

To: Dr. Michael Robey
From: Valarie M. Watkins
CC: Dr. David Ballard
Date: August 3, 2012
Re: Jump Start Summer Program

The Jump Start program is off to a great start with more than 80 students attending. The primary focus of this program is to increase student reading proficiency with a specific focus on reading comprehension. Professional development focused on utilizing explicit reading strategies in combination with the High Yield Strategies. In addition, we have stressed the use of non-fiction text which is critical for developing strategic readers.

Strengthening our home/school connections is an important component of our Jump Start program. Students take home 1-2 books each night to read with a parent. At the conclusion of the program students will have read 25 books.

On Thursday, August 9, 2012, as a culminating activity, the students will be participating in a Literacy Fair to share poems, reader's theatre and other activities with each other and parents who are able to attend.