

**An Engaging Educational Summer Program
for Students K-12**

Holden School District

Why Have a Summer School Program?

What the Research Tells Us . . .

Harris Cooper (Duke University)

- On average, all students **lose about a month of progress in math** skills each summer.
- Low-income students **lose as much as 3 months in reading comprehension** when compared with middle income students.

Karl L. Alexander (Johns Hopkins University)

- By the end of elementary school, **low-income students had fallen nearly 3 grade levels behind**, and summer was the biggest culprit.
- **By 9th grade**, summer learning loss could be blamed for roughly **two-thirds of the achievement gap** separating income groups.

History

- Successful partnerships with districts from 2000 to the present
- Approximately 20,000 students participate each summer
- Programs primarily in Missouri
- Turnkey program with flexibility
- Teacher, parent, and student satisfaction consistently high year-to-year

Program Model

- 24 consecutive 7-hour instructional days; 168 program hours (maximum)
- Additional 30 minutes for lunch
- **May 28, 2015-June 30, 2015 (8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.)**
- Design Level (students promoted to their 2015-2016 grade for summer school)
 - Kindergarten
 - Early Learner – Grade 1
 - Primary – Grades 2/3
 - Elementary – Grades 4/5
 - Intermediate – Grades 6/7/8

Program Model

- Morning Sessions

- 4 core academic courses – one hour each – 24 days
 - Core courses include reading, language arts, mathematics, science and/or social studies

- Afternoon Sessions

- 6 hands-on exploratory Journey courses with embedded academics – 1 hour each – 3 courses offered first 12 days and three different courses offered the last 12 days.
 - Journey course examples include *Rocketry*, *Art with an Aptitude*, *Robotics*, *Parachute Play*, *Summer Seuss*, and *Let's Have a Ball*
- **Note:** These are not remedial courses. Suggestions are listed for the more able and less able students in teacher guide.

Curricula

- Research-based curricula
- Hands-on, cooperative learning-based lessons
- Course lessons cross several content areas of instruction and include differentiated instructional approaches that meet multiple learner needs
- Over 100 courses available
- Aligned to Missouri Learning Standards in Communication Arts and Math
- Pre- and post- criterion-referenced assessments available for grades 3-8 in Communication Arts and Math
- Brain-based instructional design with high-interest activities that engage and motivate students

Program Details

- **Program Flexibility**

- Program schedule can be adapted to district's summer schedule

- **Recruitment/Enrollment Support**

- Advertising, recruiting, marketing collateral, enrolling, and call center support
- Schools receive **Summer Journey informational DVD** to show to students and encourage enrollment.
- Students receive an enrollment package that includes program information, dates and times, and an enrollment form.
- ROM monitors recruitment and enrollment
- May offer a prize to incentivize students to enroll

Program Details

- **Student Information System**
 - Enrollment, scheduling, and attendance support
 - Generate reports for DESE reporting
 - User friendly
 - Catapult Learning will train school staff on how to use and provide support
- **Regional Operations Manager (ROM)**
 - Liaison between company and district
 - Works with district on logistical items, including:
 - Recruitment and enrollment
 - Scheduling
 - Supporting teachers and principals
 - Delivery of materials

Program Details

- **Professional Development**

- Half-day workshop focuses on program implementation, including daily routines, materials inventory, and daily schedule.

- **Student Incentives**

- Daily Prizes

- \$500 per house design (K-2, 3-5, 6-8); \$1500 total
- Encourage positive attitude, achievement & attendance

- Student Gift Cards for Perfect Attendance

- Grand Prizes

- One per building – Past prizes include an iPad Mini (2014) and a Kindle Fire HD (2013)

Program Details

End of Summer Report (EOS)

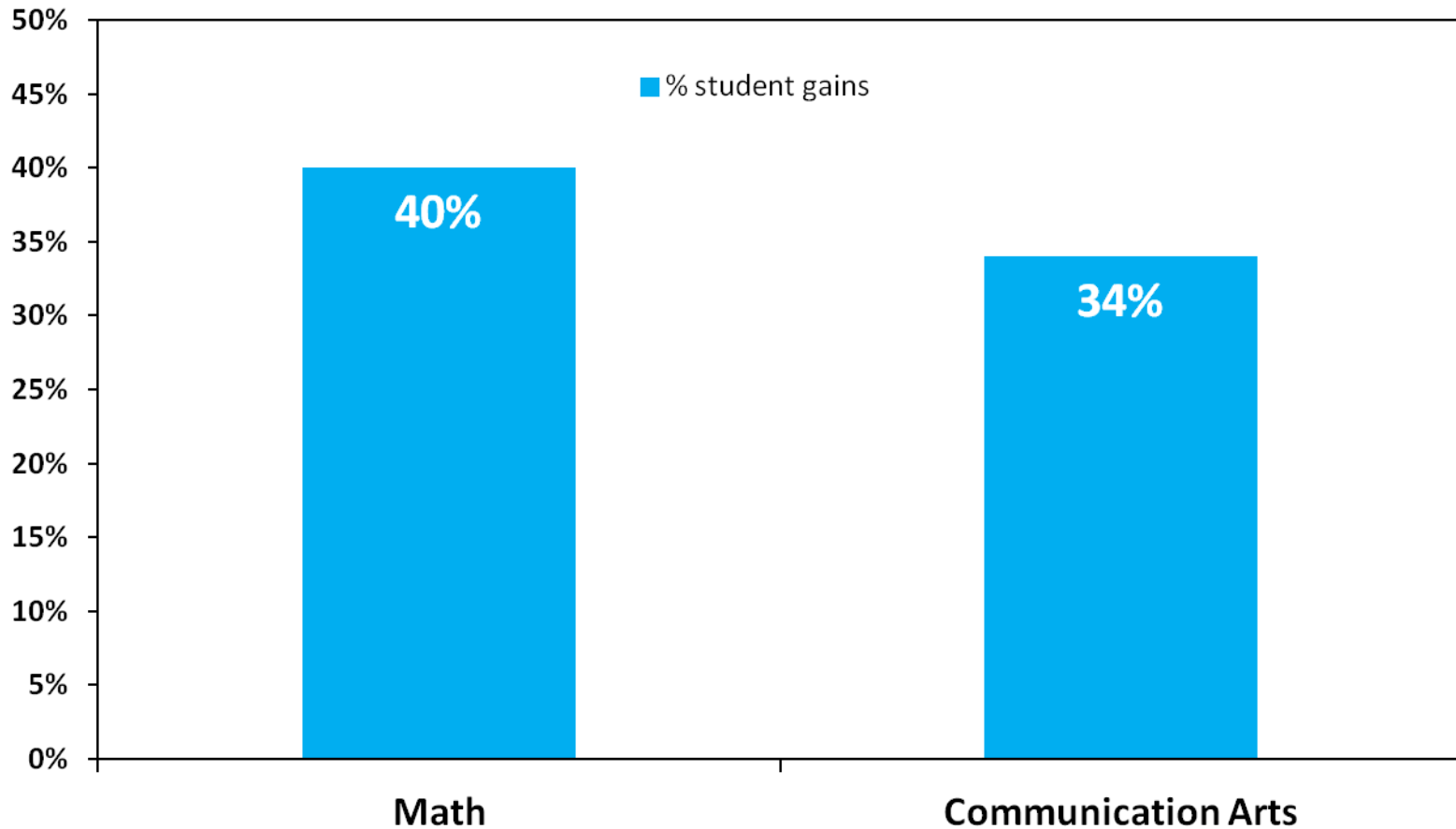
A detailed end-of-summer report is provided on-site to district in September with the following information:

- Student academic gains
- Student attendance
- Financial report
- Parent survey results
- Staff survey results

Summer Journey Results

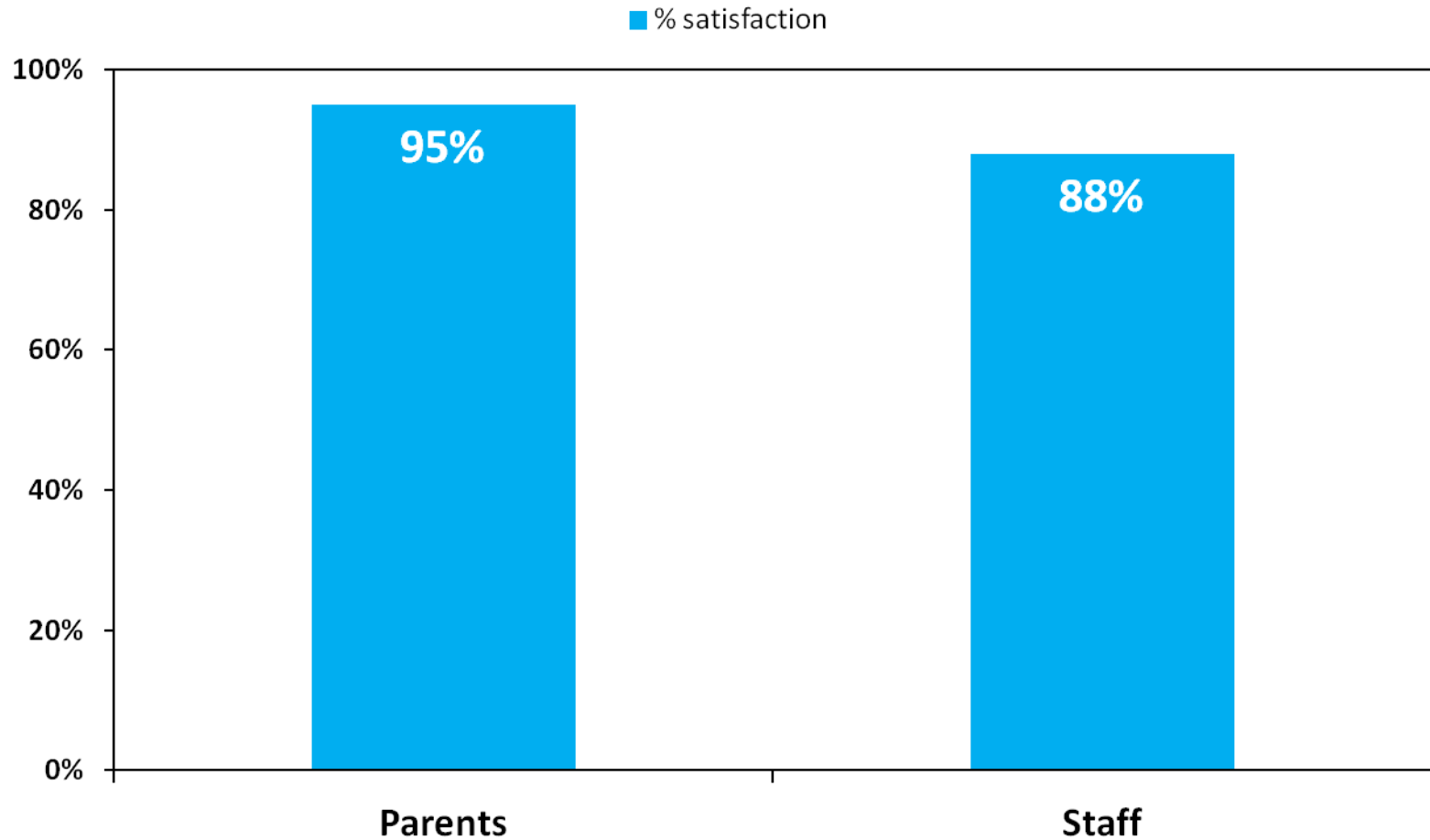
Results

Summer Journey 2014 Assessment Results



Summer Journey 2014

Parent and Staff Satisfaction



Why Districts Choose Summer Journey

- Student assessment results
- **Reduces student academic regression**
- Assurance of quality education experience for students
- **Parent support**
- Professional development
- **Wealth of materials**
- Catapult Learning-managed recruitment
- Financial return for districts

Why Teachers Recommend Summer Journey

- **Materials, materials, materials**
- Minimal advance preparations
- **“Add water and stir” lessons**
- Minimal paperwork
- New inspiration and motivation
- **For kindergarten teachers, students entering kindergarten in the fall are familiar with school and procedures before the school year begins.**
- A **turnkey** program with curricula planning completed, leaving little preparation for the teacher
- ROM support

Why Students Love Summer Journey

- Non-threatening
- High-interest, hands-on, project-based learning
- Relevant and engaging content
- No homework
- Builds confidence
- Incentives
- Safe place for the students
- Being with friends
- Having fun with learning

District Expectations

- Provide Transportation (reimbursed by Catapult)
- Provide food service
- Hire staff
- Payroll