

## MEMORANDUM

October 7, 2015

TO: Members of the MVSEC Executive Advisory Board

FROM: Carla Cumblad, Executive Director  
Sandy Gearhart, ESY Supervisor, Mades-Johnstone and Shelby  
Jen Haney, ESY Supervisor, Alice Gustafson Elementary, Batavia

RE: Extended School Year 2015 Summary

### *It was another cool summer in the ESY Program!!*

In 2015, we had three ESY sites: Munhall Elementary (D303), MJC, and Shelby Transition Center. The curriculum theme was Water! Land! Air! Students participated in learning experiences regarding their relationship with the environment throughout the summer. The students also participated in two unit culminating activities, in addition to many other positive experiences. Students were placed into small classrooms of approximately 8-10 students and were grouped by functional and academic ability. Teachers used Unique Learning systems (ULS), Reading A-Z, Touch Math/Money/Time, PCI Writing/Basic Grammar, specific student discrete trial books, and the curriculum guides and materials that were developed by the ESY committee in previous years. With the exception of Early Childhood, all students received Adaptive PE which was a highlight of their days!

For the third year, the program lasted for four weeks, starting on July 6 and ending on July 30. The students attended Mondays through Thursdays for 4 hours a day. Most parents and staff reported that the condensed sessions in July were preferable to the 6 week sessions. Teachers reported that they had a longer instructional time, which was beneficial for most students.

On the first day of school, 278 students were registered to attend. Last year, 282 students were enrolled on the first day of school. Enrollment for the last two years has stayed fairly stable. This year 19 students either dropped after registration or did not attend. Another 18 students attended less than 50% of the days. This kind of attrition makes it very difficult to hire and train the appropriate number of staff for the summer program. As Table Two presents, we were able to move teaching assistants to different positions to accommodate these changes. Therefore, our substitute days were far fewer this year.

As you can see by Table1 and Table 2, the registered students decreased slightly by 4 students and the overall number of staff decreased by 2 positions. This year, we hired 1.5 OTs where last year, these services were covered by the stipends provided to the team leaders. Although we hired a PT, she resigned after the first day. So the services we were able to provide were minimal. The individual teaching assistants stayed about the same for a number of years, we have hired a 1.9 interpreter. This position has been included in

the TA numbers. A more accurate representation would in the separate row which is presented in Table One. We were fortunate to have two administrative interns through Aurora University to assist with the many aspects of EST administration. It should be noted that for a second year, the number of substitutes is down considerably due to shifting staff when students were absent.

**Table One** presents data from the past six years of ESY. The attendance data for 2015 are reported in the two sites: Munhall (MH) (Academic Skills, Autism, Behavior) and MJC (M) (Functional, Multiple Disabilities, Transition) In addition, Table One presents information about students who either did not attend or attended less than 50%. We are also including information about the number of students who attended 60 hours of programming. These students are eligible for state reimbursement through the claims process.

**Table Two** provides data from the last six years regarding the number of staff employed for ESY.

**Table Three** provides information from the parent survey. In all parents were very satisfied with the ESY program. As in years past, the comments were very positive, with some constructive comments for improvement. If concerns were noted, they were mostly about transportation issues. In general, the parents were supportive of the condensed schedule, although many reported that they wished the program were of longer duration and would last longer over the summer. Of course, students reported that they enjoyed coming to summer school!