Date: April 13, 2022
To: Local Educational Agency Leads
Route To: Summer Program Administrators
From: Jorden Schiff, Assistant Commissioner, Field Support and Services

2022 Summer Learning Resource Guide

Today, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) is releasing the 2022 Summer Learning Resource Guide (SLRG) to support summer educational programing. As COVID-19 transitions from a pandemic to an endemic, the NJDOE understands that summer is another important time to support students in a variety of ways. The SLRG includes extensive resources to provide Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) with additional support in establishing, enhancing, or bridging summer education programs.

The National Summer Learning Association’s (NSLA) Summer Learning Quality Improvement Cycle includes four stages:

I. Reflect (August-October)
II. Planning (September to May)
III. Train (January to May)
IV. Assess (July-August)

The NJDOE is aware of challenges facing all LEAs and understands that each LEA may be in a different stage. The NJDOE has updated key information from the 2021 Summer Learning Resource Guide and added new items to address each stage. We encourage LEA Summer Learning Teams to begin with the sections of this resource that match your needs.

Summer learning can be an important part of our advancement of equitable outcomes for all New Jersey students. Thoughtfully planned quality summer learning experiences serve as a foundation for long-lasting, strategic systems of support. LEAs are encouraged to use American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) funds to expand summer programming beyond mandated programs and remedial courses.

To further assist LEAs with enhanced summer learning implementation, the newly created Office of Learning, Intervention and Supports will conduct three Technical Assistance (TA) Workshops. Please refer to the description of each TA below and locate the registration links to secure your attendance. The NJDOE remains committed to assisting LEAs. Please contact your Executive County Superintendent with any questions regarding the 2022 Summer Learning Resource Guide.
Technical Assistance #1
How to Accelerate Learning in the Summer
Duration: 90 minutes
Date: April 28, 2022
Webinar Description:
Summer is a time LEAs can accelerate academic, social, and emotional growth for students across the state of New Jersey. High quality summer learning programs promote equity by addressing gaps exacerbated by the pandemic. LEAs have been allotted funds dedicated to evidence-based summer learning and enrichment activities. In this webinar, participants will hear from LEAs who reimagined summer learning to provide opportunity and access to engaging learning activities while simultaneously accelerating learning and addressing the social and emotional needs of their students. Following brief presentations, the presenters will sit on a panel and field questions from the attendees.

Online Registration: How to Accelerate Learning in the Summer

Technical Assistance #2
Leveraging Partnerships with Community Based Organizations
Duration: 90 minutes
Date: May 12, 2022
Webinar Description:
Evidence supports the use partnerships with community-based organizations that could include full-service community schools that leverage existing resources and provide a construct for families and community members to bolster the school. Moreover, integrated or wrap around services where schools partner with community organizations to provide students with direct non-academic supports, has shown evidence of success. In this webinar, participants will hear from guest speakers from the Statewide Network for Afterschool Communities (NJSACC) as well as from local education agencies as they detail the increased importance of community-based organization partnerships in response to the pandemic.

Online Registration: Leveraging Partnerships with Community-Based Organizations

Technical Assistance #3
Innovative Use of Federal Funds
Duration: 90 minutes
Date: May 26, 2022
Webinar Description:
The COVID-19 pandemic has provided an unprecedented amount of funding for LEAs. In this webinar, participants will learn innovative ways to use their emergency relief funding. They will also learn how funds can be braided in order to meet current district needs in response to Covid-19 as well as assist in creating long term sustainable programming during the summer. Presenters in this session will include NJDOE staff as well as LEAs demonstrating innovative strategies with the use of federal funds.

Online Registration: Innovative Use of Federal Funds

c: Members, State Board of Education
Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D., Acting Commissioner of Education
NJDOE Staff
Statewide Parent Advocacy Network
Garden State Coalition of Schools
NJ LEE Group