algebra Readiness program that prepares 8th grade Gear-up participants for success in High School Algebra and College through skill development, college campus field trips, support networks, etc.

Quality staff are currently being recruited to teach classes in the new format which is moving away from teaching to the middle to teaching to the learning style. All staff that are interested in the program will be interviewed and selected by personnel to participate in the program. A three day training in the program goals and curriculum will be provided before summer school starts. The quality staffing of the program, the enrichment-style model of instruction, the academic skill development, as well as the relationships between life and learning that will be built are the strengths and cornerstones of the new summer school program.

The High School program will be a remedial summer school to make up additional credits in the traditional model that has been previously offered. Planning to implement the same enrichment style program for the 2007-08 Summer will be starting in April 2007 to provide ample time to support the transition in program style, and ensure that the opportunity to receive credit for participation is retained.