

Regular Board Meeting – September 20, 2011

**SUBJECT: 2011 SUMMER SCHOOL**

**OVERVIEW**

The summer school program is designed to extend and support the mission of District 68 schools by offering opportunities for students to explore new areas of interest, develop greater experience in a hobby or skill, and reinforce basic skills in reading, mathematics, or English language learning. The program is funded by student tuition and fees, grant funds, and District 68 subsidies in the form of tuition waivers for low-income students in need of basic skills. The demographic shifts in percentage of low-income students and opportunities for ELL students to continue developing skills in English have been areas of focus as part of District 68 intervention programs.

**2011 SUMMER PROGRAM**

District 68 offered a combination of courses in language arts, mathematics, ELL, and enrichment courses during the summer 2011. The summer school program was nineteen days in length, with three one hour morning classes offered each day. A total of 381 students attended the program, which was a slight decrease from 398 during the summer of 2010. A total of 60 class hours were taught daily, which includes the three hour ELL and Pre-kindergarten Mini-Camp courses. Of the 60 class hours daily, 27 hours were allocated to basic skill instruction in reading and/or math, 24 hours for enrichment courses, 6 hours for ELL instruction and 3 hours for Pre-kindergarten.

The summer school program has seen a consistent decrease in the number of students choosing to enroll in an enrichment class. Due to continued economic concerns, many families have chosen to focus on academic areas or have chosen to forgo the summer school option all together. Parents have also noted the need for an all-day program to meet their family's need.

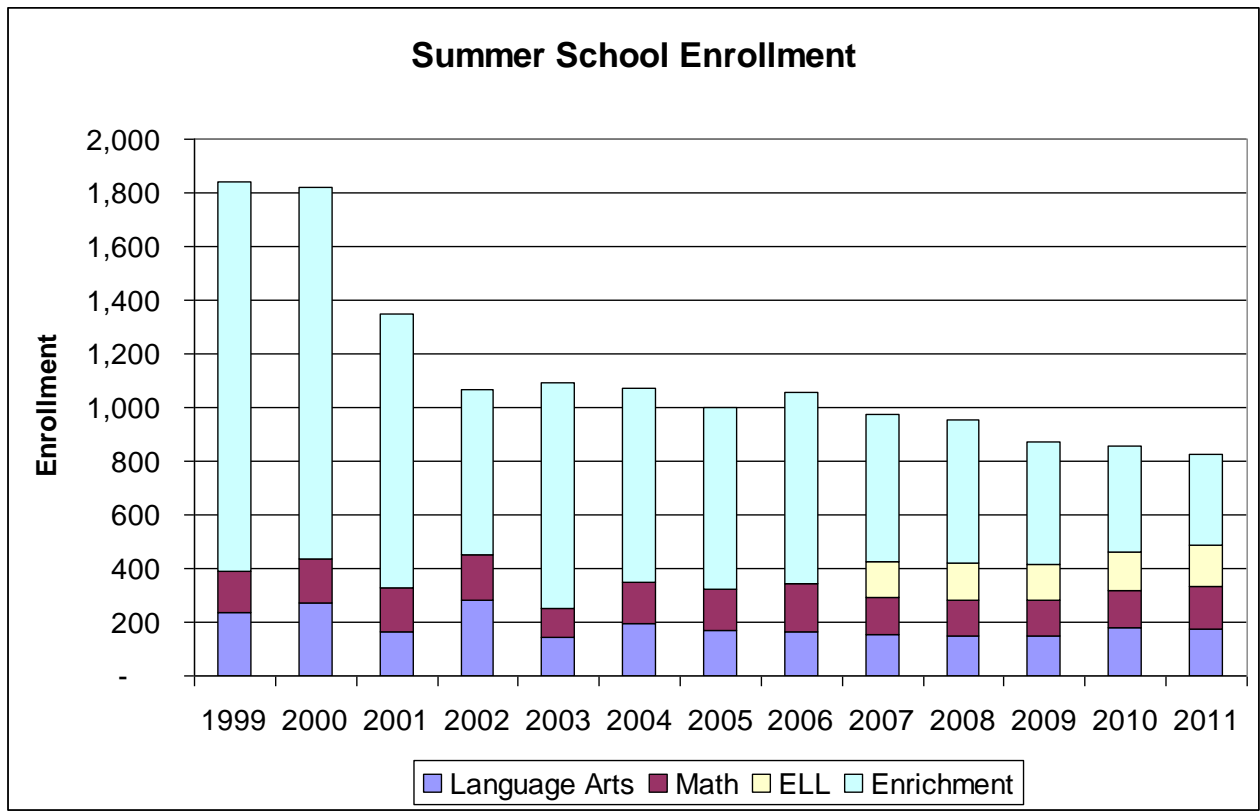
The enrichment classes that were most popular in 2011 included Baking with Ms. B, Computer Game Design, Athletes Club, Writing Workshop, Team Sports, Junior Engineers, and Science Myth Busters. The addition of Digital Photography, a new course offered this past year, was a popular choice, enrolling 12 students. Each year, the Director of Summer School meets with faculty members interested in offering summer enrichment courses and encourages a mix of new courses and traditional favorites.

Basic skills classes were available in mathematics and reading for students performing in the lower percentiles on standardized assessments and who had been recommended by their teachers. Enrollment in basic skills classes continues to increase, with 160 receiving basic skill instruction in math and 172 receiving basic skill instruction in reading. This total of 332 students receiving basic skill instruction is a slight increase from 2010, where a total of 320 students were receiving basic skill instruction. There was a total of 649 students recommended to take a basic skills class in grades 1<sup>st</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> in 2011. This too is a dramatic increase from 2010, where 418 students were recommended to take a basic skill class. During the 2011 summer school registration, 51.16% of those recommended for a basic skills class actually enrolled in either math, reading or both classes.

A full, morning ELL program was offered for students entering grades one through five who were enrolled in center programs in the K-5 schools or in their first two years in the United States; it served those at the beginning levels of learning English based on language assessments and teacher/tutor recommendations. This program was funded by Title III and included bus transportation. In its fifth year, this program has grown to serve 52 students, an increase from the 47 the year prior.

## **CONCLUSIONS**

While all of the courses support our mission and afford the opportunity to address the needs and expand the interests and talents of the students in the community, the continued viability of enrichment classes is an area for discussion and review. Additionally, a greater amount of District 68 subsidy is necessary to support the growing number of students in need of basic classes and ELL services.



	OOJH 1999	OOJH 2000	JS 2001	JS 2002	OOJH 2003	OOJH 2004	OOJH 2005	OOJH 2006	OOJH 2007	OOJH 2008	OOJH 2009	OOJH 2010	OOJH 2011
Enrollment	1,842	1,820	1,351	1,066	1,092	1,073	1,002	1,055	975	956	873	854	824
Language Arts	234	270	166	284	143	195	169	165	155	151	151	179	172
Math	154	164	160	166	106	154	155	179	137	132	130	141	160
ELL									135	135	135	141	156
Enrichment	1,454	1,386	1,025	616	843	724	678	711	548	538	457	393	336
Total Enrollment	1,842	1,820	1,351	1,066	1,092	1,073	1,002	1,055	975	956	873	854	824
Students	793	757	597	538	569	587	542	484	455	422	377	398	381
Courses offered	47	46	39	41	53	43	39	39	39	32	25	31	29

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**SUBJECT: 2012 SUMMER SCHOOL FEES**

It is recommended by the Administration that the Board of Education

- (1) Maintain the current tuition for Summer School at \$125.00 per course
- (2) Continue a \$10 per course discount for tuition paid by April 20, 2012
- (3) Increase the registration fee from \$10.00 to \$15.00 per student
- (4) Maintain the Summer School bus fee at \$95 per student

**Background Information**

The two-tiered tuition fee implemented to encourage early registration continues to be very successful with approximately 66% of paid summer school registrants taking advantage of the early registration discount. The number of paid classes is projected to decrease 5% while the number of classes funded by the district for free and reduced fee students in basic classes increases 2% as course offerings continue to shift from enrichment to basic. Based on market data, no change is recommended for Policy 4141 Summer School Teachers' Salaries. An increase of \$5.00 in the registration fee is recommended to meet projected costs while tuition and bus fees remain constant.