



Oak Park Elementary School District 97

260 Madison ▪ Oak Park ▪ Illinois ▪ 60302 ▪ ph: 708.524.3000 ▪ fax: 708.524.3019 ▪ www.op97.org

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 10, 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, Strive for Success 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 will feature a camp-like experience administered by Galileo Learning (grades K-5) and the Oak Park Education Foundation (grades 6-8), and include activities in STEM and STEAM. It will continue to be free for students who are selected for participation. Since there is little to no research available regarding the use of an enrichment model to provide extended learning for students, we propose to measure and compare student growth (growth when students attended the camp approach versus growth when students attended the traditional summer school) to evaluate how the students learned during the experience.

Key changes to the proposal submitted to the board on December 20, 2016:

- Camp Galileo for K-5 students
- OPEF Base Camp for 6-8 students
- Three-year contract with Galileo that features an annual opt-out option

Recommended Action:

Approve a letter of intent for Galileo Learning to be the summer school provider the district's K-5 students, approve the contract on January 24th.