

Homework Club Montebello Outcome Report

Term 2, 2008-2009 School Year

BACKGROUND

HOMework CLUB MONTEBELLO BEGAN ITS FIRST FULL SCHOOL YEAR ON SEPTEMBER 8, 2008. THE CLUB HAS BEEN HELD MONDAYS AND WEDNESDAYS FROM 3-4:45 PM EVERY WEEK SINCE, WITH A MONTH LONG BREAK OVER THE HOLIDAYS. RESIDENT STUDENTS FROM BOTH OUR MONTEBELLO AND SIERRA WEST PROPERTIES ATTEND. THE CLUB HAS BEEN STAFFED BY YOUTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR ALEX CHESTER ALONG WITH COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS. LAST FALL, VOLUNTEERS INCLUDED TWO VOLUNTEERS FROM PORTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM, ONE OF WHOM BROUGHT HER HIGH SCHOOL SON TO HELP AS WELL. WE ALSO HAD A PACIFIC UNIVERSITY WORK-STUDY STUDENT ATTEND. IN ADDITION, THE CLUB WAS STAFFED BY AN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER FROM THE HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT. THIS TEACHER HAS CONTINUED TO VOLUNTEER HER TIME AT THE CLUB ALONGSIDE A HIGH SCHOOL VOLUNTEER FROM MERLO STATION HIGH SCHOOL AND A RETIRED TEACHING ASSISTANT. THE CLUB IS AVAILABLE TO ALL RESIDENT YOUTH ENROLLED IN GRADES 1-6. 26 STUDENTS INITIALLY ENROLLED. WE HAVE 23 ON THE ROSTER AS OF APRIL 22, 2009, AND WE HAD 20 ON THE ROSTER AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT'S LAST GRADING TERM. SNACKS ARE PROVIDED FOR THE STUDENTS EVERY SESSION DUE TO OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH THE OREGON FOOD BANK.

WE FOCUS ON ENSURING THE CHILDREN COMPLETE THEIR WEEKLY ASSIGNMENTS. WE ALSO MAKE A CONCERTED EFFORT TO HELP THE KIDS COMPREHEND WHAT THEY ARE BEING ASKED TO DO. STUDENTS BEGIN HOMEWORK AFTER FINISHING THEIR SNACKS WHICH WE ALLOW 15 MINUTES FOR. STAFF CIRCULATES THE ROOM, ASSISTING CHILDREN WHO HAVE QUESTIONS AND CHECKING THEIR WORK FOR ACCURACY. IF STUDENTS DO NOT BRING HOMEWORK, THEY ARE INSTRUCTED TO DO A WORKSHEET PACKET. IF A STUDENT FINISHES THEIR HOMEWORK OR WORKSHEET PACKET WITHIN 45 MINUTES THEY READ A BOOK QUIETLY OR TO AN ADULT. AFTER 45 MINUTES, IF THE STUDENT HAS FINISHED THEIR HOMEWORK, THEY ARE ALLOWED TO PLAY AN ARRAY OF EDUCATIONAL GAMES THAT ARE PROVIDED. 5 STUDENTS ARE ALSO CHOSEN TO USE THE COMPUTER LAB IN OUR OFFICE TO PLAY EDUCATIONAL COMPUTER GAMES. THE COMPUTER LAB IS ALSO OPEN TO STUDENTS WHO HAVE RESEARCH RELATED HOMEWORK.

OUTCOME

ATTENDANCE:

26 STUDENTS WERE ENROLLED FOR THE FIRST GRADING TERM LAST FALL. 20 ENROLLED FOR THE SECOND TERM. 23 ARE NOW ENROLLED FOR THE THIRD TERM. THE YEAR-LONG ATTENDANCE RATE WILL BE CALCULATED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THIS TERM IN JUNE.

GRADES: (ALSO, SEE ANALYSIS FOR SPECIFIC RESULTS)

THE CHILDREN SUBMIT THEIR REPORT CARDS AT THE CONCLUSION OF EVERY TERM. WE ANALYZE THEM AND CHECK FOR IMPROVEMENT IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS, OVERALL GPA AND HOMEWORK GRADES. WE COLLECTED REPORT CARDS FROM ALL 20 OF THE KIDS WHO WERE ENROLLED LAST TERM. WE USED THE FIRST TERM OF THIS SCHOOL YEAR AS THE BASE TO MEASURE STUDENT PERFORMANCE. AS MENTIONED, IMPROVEMENT IS MONITORED IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS. WE USE "NET IMPROVEMENT" TO DETERMINE THIS IN OUR ANALYSIS. FOR EXAMPLE, IF A STUDENT IMPROVED IN 2 SUBJECTS BUT DECLINED IN 1, THEY WOULD HAVE A (+1) SCORE UNDER NET IMPROVEMENT. 16 OF THE STUDENTS RECORDED A POSITIVE SCORE WITH ONE STUDENT SCORING A HIGH OF (+10). 2 SCORED A (0), AND 1 RECEIVED A MODIFIED GRADE REPORT WHERE GRADES WERE NOT GIVEN. ONLY ONE STUDENT HAD A NEGATIVE SCORE, BUT THE STUDENT HAD MISSED OVER A MONTH OF CLASSES AND TWO MONTHS OF HOMEWORK CLUB DUE TO ILLNESS. THE TWO STUDENTS WHO HAD A (0) SCORE STILL IMPROVED THEIR GPA'S AS THEY WERE GIVEN HIGH MARKS IN CLASSES THEY HADN'T BEEN PREVIOUSLY GRADED IN. THE IMPROVEMENT IN STUDENT GPA'S WAS MOST ASTOUNDING. 18 STUDENTS INCREASED THEIR GPA'S WITH ONE STUDENT IMPROVING A HIGH OF 8 PERCENTAGE POINTS. WE WEREN'T ABLE TO EVALUATE THE STUDENT WITH THE MODIFIED GRADE REPORT, AND THE STUDENT WHO HAD BEEN ILL'S GPA SLIGHTLY DECLINED. THE CLASS AVERAGE GPA IMPROVED ALMOST 4 PERCENTAGE POINTS. LASTLY, THE CHILDREN'S HOMEWORK GRADES WERE ALSO ANALYZED. THE HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT GRADES THE CHILDREN ON THEIR HOMEWORK WORK ETHIC. 3 GRADES ARE GIVEN: "ALWAYS CONSISTENT," "USUALLY CONSISTENT," AND "INCONSISTENT." OUR GOAL IS TO HELP EACH CHILD ACHIEVE "ALWAYS CONSISTENT." LAST TERM WE HAD 7 "USUALLY CONSISTENT" AND 2 "INCONSISTENT" STUDENTS. THIS TERM, WE SAW IMPROVEMENT AS WE HAD 5 "USUALLY CONSISTENT" AND ONLY 1 "INCONSISTENT" STUDENTS.