

## Summer Learning Project Update

### REMINDERS:

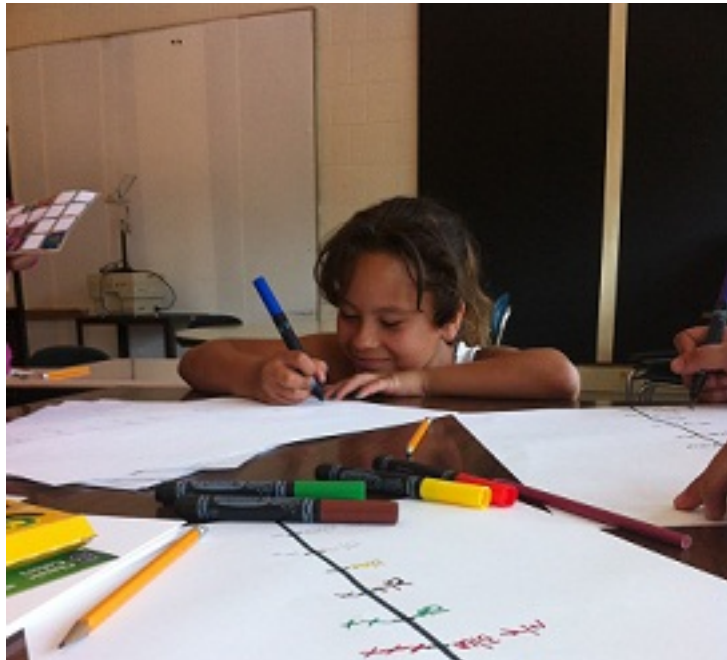
### DID YOU KNOW?

More than half of the achievement gap between lower- and higher-income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities. As a result, low-income youth are less likely to graduate from high school or enter college (Alexander et al, 2007). – *National Summer Learning Association Web page*

### SPOTLIGHT: Blackstone Elementary and Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA)

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> (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

Teachers and staff derived a common program theme of “community” in the Summer Learning partnership between Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción (IBA) and the Blackstone Elementary School. The math and ELA standards are actively connected to the following subthemes: people, recreation, architecture, and economy. For example, students ask questions of their peers related to community and graph the answers. Art projects related to the subthemes reinforce ELA concepts and students complete journal entries related to program activities. To the teachers and staff within the partnership, Summer Learning is about finding meaning and learning behind every hands-on activity for the 30 rising 4<sup>th</sup> and rising 5<sup>th</sup> graders served. It all adds up to a very busy and educational summer in Villa Victoria in the South End!



*Blackstone student at IBA using colorful creativity to master graphing concepts  
Photo Credit: Julio Cesar Roman from IBA.*

		more accurately captured in hours, rather than days or weeks.
<b>Detailed budget</b> (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.



## SPOTLIGHT: Higginson-Lewis K-8/Dearborn Middle and MathPOWER

Amid the hustle and bustle of the Northeastern University campus this summer, 100 rising 7<sup>th</sup> and rising 8<sup>th</sup> graders from the Higginson-Lewis and Dearborn schools delve into learning through the Summer Learning partnership with MathPOWER. Activities at MathPOWER range from fine tuning the craft of calculating ratios to writing poetry in Boston Common. The Achieving, Connecting, and Thriving (ACT) framework creates an environment for exploring learning and curiosity. Clubs – such as “Art and Our Environment” and “How the Story Unfolds” – epitomize the learning and fun within a typical program day. Turns out these middle schoolers may be the busiest folks on campus this summer.

## FIELD TRIP OPPORTUNITIES:

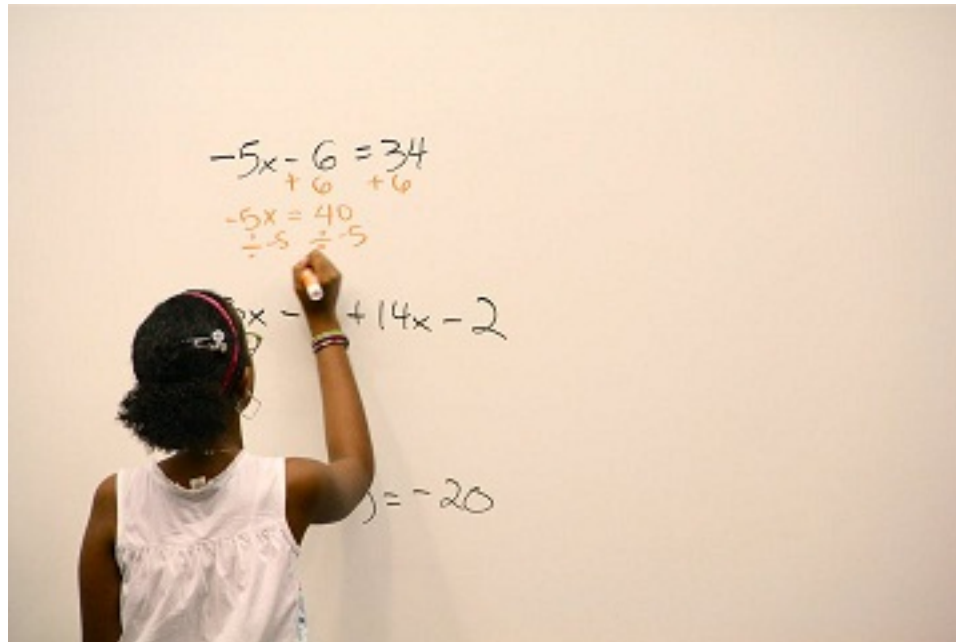
Follow the [link](#) for details on engaging and educational field trip opportunities for your students with a focus on integrating academics and enrichment!

Opportunities include:

- **Museum of Science:** With a variety of exhibits and shows, you can customize your field trip for any age group or lesson plan
- **New England Aquarium:** Offers a number of fun and education activities – including the aquarium, Simons IMAX theatre, and whale watches
- **All Access Boston Harbor:** FREE exploration of the Boston Harbor Islands’ history and environment
- **Sports Museum:** Apply math standards as your students learn about the statistics of Boston sports legends – admission is FREE!

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*Honing algebra skills at MathPOWER*

*Photo Credit: MathPOWER*

*For more pictures, visit MathPOWER's Facebook page*

*[HERE](#).*

If you have questions, comments, or ideas for future updates,  
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