

...the educational prism through which students realize meaning and purpose in their lives...

- TO: Members, Board of Education Dr. Albert Roberts, Superintendent
- FROM: Kevin M. Anderson, Ed.D.
- RE: Student Performance: Academic and Behavioral (Cumulative: 2009 2010)
- DATE: July 13, 2010

This report summarizes the cumulative information from our elementary common assessments and our discipline reporting systems (SWIS and PowerSchool) for the 2009 -2010 academic year, as well as a brief update on the implementation of the full day kindergarten program.



OAK PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL DISTRICT 97 Oak Park, Illinois

July 13, 2010

Student Performance: Academic and Behavioral (3rd Trimester and Cumulative)

Goal Statements Addressed:

- a. Guide the ongoing monitoring of student achievement throughout the year, using both classroom and testing data to assess progress
- b. Oversee and lead the implementation of scientifically research based initiatives which result in a decrease in suspensions and expulsions

Strategic Plan Connections:

The Strategic Plan end results that are most closely tied to this report are:

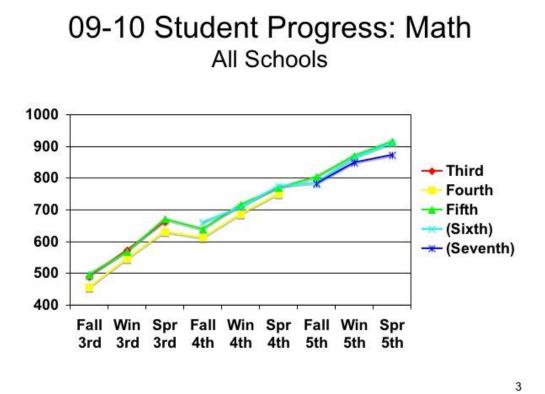
- 1. (1.3) Adapt instruction to meet the needs of different academic abilities and learning styles.
- 2. (1.10) Develop a program to promote a positive classroom and school environment where children feel safe and welcome.
- 3. (1.11) Determine whether to continue, discontinue, or modify academic programs based on data.
- 4. (4.8) Provide each child with the models and techniques through which to develop self-discipline.

The purpose of this report is to provide the Board of Education with a look at student performance and behavioral data from various data sources currently in use within the District for the 3rd trimester of the 2009 - 2010 school year and for the year as a whole. The information in this report is provided in four sections:

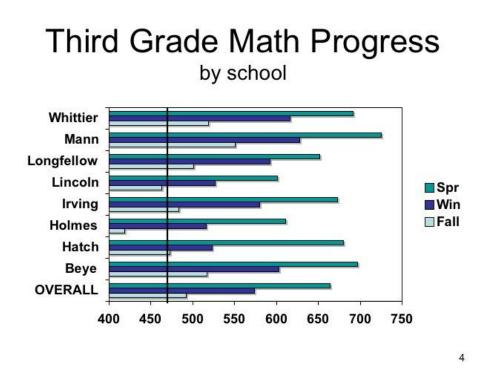
- 1. Common assessment information from PASeries (grades 3-5)
- 2. Middle School academic assessment data in math
- 3. Student discipline data from SWIS and PowerSchool
- 4. Update on the implementation of full day kindergarten

1. Common Assessment Information from PASeries (Grades 3-5)

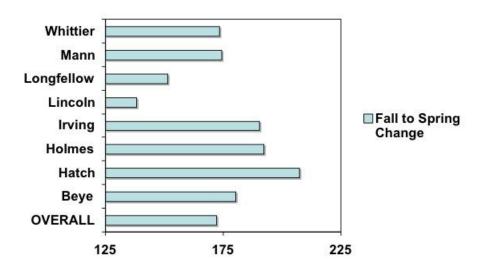
The following charts and graphs are provided to show how students in grades 3-5 have progressed in math and reading using PASeries from Pearson. This will be the final report in this format since the District will be switching to the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment in Fall 2010. There will be some discontinuity in reporting math scores under the new system, but the reading progress should be much easier to convert using Lexiles. Also, it was noted at the last report of student performance that the graphs seem to stay fairly consistent across time. Therefore, since a new reporting format is in the works, comments about individual slides are being kept to a minimum in this report.



Looking at student progress across the period during which we have been giving common assessments, you can see slight progress from cohort to cohort, except for the students who just finished fourth grade. This group has lagged consistently 30-40 Quantiles behind other cohorts at the same points in their school career. In the most recent test, they narrowed the gap by about half, but it's too soon to say if the trend will continue.

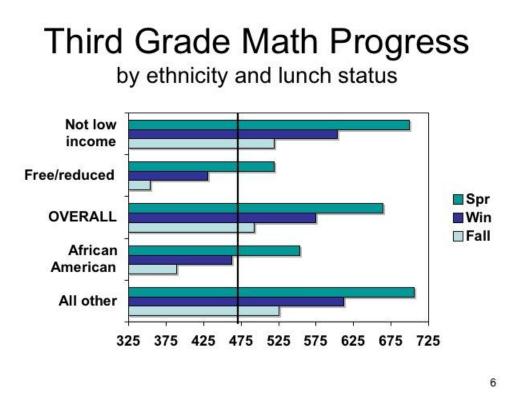


Third Grade Quantile Improvement by school

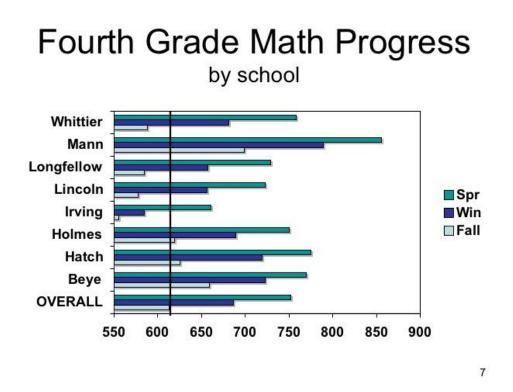


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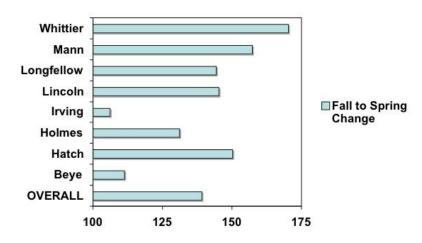
Above: It is not only the final level of achievement at a school that is important but also the amount of improvement that has been made over the course of the year. This graph shows the average change in Quantile scores from Fall to Spring at each of the schools. We would like to see that the schools that began the year at a slight deficit have shown greater than average improvement.



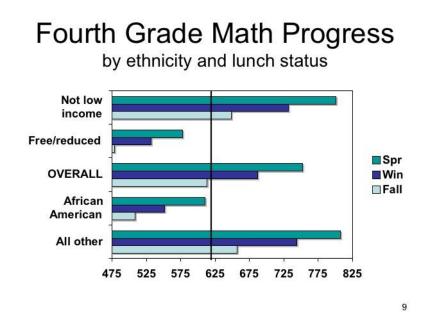
Above: The two subgroups began the year about 150 Quantiles behind the rest of the third graders and then made about 15 points less progress over the course of the year. As you will see in a following slides, the biggest deficit is seen with this year's 4th graders.



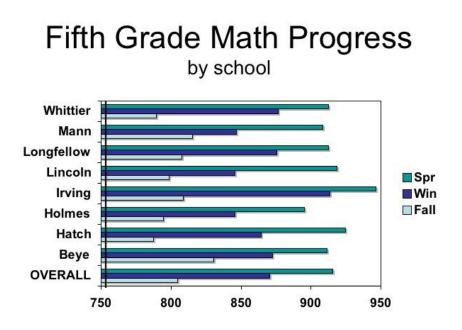
Fourth Grade Quantile Improvement by school



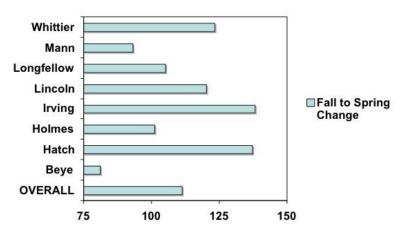
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Above: The deficit at the start of the school year was about 150 Quantiles, but over the course of the year these groups made about 50 points less progress on average than their peers overall.



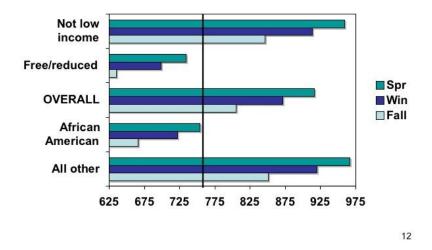
Fifth Grade Quantile Improvement



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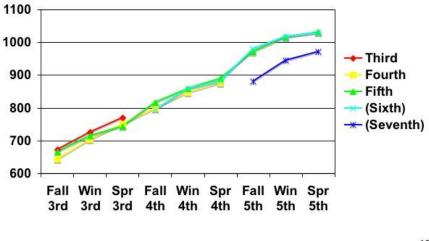
Fifth Grade Math Progress

by ethnicity and lunch status

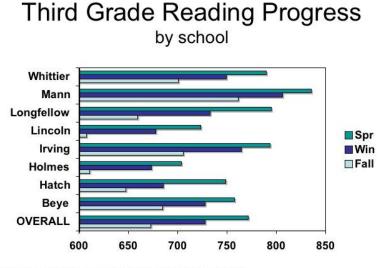


Above: In every case, the gap between the struggling subgroup and the rest of the students has widened over the course of the year in math knowledge. As the instructional math material becomes more difficult, weaknesses in foundational math knowledge are more likely to become apparent.

09-10 Student Progress: Reading



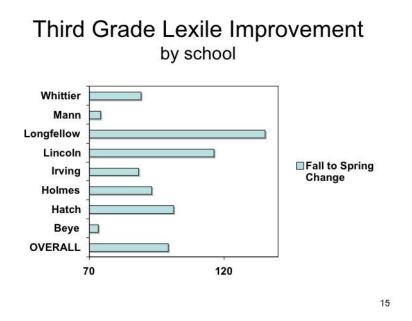
Above: This year's third grade cohort is starting out at a slightly higher place than previous years. The large deficit noted in this year's fourth grade cohort in math is not evident in reading.



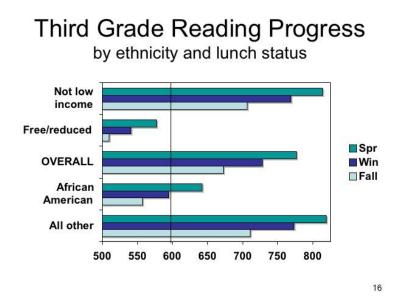
NOTE: The "meets standards" cut score is 600L.

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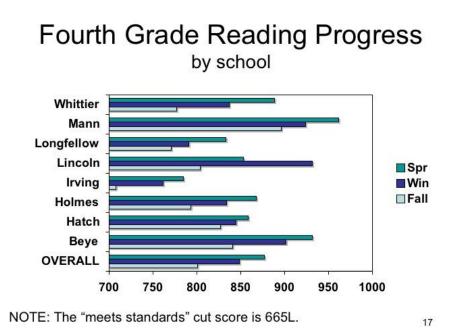
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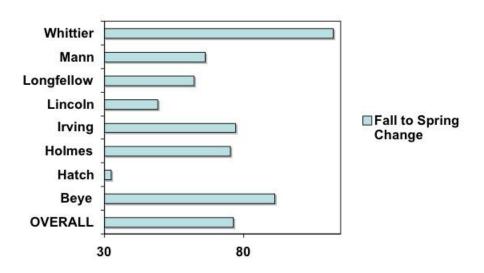
Above: It is not only the final level of achievement at a school that is important but also the amount of improvement that has been made over the course of the year. This graph shows the average change in Lexile scores from Fall to Spring at each of the schools. We would like to see that the schools that began the year at a slight deficit have shown greater than average improvement.

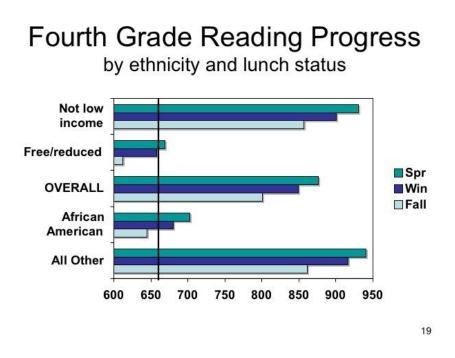


Above: Unfortunately, we see the same pattern in reading that we saw in math across all three grades: African-American students and students on free and reduced lunch start out the year behind their classmates and make less progress on average during the course of the year.

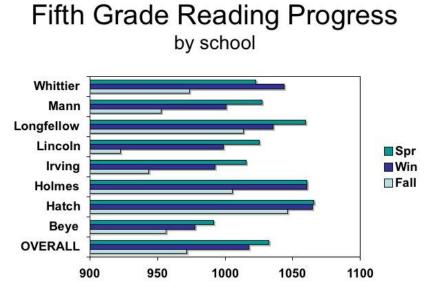


Fourth Grade Lexile Improvement by school

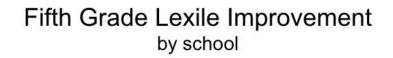


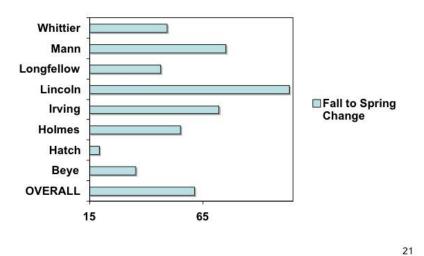


Above: By the final assessment, all groups have passed the cut-line associated with grade level progress for 4th grade. However, there is still a wide difference between the scores of the various groups.

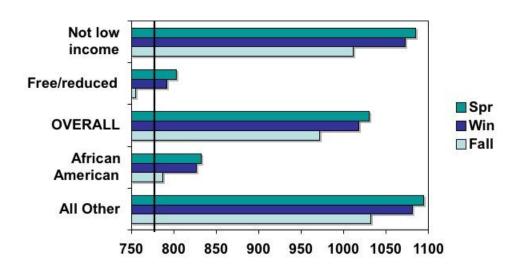


NOTE: The "meets standards" cut score is 775L.





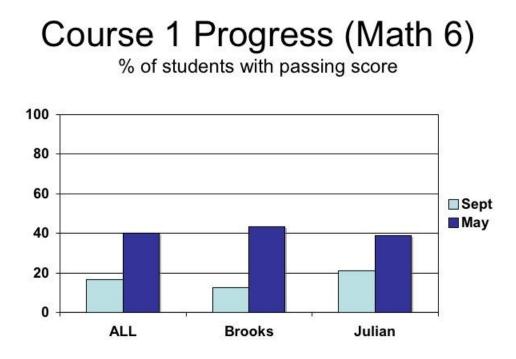
Fifth Grade Reading Progress by ethnicity and lunch status



Above: As in 4th grade, all groups have achieved scores above the passing cut-line by the end of the year. Again, however, a substantial gap exists between the various groups.

2. Middle School Academic Assessment Data in Math

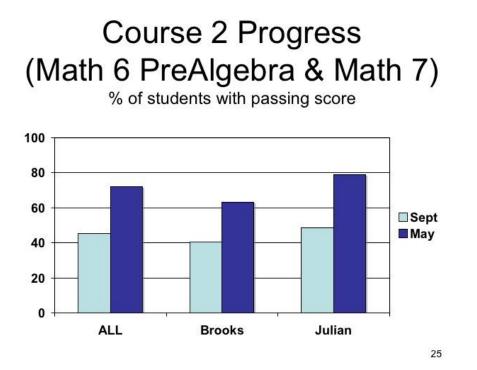
Overall results for math are the only scores available at this time. Due to the fact that the language arts department was piloting new assessments and that the middle schools will be switching to the MAP assessment system next year, data for the pilot assessments in language arts are incomplete.



NOTE: Brooks May results based on only one teacher

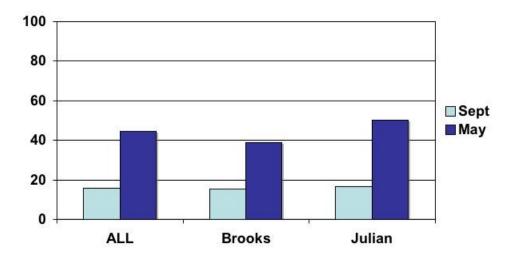
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Brooks results may be skewed due to the fact that the tests from one Brooks 6th grade teacher were misplaced following the testing. Should they be located over the summer, the District's data collection will be updated.



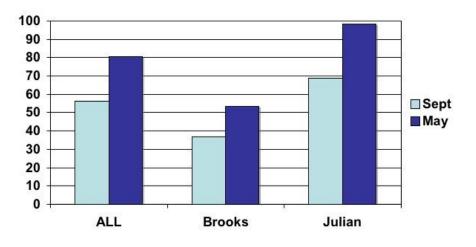
Course 3 Progress (Math 8)

% of students with passing score



Math 703 Progress

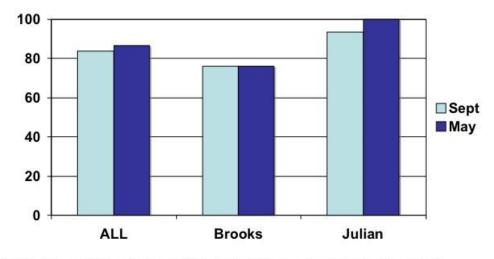
% of students with passing score



27

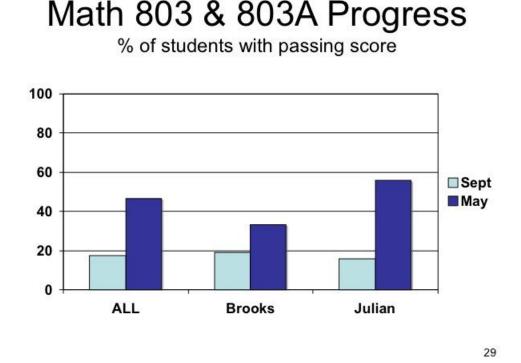
Math 703A Progress

% of students with passing score



NOTE: Julian students took 803 test in May at request of teacher (n=15)

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Comments: Assessments in the middle schools for math are substantially different than the assessments in the elementary schools since the middle school assessments use the course exams provided by the textbook company. Also, the middle school assessments are only given twice per year, with the final assessment occurring in the last two weeks of the year. Viewing 60% as passing on the final math test, it is obvious that many students are not reaching this level at the conclusion of the school year (e.g. At Julian, approximately 56% of the students in 8th grade algebra are achieving the 60% passing score on the final exam). With the introduction of the MAP system this fall, all students will be taking exams in the same format 3 times per year. Hopefully this will provide better information concerning math performance since our Benchmark assessments may not be giving an accurate picture of math competence.

3. Discipline Information for the 2009 - 2010 School Year

Elementary Schools

As previously noted in the earlier discipline reports, the K-5 discipline information is generated through the School Wide Information System (SWIS). SWIS is a web based information system employed to gather, summarize, and use office referral data.

Below, you will find a brief summary of the SWIS data by school. Please realize that SWIS data <u>is not meant to be used</u> for discipline reporting purposes. Each building decides what SWIS data will be used and how that information will impact individual building decisions. Because of this, some building numbers may be dramatically different from other buildings. Most importantly, this difference in numbers does not reflect discipline problems for one building. Rather it demonstrates that buildings use SWIS data specific to their needs (the actual intent of SWIS data within the PBIS model).

As you read the information below, keep in mind that the numbers represent all K-5 behaviors major and minor. These numbers are summative including data from the 1^{st} and 2^{nd} trimesters.

Beye School

- Average referrals per day 2.2
- Problem behavior the majority of referrals were for fighting and defiance/disrespect.
- Referrals by location most of the incidents occurred in the classroom.
- Referrals by time the majority of incidents occurred between 10:00 and 10:15.
- Referrals by student no one student received more referrals than any other child.

Hatch School

- Average referrals per day 1.3
- Problem behavior defiance/disrespect and fighting.
- Referrals by location most of the incidents occurred on the playground and the classroom.
- Referrals by time most of the incidents occurred between 11:30 and 12:00.
- Referrals by student two children had a majority of the referrals.

Holmes School

- Average referrals per day .7
- Problem behavior most of the incidents were minor physical aggression and fighting.
- Referrals by location the incidents occurred mainly on the playground, the classroom and the cafeteria.
- Referrals by time the incidents occurred around 11:30 and 10:15.
- Referrals by student there was not one single student referred more than any other child.

Irving School

• Average referrals per day – .6

- Problem behavior fighting and defiance/disrespect were the areas of major disruption.
- Referrals by location most incidents occurred on the playground, the hallway, and the classroom. Referrals by time most incidents occurred between 11:15 and 12:00
- Referrals by student one student received a greater number of incident consequences.

Lincoln School

- Average referrals per day .2
- Problem behavior fighting and physical aggression were the most referred incidents.
- Referrals by location most incidents occurred on the playground.
- Referrals by time the incidents occurred between 11:30 and 12:00.
- Referrals by student no one child received more referrals than any other student.

Longfellow School

- Average referrals per day 1.6
- Problem behavior fighting defiance/disrespect were the most reported incidents.
- Referrals by location the incidents occurred on the playground and the classroom.
- Referrals by time most incidents occurred between 11:30 and 12:15.
- Referrals by student no one student had a majority of the referrals.

Mann School

- Average referrals per day .3
- Problem behavior fighting.
- Referrals by location classroom and playground.
- Referrals by time the majority of referrals Two children had a majority of the referrals.

Whittier School

- Average referrals per day .4
- Problem behavior most referrals were for fighting/physical aggression and defiance/ disrespect
- Referrals by location most referrals occurred on the playground or in the classroom.
- Referrals by time most incidents occurred between 11:15.

• Referrals by student – there was no one child receiving more referrals than any other child.

Middle Schools

The middle school discipline numbers given are generated through PowerSchool. PowerSchool is the best format we have available for gathering discipline data at the middle school level. You will find charts below for both Out of School Suspensions (OSS) and In School Suspensions (ISS). The majority of OSS and ISS consequences were a result of fighting.

District OSS

1st Trimester Report - Out of School Suspensions (OSS) – District

Race	Number of Students Receiving Out of School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days	5-6 Days	7-9 Days	10+ Days
AA Females	5	5	0	2	2	0	0	1
AA Males	16	13	3	10	2	1	0	3
WH Females	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
WH Males	7	4	3	7	0	2	0	1
HI Females	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multi Racial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	31	24	7	22	4	3	0	6

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	4	3	1	4	0	1	0	0
Females								
AA	18	11	7	25	0	0	0	2
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	4	3	1	4	2	0	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR Male	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Total	28	19	9	35	2	1	0	2

2nd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspensions (OSS) - District

3rd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspensions (OSS) – District

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	8	8	0	5	3	0	0	0
Females								
AA	19	16	3	11	7	0	0	4
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	10	8	2	2	3	2	1	4
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Male								
Total	38	33	5	19	13	2	1	8

District ISS

Race	Number of Students Receiving In School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days	5-6 Days
AA Females	4	3	1	5	0	0
AA Males	32	18	14	48	5	2
WH Females	1	1	0	1	0	0
WH Males	14	10	4	18	1	0
HI Females	1	1	0	1	0	0
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multi Racial	3	2	1	4	0	0
Asian	1	1	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	56	36	20	78	6	2

1st Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) – District

2nd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) - District

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA Females	8	8	0	7	0	1	0	0
AA Males	27	20	7	31	3	0	0	0
WH Females	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
WH Males	6	6	0	5	1	0	0	0
HI Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI Males	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
MR Female	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
MR Male	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Total	46	38	8	49	4	1	0	0

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	15	14	1	16	1	0	0	0
Females								
AA	33	19	14	52	4	0	0	0
Males								
WH	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	13	11	2	13	0	1	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	3	2	1	5	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	3	3	0	2	0	1	0	0
Male								
Total	71	53	18	92	5	2	0	0

3rd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) – District

Brooks OSS

1ST Trimester Report– Out of School Suspension (OSS) - Brooks

Race	Number of Students Receiving Out of School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days	5-6 Days	7-9 Days	10+ Days
AA Females	4	4	0	2	2	0	0	0
AA Males	10	7	3	6	2	1	0	1
WH Females	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
WH Males	5	3	2	4	0	2	0	1
HI Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multi Racial	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	21	17	4	14	4	3	0	2

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA Females	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
AA Males	12	9	3	12	0	0	0	2
WH Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WH Males	4	3	1	4	2	0	0	0
HI Females	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MR Female	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MR Male	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	17	13	4	17	2	0	0	2

2nd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspension (OSS) - Brooks

3rd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspension (OSS) – Brooks

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	7	7	0	5	2	0	0	0
Females								
AA Males	12	10	2	9	3	0	0	2
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH Males	5	4	1	2	3	0	0	1
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MR Male	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	25	22	3	17	8	0	0	3

Brooks ISS

1st Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) – Brooks

Race	Number of Students Receiving In School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days
AA Females	2	1	1	3	0
AA Males	18	9	9	30	0
WH Females	1	1	0	1	0
WH Males	9	7	2	12	0
HI Females	0	0	0	0	0
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0
Multi Racial	1	0	1	2	
TOTAL	32	18	14	48	0

2nd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) - Brooks

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	5	5	0	5	0	0	0	0
Females								
AA	13	10	3	16	0	0	0	0
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Male								
F	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
AS								
Total	24	21	3	27	0	0	0	0

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	10	10	0	10	0	0	0	0
Females								
AA Males	17	6	11	34	1	0	0	0
WH	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH Males	3	2	1	4	0	0	0	0
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI Males	2	1	1	4	0	0	0	0
MR	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR Male	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	35	22	13	55	1	0	0	0

3rd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) - Brooks

Julian OSS

1 st Trimester Report –	Out of School Suspan	cione (OSS) Julian
1 IIIIIestel Kepult –	Out of School Suspen	sions (OSS) - Junan

Race	Number of Students Receiving Out of School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days	5-6 Days	7-9 Days	10+ Days
AA	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Females								
AA	6	6	0	4	0	0	0	2
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	2	1	1	3	0	0	0	0
Males								
HI	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Females								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Males								
Multi	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Racial								
TOTAL	10	9	1	7	0	0	0	4

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	3	2	1	3	0	1	0	0
Females								
AA	6	2	4	13	0	0	0	0
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	2	2	0	2	0	0	0	0
Male								
Total	11	6	5	18	0	1	0	0

2nd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspensions (OSS) - Julian

3rd Trimester Report – Out of School Suspensions (OSS) – Julian

Race	Number of Students receiving OSS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Females								
AA	7	6	1	2	4	0	0	2
Males								
WH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	5	4	1	0	0	2	1	3
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male								
Total	13	11	2	2	5	2	1	5

<u>Julian ISS</u>

Race	Number of Students Receiving In School Suspensions	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 Days	3-4 Days	5-6 Days
AA Females	2	2	0	2	0	0
AA Males	14	9	5	18	5	2
WH Females	0	0	0	0	0	0
WH Males	5	3	2	6	1	0
HI Females	1	1	0	1	0	0
HI Males	0	0	0	0	0	0
Multi Racial	2	2	0	2	0	0
Asian	1	1	0	1	0	0
TOTAL	25	18	7	30	6	2

1^{st} Trimester Report – In School suspension (ISS) - Julian

2nd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) - Julian

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	3	3	0	2	0	1	0	0
Females								
AA	14	10	4	15	3	0	0	0
Males								
WH	1	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	5	5	0	4	1	0	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Male								
Total	24	19	5	24	4	1	0	0

Race	Number of Students receiving ISS	Single Suspensions	Multiple Suspensions	1-2 days	3-4 days	5-6 days	7-9 days	10+ days
AA	5	4	1	6	1	0	0	0
Females								
AA	16	13	3	18	3	0	0	0
Males								
WH	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Females								
WH	10	9	1	9	0	1	0	0
Males								
HI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Females								
HI	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Males								
MR	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Female								
MR	2	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
Male								
Total	36	31	5	37	4	2	0	0

3rd Trimester Report – In School Suspension (ISS) – Julian

Comments: Out of school suspensions rose during the 3rd trimester, with the largest increases for White Males and African-American Females. In-school suspensions were also up substantially during the final trimester, with the White Males and African-American Females again showing the largest increases.

4. Update on Full Day Kindergarten Implementation

District 97 has now completed the first year of full day kindergarten for all 8 elementary schools. During Spring 2010, kindergarten and first grade teachers were sent a brief survey that asked for anecdotal evidence of the impact of a full day program on student learning. Below is a summary of that survey information and efforts leading up to full implementation. In addition, the kindergarten teachers would like to present their own summary and comments to the Board during Fall 2010 when school is back in session.

Background

The Strategic Plan was discussed and approved by the School Board in the fall of 2007. One of the goals of the strategic plan was to offer full day kindergarten to District 97 students. Preparation for implementing full day kindergarten in schools for the 2008-2009 began in the fall of 2007 and continued through the summer of 2008. In January of 2008, a community forum was held to have a conversation about the full-day kindergarten program. This forum included Oak Park community members and teachers along with principals from districts that had implemented full day kindergarten. A fullday Kindergarten Oversight Committee was created in February and met for the remainder of the 2007-08 school year to define the parameters of the full day kindergarten program. An informational spring forum was held for District 97 parents and guardians. Beye, Irving, Longfellow and Whittier inaugurated the full day program first during the 2008-09 school year. All the other elementary schools began their programs in the 2009-10 school year. Full day kindergarten has now been implemented in all eight elementary schools with the addition of full day programs at Hatch, Holmes, Lincoln and Mann for the 2009-2010 school year.

There are 30 full-day kindergartens at eight elementary schools and seven kindergarten groups in the multi-age program at Whittier. A total of 611 kindergarten students were enrolled in District 97 for the 2009-2010 school year.

Survey Information

Kindergarten and first grade teachers met on April 21, 2010 to discuss how the establishment of all day kindergarten has affected the success of kindergarten students. Positive changes reported by kindergarten teachers and first grade teachers at the April 21st meeting are noted below.

Kindergarten teachers reported:

* the kindergarten students are more a part of the school community (they can now participate in all school events, whereas in the past, if there was a morning assembly, only the morning students could attend)

- * the principals have reported that they know the K students better
- * there are more chances for students to practice skills
- * school is less rushed and yet students are able to accomplish more
- * DIBELS scores are higher
- * there is more time to fully teach Open Court and include all of the components

First grade teachers reported:

- * children had an easier time settling in to the beginning schedule of first grade
- * less (or no) crying at the beginning of the year
- * students were more ready for academic lessons
- * most students came in with a solid base
- * some students still need work on phonemic awareness and beginning phonics

Overall, the introduction of full day kindergarten in District 97 has met with resounding success. Teachers are pleased to have more time to work with their students, students seem comfortable in the full day setting with less rush and more time to work on academic and social skills, and parents have been pleased with the earlier introduction to full day school. First grade teachers are also noting that students are coming to school better prepared for learning right away and that skills are being met at an earlier time. During the Fall presentation, data on DIBELS scores will also be shared to show whether progress is being made on early reading skills.

Dr. Kevin Anderson, Assistant Supt. for Teaching and Learning

Harla Hutchinson, Teacher Leader for Data Analysis