



## Summer Learning Project Update

### REMINDERS:

Dear [fname],

The sounds and sights of summer are all around us, and the Boston Summer Learning Project is well underway. In an effort to stay connected throughout the summer, we will send a weekly update of key activities, reminders, and examples from the front lines.

You are part of a national movement -- and one of 33 schools and 15 nonprofit partners in Boston – that is addressing the persistent issue of summer learning loss. We believe that closing the summer opportunity gap will help students get a jump start on the new school year.

We are especially proud that Boston is at the forefront of the nation in demonstrating how to activate academics through hands-on, project-based enrichment and skill-building. As we

| Item   | When?        | Why?   |
|--|--------------|--|
| <b>Signed MOU, consent forms</b>   | ASAP         | To secure funding with full assurance that students are included in all measurement activities.  |
| <b>Student attendance</b><br>(use Boston After School & Beyond template) | Every Monday | Individual student attendance, rather than average daily attendance (ADA), is recognized as a more meaningful way to track attendance. Program dosage is |

break new ground together, we must be attentive to the measures that will capture this innovation, inform policy, and generate future funding. In that spirit, we appreciate your responsiveness to the required elements of the program.

We look forward to seeing your plans in action over the next several weeks.

Jeff Riley  
Chief Innovation Officer  
Boston Public Schools  
Beyond

Chris Smith  
Executive Director  
Boston After School &  
Beyond

### **SPOTLIGHT: Thompson Island Outward Bound and Orchard Gardens K-8**

75 Orchard Gardens K-8 students board a boat in South Boston every morning and ship over to Thompson Island for a day complete with learning, adventure, and enjoyment. Recently, these rising 6<sup>th</sup> and rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders worked on their individual data projects on the shore - collecting information ranging from number of crickets to the timing between airplanes overhead. Students will soon plot and graph their collected data. Taking a break in the shade, students collaborated to solve math problems aligned to the grade-specific ANet standards. Part of their calculations focused on how high they climbed during a recent ropes course activity, a topic that produced enthusiastic

|   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
|   |  | more accurately captured in hours, rather than days or weeks.  |
| <b>Detailed budget</b><br>(use Boston After School & Beyond template) | End of program, with last installment of funding | A detailed budget will reveal the true cost of this integrated approach and inform policy development and fundraising efforts. |
| <b>SAYO observations</b>  | 2nd and final weeks of program                   | This tool allows us to measure <b>skill gain</b> and compare results to a statewide sample.                                    |
| <b>ANet post-assessment</b>   | By September 16                                  | To measure gains in ELA and math, compared to entire grade levels in participating schools.                                    |

conversation on a gorgeous island day.



*Orchard Gardens students gathering data on the shoreline of Thompson Island.*



## FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES

Click [here](#) for details on engaging and educational field trip opportunities for your students with a focus on integrating academics and enrichment!

Opportunities include:

- **Steppingstone Foundation College Tours:** for rising 7<sup>th</sup> graders and older. Act fast, tours take place on July 20<sup>th</sup>!
- **All Access Boston Harbor:** FREE exploration of the Boston Harbor Islands' history and environment
- **Freedom Trail Guided Tours:** Have your students walk in the footsteps of Paul Revere
- **Sports Museum:** Apply math standards as your students learn about the statistics of Boston sports legends – admission is FREE!

**To stay connected on the most up-to-date Summer Learning Project news:**

**'Like' us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#)!!**



*Day 1 of the Thompson Island-Orchard Gardens Summer Partnership*

*(Photo Credit to Thompson Island)*

*For more pictures, visit Thompson Island's Facebook page [here!](#)*

If you have questions, comments, or ideas for future updates,  
please contact **David McAuley** at [dmcauley@bostonbeyond.org](mailto:dmcauley@bostonbeyond.org).