



Promising Scholars

Literacy, Numeracy, SEL, Transitions

WHERE WE ARE: MNPS has a history of providing and partnering on robust summer experiences that support academic achievement including credit recovery, literacy, numeracy and STEAM programs. Evaluations of these programs show promising results, however these opportunities have historically been limited to a small number of students.

Summer learning experiences have also traditionally focused on filling learning gaps or preventing summer slide with few opportunities for acceleration. In the minds of many Nashville high schoolers in the academic middle, higher education doesn't feel like a realistic aspiration: not only do the academic demands seem out of reach, but even the idea of attending college is foreign, nebulous, and daunting. So, despite their great potential to succeed, many students are declining to pursue higher education in the first place. But what if we could - in the space of a summer - boost these students' academic skills and confidence, demystify the idea of "college," and inspire them to big dreams about their education and career?

In summer 2021, MNPS designed and launched the largest summer program in its history in less than 4 months, as well as a first-of-its-kind college preparation program for first-generation college students called University You in partnership with Belmont University. MNPS also expanded dual enrollment summer opportunities for rising juniors and seniors, and in partnership with TN Achieves and Nashville State Community college, grew summer bridge opportunities for graduating seniors.

WHERE WE ARE GOING:

Growing what Works: In summer 2022, MNPS will continue to improve and grow elementary, middle and high school summer experiences with focus on literacy and math supports, enrichment, early postsecondary opportunities and college and career readiness supports.

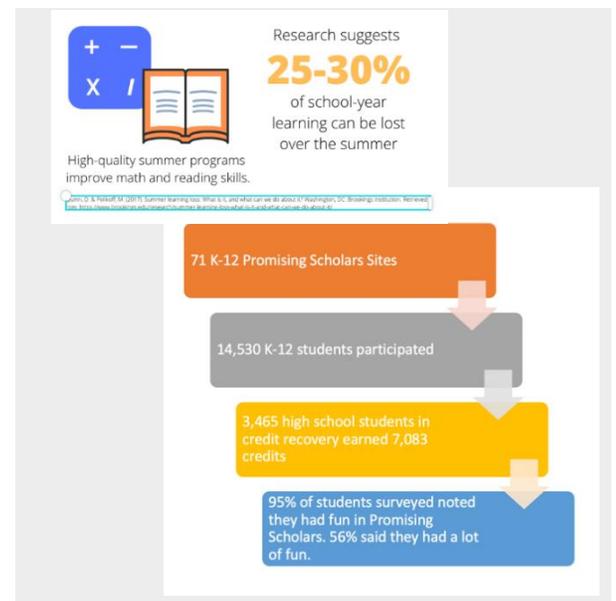
Expand University You: Continue the design and support expansion of University You, a selective, cohort-model, summer program, targeted at promising high school sophomores in the academic middle in the twelve, comprehensive, zoned high schools.

MEASURABLE GOALS:

- Expand capacity and opportunities to serve more students in the Summer of 2022.
- Increase participation among MNPS high school sophomores and juniors in University You for students to earn at least 3 hours of college credit.

AT A GLANCE

- **Challenges:** Providing additional high-quality summer learning experiences for students that close learning gaps, prevent learning loss and inspire students' educational goals are needed for more students.
- **Opportunities:** Growing what works and partnering to provide additional summer learning opportunities supports student success.
- **Opportunities:** Improved learning progress for students through increased availability and participation in summer learning programs.
- **Partnerships:** Higher Education Institutions, Non-profit partners



INITIATIVE LEADS:

Dr. Keri Randolph, Chief Strategy Officer

Dr. Mason Bellamy, Chief of Schools

Dr. Michelle Springer, Chief of Student Support Services