

A New Vision for Summer School

School Turnaround Community Webinar

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**Our mission is to connect and equip
schools and community
organizations to deliver quality
summer learning programs to our
nation's youth to help close the
achievement gap.**



The Association works to:

- Increase the number of providers offering high-quality summer learning programs to young people living in poverty;
- Increase the number of organizations and policymakers that identify summer learning as a public policy priority; and,
- Increase funding for high-quality summer learning programs for young people who currently lack choices and opportunities.



Objectives for today:

- Understand what the New Vision for Summer School entails
- Understand how districts are using summer as a school improvement and expanded learning strategy
- Understand the challenges and opportunities associated with making the New Vision a reality



What is the New Vision?

- Transcend the remedial, often punitive summer school model of the past
- Replace it with comprehensive, engaging programming for more students
- Use the summer months as key strategy for closing the achievement gap, improving graduation rates, and driving innovative reforms.



NVSS history

- First meeting in April, 2009
- ARRA (federal stimulus) fueled new investments
- NVSS Network created in 2011
- NSLA to highlight and disseminate impact on student outcomes



Big Picture

- Growing recognition of summer learning loss
- Difficult fiscal and political environment
- Several options for education leaders
 - Extend school year (add days)
 - Modify calendar (year-round calendar)
 - Expand and improve summer school (New Vision)



Public Investment

- ARRA led to over \$200 million in new funding
- Many districts and states cutting funding for summer due to the economy and end of ARRA
- Several districts still making major investments in innovative programming
- Key challenge is sustainability of ARRA funded programs



Why a New Vision?

- Research on summer learning loss and achievement gap
- Remedial model of summer school is insufficient
- Summer is ideal space for innovation
- **Summer must be an essential component of education reform**
- **Summer programs can transform teaching and learning year-round!**



What does the New Vision look like?

- Pittsburgh Public Schools

<http://www.ppstube.tv/play.php?vid=622>

- Providence Public Schools and Providence Afterschool Alliance

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t9f0FesFRR0>



What is the New Vision?

- 1) Increase time and scope
 - Detroit Public Schools
- 2) Expand participation
 - Philadelphia Public Schools
- 3) Comprehensive approach
 - Cincinnati Public Schools
- 4) Strong Partnerships
 - Dallas Independent School District
- 5) Innovative professional development
 - Providence Public Schools



What is the New Vision

6) Innovative approaches to learning

- Baltimore City Public Schools

7) Focus on key transitions

- Minneapolis Public Schools

8) Improved planning and funding

- Pittsburgh Public Schools

9) Alignment to District reform and school improvement agenda

- Duval County (Jacksonville, FL)



NVSS and School Improvement

- Expanded Learning Time as key strategy
- Extensive research base
- Federal funding through SIG and NCLB Waivers
- Lower cost and more flexibility
- Increased philanthropic support
- NVSS Network in place



Potential Funding Sources

■ Federal

- Title I (NCLB Waivers), School Improvement Grants, 21st CCLC, Race to the Top, Summer Jobs, Service Learning , and Summer Food

■ State and Local

- Existing funds for education and school improvement, summer jobs, libraries, juvenile justice, and summer food
- Local and Regional philanthropy



Challenges

- A significant lack of capacity at the local level
- A difficult economic environment and reliance on temporary federal stimulus funds
- Concerns the summer months and expanded learning time will result in instructional seat time and “more of the same”
- Competition from other compelling education reform ideas, all competing for limited resources



NVSS Network

New Vision for Summer School Network

- Community of 21 urban school districts
- Network will feature best practices and learning in:
 - Evaluation
 - Partnership Building
 - Attendance/Incentives
 - Funding Alignment
 - Staffing and Professional Development
 - Outreach and Marketing



Thank you!

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NVSS Districts

We'll now hear from three leading districts:

- Cincinnati Public Schools
- Rochester City School District
- Duval County Public Schools

