"This is a groundbreaking effort. A student’s education shouldn’t stop at the end of the school year."
- Mayor Martin J. Walsh

"The 5th Quarter integrates academics and enrichment, and boosts the skills necessary for college success."
- Superintendent Tommy Chang

The Boston Globe

8/14/17  Closing the achievement gap, one summer camp at a time
7/5/17   A life-changing summer for every Boston kid
6/14/17  Boston schools revamp programs to tackle summer learning slide

SUMMER LEARNING SUCCESSES

2010  First coordinated citywide approach to summer learning in Boston, involving 5 programs and 232 students

2011  Launch of the Wallace Foundation’s National Summer Learning Demonstration Project, a five-city, multi-year study on the effects of voluntary summer learning programs

2012  New Program Report for Improvement and System Measurement (PRISM) depicts program-level data and points to areas for future improvement

2013  Cityspan (formerly known as YouthServices.net) captures data centrally across all programs, enabling citywide comparisons

2014  Near-term findings from RAND show that participating students achieve a significant advantage in math compared to their peers

2015  Mayor Walsh and Superintendent Chang set a citywide goal to reach 10,000 students across 100 summer programs by 2017

2016  H.2868 (formerly H.4033) filed at State House to expand this proven summer learning approach across the Commonwealth

2017  Long-term findings from RAND show that high-attending students see significant benefits in math, reading, and social-emotional skills, and that academic benefits persist through spring assessment scores

Launch of an enhanced, research-based 5th Quarter effort, supported by over $2 million in district funding

The largest summer learning network to date, involving 132 programs and over 10,000 students
SUMMER 2017
BY THE NUMBERS

10,338 students
82 students
avg. program size
(range 7-834 students)

132 programs
Grades K1-12
50% male, 50% female

83% avg. attendance rate
5.3 weeks
avg. program duration
(range 2-10 weeks)

STUDENT GROWTH

PROGRAM GROWTH
Common measures allow programs to collectively prove and improve their approach. Armed with robust citywide data, the 5th Quarter network convenes year round, using training and coaching to learn from data findings, share best practices, and pursue continuous improvement.

We work with research partners, the PEAR Institute and the National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST), to draw connections between program quality and student outcomes. Together, we capture data from multiple perspectives:

- trained external observers,
- teachers and program staff,
- and youth themselves.

In addition to expanding innovative models of learning, Boston is contributing to the growing knowledge base on out-of-school time (OST). Nationally, Boston’s programs are part of the largest, most rigorous study to date on summer learning, commissioned by the Wallace Foundation and studied by the RAND Corporation. Forthcoming research will explore further the link between program practices, student skill development, and student engagement.
SKILLS FOR SUCCESS IN SCHOOL, COLLEGE, WORK, AND LIFE

The Achieve, Connect, Thrive (ACT) Skills Framework unites Boston’s OST field around a common youth agenda. In 2017, BASB revised the ACT Framework to reflect the latest research in youth development, and to draw connections to practitioner-driven resources on the Insight Center website.

College and career readiness is a citywide priority among the City of Boston, Boston Public Schools, Boston Opportunity Agenda, and Success Boston. The ACT Framework serves as a model for how schools and community partners can address college, career, and life readiness at all ages.

INSIGHT.BOSTONBEYOND.ORG

IN 2017, YOUTH ACHIEVED STATISTICALLY SIGNIFICANT GAINS IN MATH, ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS, AND ALL 6 MEASURED ACT SKILLS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACADEMIC SKILLS</th>
<th>ACHIEVE SKILLS</th>
<th>CONNECT SKILLS</th>
<th>THRIVE SKILLS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELA 49%</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Math 50%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>51%</td>
<td>53%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Perseverance 26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Critical Thinking 44%</td>
<td>42%</td>
<td>43%</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationships with Peers 58%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>57%</td>
<td>58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relationships with Adults 53%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>52%</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communication 38%</td>
<td>39%</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self-Regulation 39%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>41%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(n=2982 students; p<0.01, as reported by teachers on NIOST/DESE’s SAYO T)

= Beginning of Summer 2017

= End of Summer 2017
How do you achieve tasks or goals?

These skills help young people process information, assess situations and potential outcomes, and connect actions to future goals. When young people Achieve, they engage in disciplined thinking that is rational, open-minded, and informed by evidence; consider consequences and alternatives; and evaluate information to reach a conclusion. They demonstrate imagination and originality, and stay focused on their goals despite obstacles or distractions.

PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE: CULTIVATING ACHIEVE SKILLS

“We harness the assets of our youth throughout the program. This means that youth should generate most of the lesson topics, be involved in programmatic decisions, and feel like they have voice and choice.”

- Allyson Shifley, The LEAH Project

SPOTLIGHT ON CRITICAL THINKING

HOW DO PROGRAMS SUPPORT CRITICAL THINKING?

Program staff provide...

- challenging & stimulating activities
- assistance when questions arise
- structured time for feedback & reflection

...so that youth can...

- interpret the meaning of information
- analyze the relationships between ideas & concepts
- draw conclusions based on evidence & identifying bias
How do you connect to others?

These skills help young people make contributions to their community, and develop healthy, supportive relationships with peers and adults, including those from diverse backgrounds and cultures. When young people Connect, they work constructively and cooperatively with others, empathizing with and taking the perspective of peers, advocating for their views respectfully, understanding social and ethical norms for behavior, and sharing ideas clearly and compellingly.

PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE: CULTIVATING CONNECT SKILLS

“We are intentional about designing teams with students' English proficiency, native language, and interests in mind. The combination of real world relevancy, hands-on learning, and long-term projects helps students build strong relationships.”

- Lydia Emmons, ¡emprende! program

SPOTLIGHT ON TEAMWORK

HOW DO PROGRAMS SUPPORT TEAMWORK?

Program staff provide...

• opportunities to work collaboratively with other young people
• activities that balance different group sizes
• a focus on how to work together & share responsibility

...so that youth can...

• cooperate on tasks
• disagree & question ideas in a respectful manner
• compromise with peers during disagreement & conflict
**How do you help yourself thrive?**

These skills help young people recognize and manage their emotions, anticipate the impact of their behaviors on others, and take ownership over their actions. When young people Thrive, they believe that their abilities can grow with effort; have confidence in their ability to accomplish an outcome or goal; and are able to manage their emotions, thoughts and behaviors as appropriate to different situations. This first requires an awareness of self – the recognition of their emotions, thoughts, motivations, strengths and weaknesses.

**PROGRAM PERSPECTIVE: CULTIVATING THRIVE SKILLS**

“We take a proactive approach to redirection and focus on open and honest conversations. In addition, we include parents and guardians as partners to help ensure students’ success.”

- Tyler Simpson, Hale Outdoor Learning Adventures (HOLA) program

**SPOTLIGHT ON SELF-REGULATION**

**HOW DO PROGRAMS SUPPORT SELF-REGULATION?**

Program staff provide...

- simple reminders & redirection of behavior
- help when a young person is upset or having a problem
- sparing use of consequences, such as loss of privileges

...so that youth can...

- learn how to handle emotions, such as stress & anxiety
- control impulses and regain control when necessary
- work independently & maintain focus
BUILD CAPACITY: CERTIFIED OBSERVER NETWORK

In 2016, BASB, in collaboration with NIOST, launched the Certified Observer Network – an in-depth training designed to prepare experienced youth development professionals to conduct observations of other programs. The network stimulates peer-to-peer learning and collaboration, while enabling programs to keep a pulse on their own program quality. All programs should have at least one member of their staff join the Certified Observer Network. Trainings are offered four times a year.

JOIN THE NETWORK TODAY

DIG DEEPER: SKILL BADGES

Badges enable program providers to customize the learning experience to target specific skills critical to student success, while providing students with a visual representation of growth and accomplishment on the road to college and careers. Of the 550 students eligible to earn a skill badge in summer 2017, 330 students (60 percent) earned at least one badge. In total, 1,379 badges were awarded, with teamwork being the most frequently earned badge.

SIGN UP TO IMPLEMENT THIS NEW CREDENTIAL

CHANGE THE DISCOURSE: HOUSE BILL 2868

Building on strong momentum from last session, Chairwoman Alice Peisch refiled bold legislation to vastly increase the number of students across the Commonwealth accessing high quality summer learning opportunities. Modeled on Boston’s proven approach, H. 2868 would establish a pilot grant program to expand research-based summer learning in districts with high concentrations of low-income students. The bill was unanimously approved by the Joint Committee on Education in May 2017, and currently awaits action from the House Ways and Means Committee.

ADVOCATE IN SUPPORT OF HIGH QUALITY SUMMER LEARNING

INTERESTED? CONTACT US AT GETCONNECTED@BOSTONBEYOND.ORG
2017 SUMMER PARTNERS

ACEDONE*
Achieve*
Alliance for Inclusion and Prevention*
BELL (Building Educated Leaders for Life)
Berklee College of Music
Bethel A.M.E. Church
Bird Street Community Center
Boston Area Health Education Center
Boston Arts Academy
Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center
Boston Day and Evening Academy*
Boston Private Industry Council*
Boston Public Schools
Boston Scores*
Boston University
Boston's Bridge to Excellence
Boys and Girls Clubs of Boston*
BPE (Boston Plan for Excellence)*
Breakthrough Greater Boston
Brigham and Women's Hospital
Burke High School*
Calculus Project
Camp Harbor View
Community Music Center of Boston
Courageous Sailing*
Crossroads
Dearborn STEM Academy*
DotHouse Health*
Empow Studios*
Generation Teach
Hale Reservation*
Harlem Lacrosse

Harvard-Kent School*
Haynes Early Education Center*
Health Resources in Action
Horizons at Dedham Country Day School*
IBA - Inquilinos Boricuas en Acción*
Imajine That
Josiah Quincy Elementary School*
Josiah Quincy Upper School*
Leahy Holloran Community Center
Mass Audubon
Massachusetts College of Art and Design*
Neighborhood Network Center Inc
North Bennet Street School
Northeastern University
Olmsted Center for Landscape Preservation
Phillips Brooks House Association
Sociedad Latina*
Sportsmen's Tennis and Enrichment Center*
St. Stephen's Youth Programs
The Steppingstone Foundation*
Thompson Island Outward Bound*
Tierney Learning Center*
Trinity Boston Foundation
University of Massachusetts Boston
UMass Boston Institute for Learning and Teaching
VietAid
Wentworth Institute of Technology
Wheelock College
World Ocean School*
YMCA of Greater Boston*
Zoo New England*

Asterisk denotes programs that received funding from the Boston Public Schools to run Summer Learning Academies for high-need students in 2017.

THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS AND ALLIES