

# Summer School

# By Lori Nappe, District Assistant Principal

## **Elementary Summer School and K-5 Extended School Year**

Extended School Year services are special education and related services that are provided to a child with a disability beyond the district's normal school year in accordance with the child's IEP and at no cost to parents.

## When must a district provide ESY services?

A district only needs to provide ESY services to a child with a disability when the IEP determines those services are necessary for the student to receive FAPE (free and appropriate education). However, each district must ensure that ESY services are available to those students with disabilities who need them.

#### How does an IEP team determine whether the student needs ESY service to receive FAPE?

ESY is not a benefit to achieve growth, but a requirement to maintain skills. IEP team members apply a regression-recoupment analysis to determine if the student will experience severe or substantial regression during the summer months in the absence of a summer program. Other included factors:

- 1. The degree of regression
- 2. The time necessary for recoupment
- 3. The degree of impairment
- 4. The parent's ability to provide educational structure at home
- 5. The student's rate of progress
- 6. The student's behavioral and physical problems
- 7. The availability of alternative resources
- 8. The student's ability to interact with nondisabled children
- 9. The areas of the student's curriculum that need continuous attention
- 10. The student's vocational needs
- 11. Whether the requested service is "extraordinary" to the student's condition (as opposed to an integral part of a program for those with the student's condition)

#### Summer 2023

Traditional summer school and ESY dates were combined for kindergarten through fifth grade students in 2023. Students whose IEP teams had determined that they required ESY services attended at their home buildings. As during the calendar school year, transportation was provided for students who had a need stated in their IEP.



# Summer School, continued

### Here is what staff are saying:

"I think it was good to have ESY and Transitions Summer School all together! It was very inclusive and allowed students to be with their peers that they would normally see during the school year. The Raising a Reader Summer bags were a great addition! I loved that I had something to share with my students and that they were things that the students are already fairly familiar with and enjoy doing." - kindergarten teacher

"It was helpful having admin present or available by phone. Having ESY teachers in the building worked out well." - second grade teacher

"Loved the combined program! My self-contained student had great exposure and positive interactions! He was thrilled to be in the class and parents were thrilled at his progress!" - special education teacher

"I liked having five days a week this summer for ESY to make it more worth doing it and more money." – paraeducator

"The small class sizes made it incredibly easy to dive in deep to our topics. It was nice being able to help kids more one-on-one, so they really understood what we were reviewing." - third grade teacher

#### Summer 2024

For 2024, we will increase our number of administrative interns traveling between buildings for support. Admin interns rotate their office between buildings each day, but are only a phone call away when needed. New summer school scheduling will allow staff to work for more than one program.

ESY will continue to coincide with elementary summer school grades K-5, with the addition of English Learners. The registration deadline for all elementary summer school students (ESY, EL, Transitions) will be April 1, 2024. It is very important for teachers to submit their recommendations by this deadline so we can plan staff appropriately. We will begin recruiting teachers in the new year.

## **Coming Soon**

Summer school program dates will be announced soon!

