

River Forest
Public Schools

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YMCA Power Scholars Academy Program Proposal, Summer 2025

The purpose of this partnership between D90 and the West Cook YMCA is to provide a comprehensive summer program for students who have been identified for Tier II academic interventions and would benefit from group remediation strategies. Research indicates that students who have been identified for tiered intervention services are most likely to experience decreased academic growth rates from June to August (often known as “summer slide”). The PSA program is intended to address and counter that phenomenon by engaging students deeply and providing high-growth learning experiences while building academic confidence. The main academic emphasis is on Reading and Math.

The academic component of PSA is complemented by enrichment programming, including modules such as drumming, drama, and visual arts. Students also participate in weekly field trips that encourage attendance and help build students’ social emotional competencies. All participants receive no-cost lunch, snack, and breakfast (as needed) and efforts are made to build strong community amongst the students and staff.

Class sizes are kept small to allow for delivery of targeted interventions (both small group and individual, as necessary). Students are pre- and post-tested for academic growth and are delivered a hybridized curriculum containing both BellXcel and D90 content. To focus instruction and gather improved data about student outcomes, we are recommending hosting the program again for qualifying students grades 2-4 for summer 2025. The District will continue to collaborate with the YMCA to investigate additional methods to measure the degree to which participation in the program impacts student achievement.

It is important to note that the PSA partnership with the YMCA evolved in response to a Board of Education Strategic Goal (2020-25), charging the District with enhancing community partnerships. While not related specifically to this PSA proposal, the YMCA/District 90 partnership affords additional benefits to our school community. These include our after-school supervision program (Signature Program), the no-cost “Swim Access Program” to ensure child safety around water, and opportunities for D90 families and staff to participate in several community health and wellness programs on a complimentary basis.

Please find attached the cost proposal for 2025 and a copy of the presentation that was provided for the Board of Education and community at the December Committee of the Whole Meeting. Hopefully this information will be helpful in providing additional background that will allow the Board to support the ongoing delivery of this program in the coming year.

YMCA Power Scholars Academy Program Proposal Terms

Summer 2025

Summer 2025 Proposal (5 Week Program)

Program Site:	Lincoln
Total Enrollment:	25 students (able to increase to 30 students without additional cost – assuming only two classrooms)
Total Program Cost:	\$87,000
Cost to District:	\$54,000
Subsidy provided by WCY:	\$33,000
District Cost per student:	\$2,160
Program structure:	Grades 2-4 (Two sections)

REFERENCE: Previous Program Details (5 Week Program)

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>
Program Site:	Willard	Lincoln
Total Enrollment:	22 students	25 Students
Total Program Cost:	\$83,000	\$86,000
Cost to District:	\$56,000	\$45,000
Subsidy provided by WCY:	\$27,000	\$41,000
District Cost per student:	\$2,545	\$1,800
Program structure:	Grades 1-4 (Three sections)	Grades 2-4 (Two sections)

Note: 2024's subsidy amount of \$41,000 was treated as a onetime additional increase.

**IMPROVING STUDENT
OUTCOMES THROUGH
COLLABORATION
SINCE 2018**

the **YMCA**

River Forest Public Schools

December 3rd, 2024

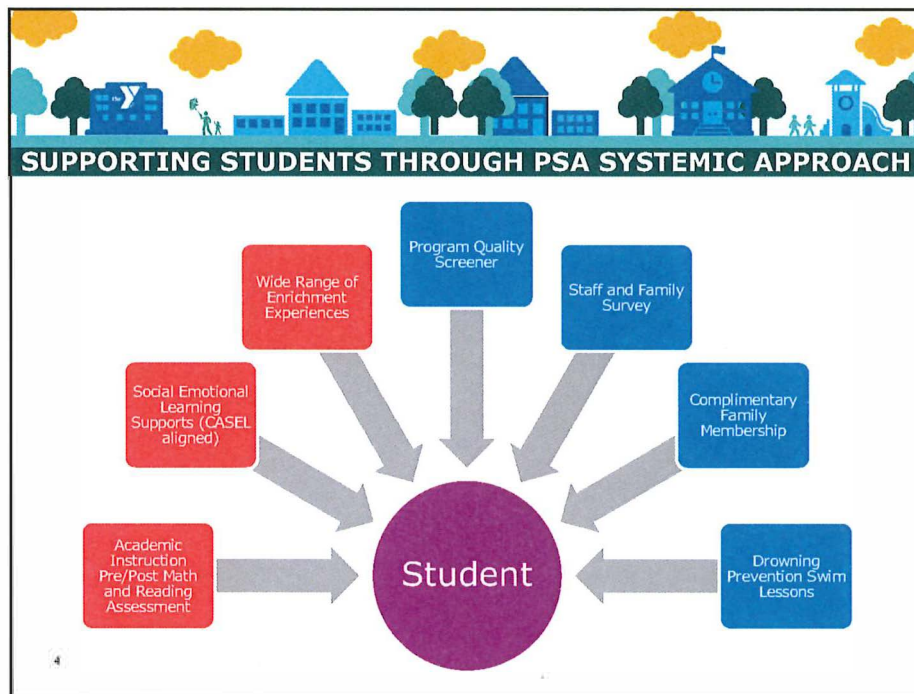
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CELEBRATING 7 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP	
2018	PSA Pilot with D91 & WCY
2019	Year 2 of PSA Added Chronic Disease for D90 Staff YMCA weight loss and DPP
2020	ECC & Remote Learning Supervision
2021	PSA, added our Safety around water programming & ASP Pilot with WCY
2022	PSA & ASP with WCY reinitiated CIH programs for families and community
2023	PSA & ASP with WCY
2024	PSA & ASP with WCY, adding modified schedule option

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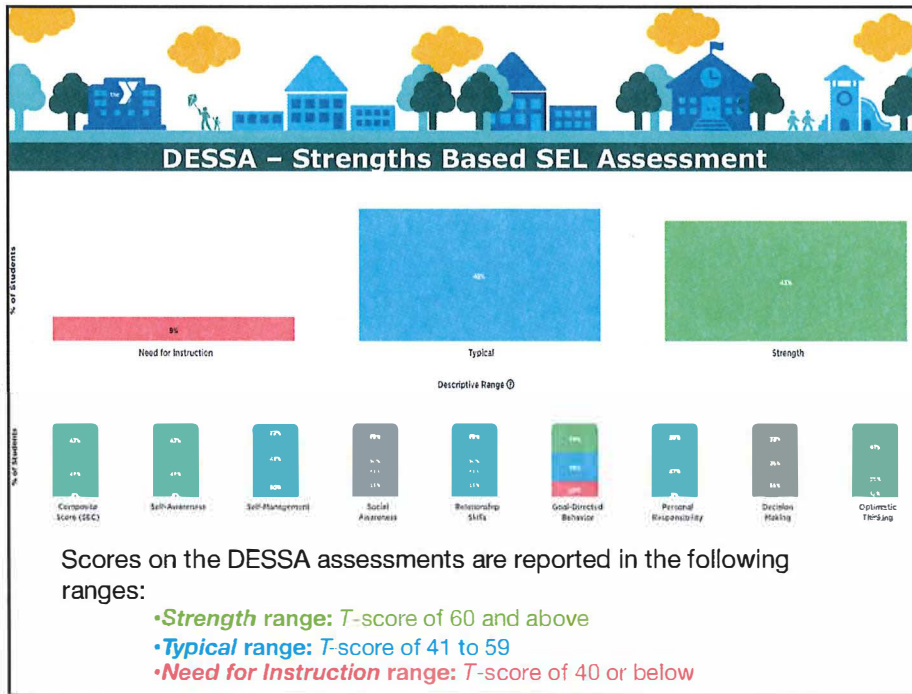
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SCHOLARS SOCIAL EMOTIONAL FAMILY FEEDBACK

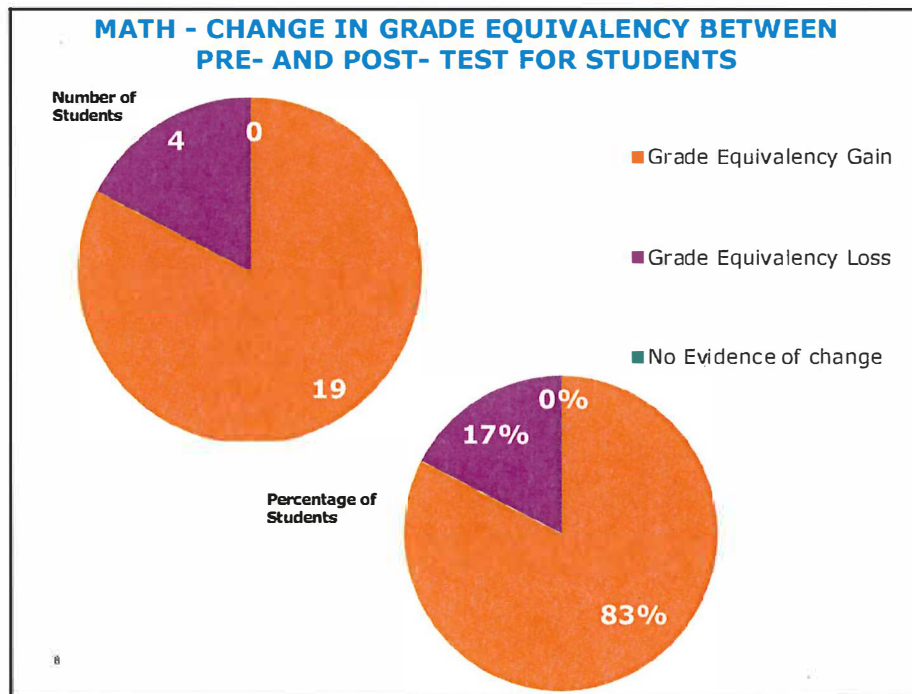
Family Survey – SEL Components	'24	'23	'22
My child grew more eager to participate during the program	75%	88%	90%
My child gained self-confidence during the program.	79%	88%	90%
My child became better able to work through challenges during the program.	89%	93%	82%
My child increased their problem-solving skills during the program.	84%	93%	82%
My child got better at understanding others' perspectives during the program.	76%	94%	92%
My child's communication skills improved during the program.	75%	88%	90%
My child found more joy in learning and exploring during the program	85%	88%	-
My child got better at learning about themselves during the program.	84%	93%	-

Family Survey results: In 2023, there were 17/17 areas of strength and in 2024, there are 13/17 areas of strength. (considered area of strength if scored 80% or higher)

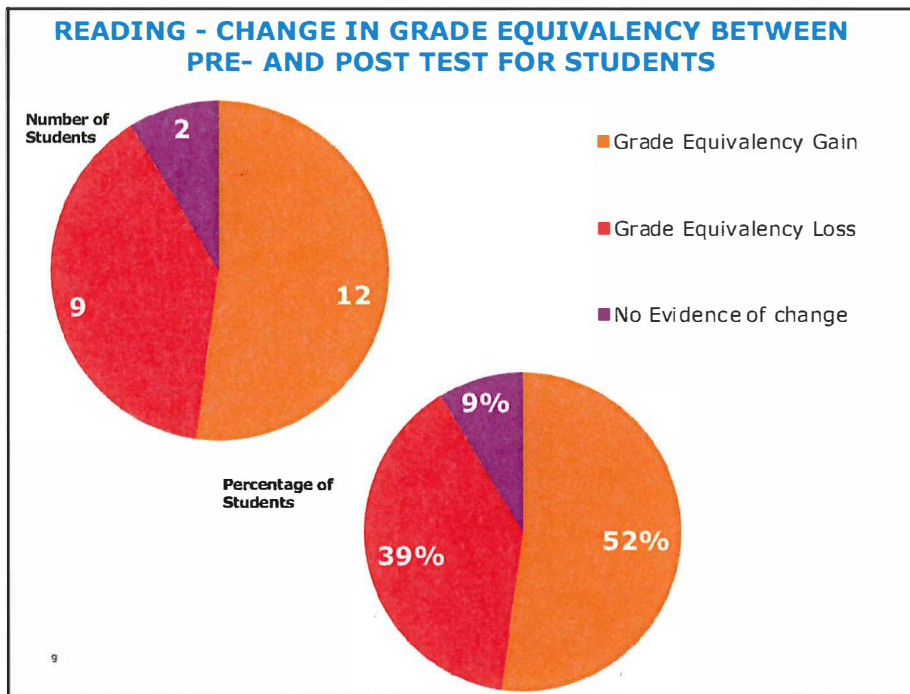
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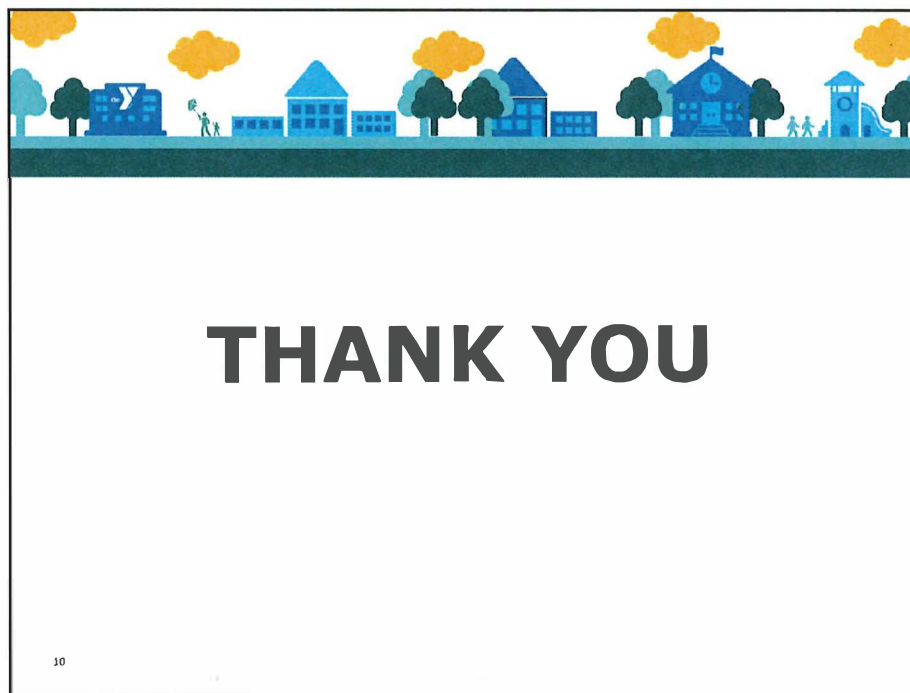
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