



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

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TO: Members, District 97 Board of Education
Dr. Carol Kelley, Superintendent

FROM: Dr. Amy Warke, Chief Academic and Accountability Officer

RE: Summer School Program Update

DATE: January 24, 2017

Purpose of the Report: Approve Letter of Intent

Since 2012, District 97 has offered a free Prep for Success summer program that has provided students in Tier 2 (6th to 10th percentile- approximately one grade level below with instruction) and Tier 3 instruction (in the 5th percentile or below- approximately two grade levels below with instruction) with access to targeted interventions and support in reading and math. Over the years, we have made modifications to the program in an effort to increase attendance, improve participation and aid the success of the children who take part in it. These modifications have included:

- Adding teachers to provide additional assistance/support with reading
- Reducing class sizes
- Adding incentives for attendance
- Providing snacks
- Conducting pre- and post-tests to assess achievement
- Partnering with Hephzibah, Summer Empowerment, and the Park District of Oak Park to offer extended care
- Increasing parent/guardian communication

Unfortunately, an analysis of the data collected before, during and after administration of the program reflected that children who participated in it experienced little to no measurable progress. As a result, we have proposed a progressive approach to summer programming that we believe will help us accomplish the three goals mentioned above (i.e., increase attendance, improve participation and aid student success).

Instead of a traditional teaching model, our summer program for grades three through eight will feature a camp-like experience through BASE Camp administered by the Oak Park Education Foundation (OPEF). Meanwhile, students in first and second grade will participate in a four-week reading and writing workshop experience that will also serve as a professional learning laboratory for our teachers. Parents/guardians of first and second graders who do not receive a formal invite to participate in the workshop will have the opportunity to enroll their child in it for a fee of \$425.

The Park District of Oak Park (PDOP) has agreed to partner with us to provide wrap around services for students in grades one and two until 3 p.m. or 6 p.m. PDOP and BASE Camp will also offer an after care option for students in grades three through eight until 6 p.m. These services will be available to families for a fee.

Key changes to the proposal submitted to the board on January 10, 2017 include:

- Reading/writing workshop for first and second grade students from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- OPEF BASE Camp for students in grades three through eight from 8:45 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Fee-based wrap around services for first and second graders

Recommended Action: Approve a letter of intent for OPEF to be the summer school provider the district's K-5 students.