

Dr. Sheldon Berman, Superintendent

Rising 5th Graders Program

Program Director: Dr. Minnis/Kevin Fields

Evaluator: Marco Muñoz, Ed.D.

Last Year of Evaluation: 2007-2008

Goal/Strategy

- Goal 3: Strengthen Organizational Culture
- Strategy 7: Address Disparities in Student Outcomes

Program Description

- The Rising 5th Graders intervention model is an evidence-based program that is designed to improve reading skills for elementary school students as they transition into middle schools.
- This program has a twelve-year legacy of providing a “Saturday School” session during the school year and a summer session in June of each year.
- The Rising 5th Graders instructors has experienced teachers who have been trained in the Corrective Reading model and have a passion for working with low-income minority students.

Students Served

- Elementary school students (n = 40) from grades 4 and 5
- Students who reside in the urban core who are bused to sub-urban schools

Outcomes

- A formative evaluation for student progress was based on results for the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test. Results of the testing indicated that students achieved a grade equivalent increase of approximately 1.0 year. The grade equivalents went from 3.8 to 4.8 (roughly a 5th grade level). Participating students had gains in vocabulary (7.41 gain) and total battery scores (8.14 gain), but did not show a statistically significant gain in comprehension (1.04 gain).
- A summative evaluation assessed the impact of the program on participants. The Kentucky Core Content Test (KCCT) in Reading showed 8 Novices and 12 Proficient/Distinguished students in 2007-08 (N = 35). Compared to the baseline year, the participants had the same number of Novices, but 16 students scoring at the Proficient/Distinguished level.
- In terms of absences, the participating students decreased the number of days absent by 37 days when compared with the baseline year.

Cost

- Approximately \$37,000 was provided by the District to support the program.
- The cost per student is about \$925.00