



Equity Impact Statement: Summer Programs Update 2022

Title: Summer Programs Update

Date: April 27, 2022

Was the [Racial Equity Planning Tool](#) used? Yes No

If yes, insert date(s) of REPT meetings and link to completed REPT here: _____

Did a member of the Division of Equity, Strategy and Opportunity Gaps review this statement? Yes No

BPS Racial Equity Planning Tool Sections	Summary/Rationale
<p>1. Proposal/Presentation & Impact <i>What are the proposal's/effort's desired outcomes, including in eliminating disparities? Who led this work/planning, and do they reflect BPS students' and families' group identities (key groups include individuals who are Black, Latinx, Asian, indigenous, immigrant, multilingual, and have Special Education experience)?</i></p>	<p>BPS is launching a comprehensive summer program to ensure opportunities are available to all students that promote social and emotional growth, foster continued learning over the summer, close opportunity gaps, and provide enrichment experiences. This is particularly vital for students from historically marginalized populations, including students of color, and those who are English learners (ELs) and/or have disabilities.</p> <p>“Experience Summer” is a menu of free (except as noted) opportunities that include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Summer Stuff programs offered by non-BPS entities (often fee-based) ● BPS 5th Quarter learning and enrichment programming held in schools or at partner sites ● Early Focus BPS programming to support early learners ● High School Credit Recovery BPS-school specific programs by invitation ● English Learner programs primarily integrated in 5th Quarter; others by invitation ● Extended School Year (ESY) by invitation for students with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) that include ESY ● Exam School Initiative (ESI) by invitation to support students from under-represented groups in exam schools ● Summer jobs through the City of Boston and partners offering opportunities to earn and learn for youth ages 14-24 <p>Goals for summer 2022 include increasing the number of seats in 5th Quarter programs, the number of programs with extended day schedules, available transportation options, and access to fresh food.</p> <p>The Summer Workgroup consists of staff from the Offices of Expanded Learning and Partnerships, Special Education, English Learners, Opportunity Gaps, Facilities, Transportation, Food & Nutrition, Human Capital, Finance, and Academics. The group includes participants who identify as Black, Latinx, and Asian; have deep experience planning programming for our students, including ELs and students with disabilities; and have life experience as parents, immigrants, and alumni of our district’s schools.</p>
<p>2. Alignment with the Strategic Plan <i>How does the proposal/effort align with the district's strategic plan?</i></p>	<p>Experience Summer aligns with the district’s strategic plan to eliminate opportunity and achievement gaps for all students, accelerate learning, activate partnerships, and expand opportunity by expanding high-quality out-of-school time programming for all students, especially for those from historically marginalized populations.</p>
<p>3. Analysis of Data <i>What data was analyzed? Was it disaggregated by race</i></p>	<p>Feedback from last summer’s program offerings was a key driver of expansion efforts for this summer. In follow-up conversations with families, including those who did not enroll their students in the summer 2021 programming, the district learned that more access to either walkable locations or the provision of bus transportation was needed. In addition, families asked</p>

<p><i>and other key groups? What did it show regarding disparities?</i></p>	<p>for more access to meals prepared on site, and longer days, both to be feasible for working families and ensure time for enrichment, and more access to meals prepared on site. Educator feedback regarding raising pay to match school year pay was also factored in to ensure sufficient educator capacity to provide more programs.</p> <p>In the context of staffing shortages in summer and fall 2021, accurate data regarding summer 2021 student participation was not collected. During summer 2022, we will collect accurate data and ensure it is disaggregated to better track participation, including successes and disparities that need further action.</p>
<p>4. Stakeholder Engagement <i>Who was engaged (quantity, key groups, and roles) and how, and what did that yield? What did students/families most impacted by this proposal/effort say?</i></p>	<p>The Summer Learning proposal was developed by a cross-functional team (see above) with feedback from the district’s Executive Team and school superintendents. In addition, more than 100 potential partners were engaged through Boston After School and Beyond to learn about collaborative opportunities, and identify both BPS and community-based sites for programming.</p> <p>School leaders weighed in through hundreds of individual phone calls with members of the planning team, mainly regarding program sites. Family voice was incorporated through feedback and suggestions from the Special Education Parent Advisory Council, Citywide Parent Council, and the District English Learner Advisory Committee, and from the Family-Schools Engagement Practices team.</p>
<p>5. Racial Equity Strategies <i>How does this proposal/effort mitigate disparities and increase racial and other equity? What are possible unintended consequences? What complementary strategies will further advance equity?</i></p>	<p>Research by the Rand Corporation confirms that up to two-thirds of the disparity in high school and college graduation rates between low-income students and their higher income peers can be explained by unequal access to summer learning and enrichment opportunities. In the context of the disparate impacts of the pandemic, summer program planning was designed with a laser focus on increasing access to more enrichment opportunities, in more locations.</p> <p>Sites were selected to maximize access in neighborhoods with high concentrations of economically disadvantaged students and students of color, buildings that are easily accessible on public transportation and/or large numbers of walkers, and buildings that could host multiple programs.</p> <p>Expanding partnerships to ensure meaningful, fun, and culturally and linguistically sustaining enrichment is aimed to increase appeal to families and students who might otherwise not be attracted to the idea of “summer school.” Additionally, the registration process provides priority to homeless students and English learners, as well as to siblings so that families can more easily take advantage of programming.</p> <p>We are currently working with community partners, the Family-School Engagement Practices and Community Engagement teams, school-based family liaisons, and guidance counselors to ensure families and students are informed about summer opportunities and have support to complete the registration process.</p>
<p>6 Budget & Implementation <i>What are the budget impacts? How will implementation ensure all objectives, particularly equity-related objectives, are met? What are the group identities of the implementation team,</i></p>	<p>There has been a conscious effort to expand summer programming with an additional investment of \$15 million. While invitation-only programs such as High School Credit Recovery and ESY have fairly consistent budgets as last year, this investment will increase not only the number of programs, but also transportation and expanded day opportunities.</p> <p>This investment also includes funding to match educators’ usual hourly rate (\$51.74) to attract staff capacity. Over \$6 million will be funded through Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER). Another sizable increase is the cost of partnerships through Boston Afterschool and Beyond, which will expand student summer enrollment by 20%, and ensure those programs will not operate at a deficit.</p> <p>The implementation team includes the Summer Workgroup members and our partners, many of</p>



<p><i>and will they bring an equity lens?</i></p>	<p>whom reflect the cultures of our families, including African Community Economic Development of New England, Afrimerican Academy, Center for Arabic Culture, Immigrant Family Services Institute, Freedom House, Sociadad Latina, and others whose staff reflects the students they serve, such as the YMCA and Boys & Girls Clubs.</p>
<p>7. Accountability & Communication <i>How will impacts be assessed, documented and communicated to stakeholders? Who will be responsible?</i></p>	<p>The Summer Workgroup will develop a survey for participating families to learn first hand from their experiences. The group will also review hiring data and student attendance data.</p> <p>The Workgroup will report results to the Boston School Committee and the public this fall.</p>