

OUT OF SCHOOL/SUMMER LEARNING

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT

Summer Jobs 253 Benefits Students, Employers, and Community

Summer Jobs 253 provides TPS students a head start on a successful future. Participating juniors and seniors earn up to two high-school credits, gain meaningful work experience and skills, and earn money over the summer.

A collaboration between the district, the City of Tacoma, and the REACH Center, this nationally recognized program has proven valuable for local employers, providing:

- Job and workplace training
- Transportation assistance
- Administrative human resources functions

“It doesn’t cost a lot and there is a ton of benefit,” notes Shari Kalsta, Senior Compensation Analyst at Columbia Bank and a mother of two Tacoma Public Schools kids. “Plus, students are going into this voluntarily. If you’re a Tacoma company and you care about keeping kids interested in staying here or coming back after college, this is a fantastic way to build future job holders.”

Interested employers can apply to host a student before May 1, 2017 at SummerJobs253.com. Accepted employers are asked to make a \$700 tax-deductible donation to Summer Jobs 253.

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Summer learning providers who collaborate to track and promote student participation.

¹ Program slots filled by Tacoma youth. Does include duplicate student participation. Does not include participants from programs who did not participate in the community effort to measure Summer Learning. ² This is a representative sample of TPS students. Does not include students without sufficient information for de-duplication. Does not include participation numbers for all community partners. 2015 was the first year for which disaggregated data was available. ³ Rates are based on demographics of active TPS students participating in summer learning programs.

KEY FINDINGS

Tacoma Doubles Summer Learning Slots Filled

The summer slide is real. Middle-income children engaged in summer learning progress forward during summer months as compared to low-income children, who typically don’t have access or aren’t engaged. Those children actually fall behind over the summer as much as two years by fifth grade, and the gap widens through middle school. We need to work with families to make up the difference in order to keep students engaged and on track.

Community partners with after-school and summer programs for kids meet regularly as Graduate Tacoma’s Out of School and Summer Learning Network (OOSLNL) to track program participation, identify gaps in service, and determine where efficiencies may lead to better outcomes for kids.

We’re making real progress in Tacoma. Overall, we have doubled the summer program slots filled since 2013 to a total of 11,456. Even more importantly, last summer, 2,846 more students were served than in 2014, including an increase to 33% on the Eastside, where students have traditionally been underserved.

Black and Hispanic kids continue to comprise 42% of our program participation rate, exceeding the 37% of Black and Hispanic students who make up the Tacoma student population.



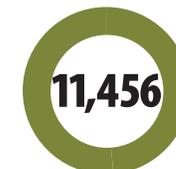
Sources: Community Partners, TPS eSchools+, and Foundation for Tacoma Students

DATA DIVE

↑ SUMMER PROGRAM SLOTS FILLED¹



BASELINE – SUMMER 2013



CURRENT – SUMMER 2016

↑ INDIVIDUAL SUMMER LEARNING PARTICIPANTS²



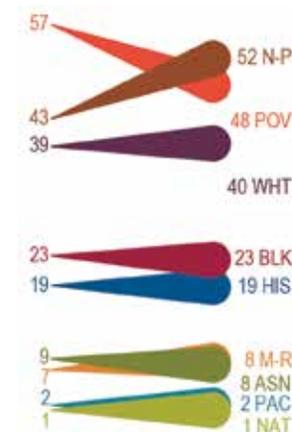
BASELINE – SUMMER 2014



CURRENT – SUMMER 2016

AIMING HIGHER GOAL: Increase the number of students participating in out-of-school and summer learning opportunities. Increase the quality of community programs and strengthen academic content.

% BY POVERTY, RACE, & ETHNICITY³



BASELINE
2015

CURRENT
2016