Dear community,

On Saturday, May 2 it was a sunny day at Newark Schools Stadium on Roseville Ave. 13 schools with 22 coed 3rd-8th grade teams came to play in the first annual Newark Public Schools Soccer for Success Tournament. The Tournament was a culmination of a 12 week club in schools utilizing the United States Soccer Foundations, “Soccer for Success Curriculum”. In Soccer for Success clubs, students learned about teamwork and nutrition in addition to Soccer. For the tournament, Elliott Street, Hawkins Street and Park Elementary took home first place in their grade groups. Since May 2, the ELT office has received numerous requests to continue the program. We are so proud of all the students that participated and the family, staff and community members that supported the students. Stay tuned to more from this partnership between ELT, the Office of Family Community Engagement, the Red Bulls, Just One Soccer and The US Soccer Foundation who are working together to bring 20 soccer pitches to NPS schools by 2022.

As we get closer to the school year ending and summer approaching, we encourage OUR ENTIRE community to make sure that the young people we know are engaged in summer learning programs. Summer Plus, the NPS Summer School program is now accepting wait list applicants. Parents can see their school clerk to add their names to the waitlist. Beyond Summer Plus, there are many additional summer programs taking place across the city of Newark and beyond. If anyone needs helps finding a program, they should visit the Newark Thrives! Program locator to find a summer learning experience that fits for the student's interests and family’s needs.

HTTP://WWW.NEWARK-THRIVES.ORG/NETWORK-DIRECTORY.HTML

In partnership,
Sarah Cruz
Special Assistant, Office of Expanded Learning Time

Newark knows Chess..

The students in our 15 Afterschool Excel programs have been learning to play chess all year long with our great partner, the Newark Chess Club. They get to put their skills to work in the 5th Annual Amiri Baraka Sr. Memorial Chess Tournament. The tournament will be held on May 19th at the Bolden Student Center. The tournament is open to all NPS students in grades K-12. Register for the tournament at www.newarkchessclub.com
Student Voices: 21st Community Learning Center at Arts High School

The 21st Century after-school program is my way to escape from school while staying in school. Through this program I made lots of friends. I’m able to go to clubs that help my mental and social qualities. Although this program is great, there are a few things I would change. I still really love the program. It’s better than being at home doing nothing. There are so many opportunities on one plate. I love it! Charayne Hill – Arts High School

Career is the focus in the 21st Century programs for 7th-10th grade students at American History HS, Arts HS, Eagle Academy and University HS. 190 students attend these programs on a daily basis across the four schools. In Summer 2018, the 21st Century Program will offer College and Career Summer Experience a the Bolden Center. Visit www.nps.bolden.org for more information.

The NPS Bolden Student Center: 230 Broadway: Each day, high school students from across the city come to the Bolden Student Center for homework assistance, healthy meals, workshops in the arts and sciences and socialization with friends. Each month, we will share our stories... All the World's a Song: Shakespeare on Jazz.

(Photograph Credit: Mr. Nieves)

On Friday, May 4, 230 Broadway was transformed into a Shakespearian Jazz Club for our High School students and the 21st Century Students of American History Middle School. In the program, Shakespeare on Jazz, Award winning composer and pianist Daniel Kelly transforms poetry from Shakespeare’s most beloved plays into original jazz songs. A treat for Shakespeare aficionados and beginners alike, as they claimed it would this show had students leaving singing lines from A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Romeo and Juliet and Macbeth. Students enjoyed the one hour performance and gave their feedback:

“\emph{I like how they took our topics and free styled it into a song. They used my word “star” and put it into the song}”-Amani Brown, 9th grade, American History High School

“\emph{They really made Shakespeare interesting through their music. It was nice to see Shakespeare in a different way}”-Jubree Adams, 11th Grade, and Technology High School

Poets of the Bolden Center...

\begin{itemize}
  \item Pain\end{itemize}

My Heart
Can’t take the pressure
It’s hurt too bad
to feel like this
People hates me
They judged me by the discrimination
Of my color of skin
They want to see me cry
Hurt & damaged

Friendships & Relationships
are very close
But I realized
it’s not there anymore
I feel like the world is
giving up on my tries & struggles
Time is timeless
Pain is now painless
But how?

-Anonymous, Arts HS
Celebrating Five Years of Summer Plus

Each summer Newark students receive summer enrichment that includes African drumming, hip-hop dance, improv, mosaic-making and more!

Newark, NJ—July 2018 will commemorate the sixth year of a successful partnership between Newark Public Schools’ Office of Expanded Learning Time (ELT) and The Newark Arts Education Roundtable (NAER) in providing over 9,000 Newark students with meaningful summer arts enrichment during Summer Plus, the city’s summer learning program. This partnership is an important example of how collective action can elevate positive impacts for Newark youth.

Serving 250 students at Camden Street School in grades six to eight during its pilot year, Project Plus—a summer learning program of the Newark Public Schools (NPS)—was launched in 2013 with the support of Victoria Foundation and Prudential Foundation. Summer learning loss, which more heavily impacts low-income youth, is recognized as a factor in widening the achievement gap. The pilot program was implemented with the goal of increasing summer school attendance, by developing and presenting a fun and engaging summer learning experience.

In its first year Project Plus provided students with morning academic programs, followed by enrichment activities led by Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey, Project USE and New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC). In 2014, the NAER lobbied funders and NPS to increase financial support for the continuation of summer arts enrichment, extending the summer pilot program to nine additional sites. NAER is a cross sector collaborative whose mission is to ensure that all Newark children in grades Pre K-12, have equitable access to and participation in, high quality and sequential arts education opportunities both in and out of school. (Continues on page 5)
Summer Opportunities...

The ELT office has served a total of 635,790 meals and 175,875 snacks served through the month of March under the CACFP Nutrition Program! We are very proud of this accomplishment and thank all who are involved. This month, 13th Ave/MLK School participated in a taste testing with our vendor, Revolution Foods to sample new food items that could potentially be on the menu. It was a great event to see and hear student’s feedback on what they like. Video from the experience can be found at https://youtu.be/0-2l-OGch2s. Thank you 13th Ave and Revolution!

We are always working to increase our number of meals served in Newark. The ELT Nutrition team participated in the Newark Thrives! Ignite Session: Connecting OST to Schools on May 8. This was a great event to network and inform Community Based organizations of the free afterschool meals and the CACFP program. Our goals are that ELT nutrition program grows so therefore outreach to the community is vital.

Reminder: The last day of meal service for 2017-2018 school year is June 8 and we are looking forward to finishing strong!
Afterschool Excel and Futures
The Office of Expanded Learning Time provides afterschool programming to students in our EXCEL (3rd-6th) and FUTURES (K-2nd) programs. The EXCEL and FUTURES programs serve over 1,400 students throughout 17 schools. The programs are broken into 3 sessions with Session 3 currently in session, running from April 2nd - June 8th.

In session 3, New Jersey Performing Center Arts Residencies provided students of Excel and Futures with three programs, Explore-A-Story, Movement Matters and Musical Theater. Another great partnership with the NJ Street Devils brings players and coaches to our to schools to work with students to teach the fundamentals of street hockey

Bolden Student Center Partner Highlight:
STRIVE: Strengthen Teens and Reach Inner-city Vital Environments

STRIVE's objective is to equip New Jersey's inner-city youth with the tools they need for productive adulthood. With office hours and activities at the Bolden Center, STRIVE offers a variety of college and career readiness programs. The STRIVE philosophy includes engaging the family for optimal success.

This May, STRIVE is hosting personal statement workshops, a Tie Dye High School Game Night and a College tour to the College of St. Elizabeth in Jersey City. For more information, please Contact Ashante at 201-754-4685 or email Ashante@strivcares.org

Celebrating Five Years of Summer Plus (continued from page 2…)

The success of Project Plus led to a second year roll out of the newly-named Summer Plus to 10 school sites. Each day students received three hours of academic enrichment in the morning, followed by two additional enrichments in the afternoon. Afternoon enrichments, including the arts, were connected to the morning curriculum and the overall summer themes designed by each school. The summer culminated with performances, project display and carnival activities for families to attend. Since 2013 Summer Plus has served nearly 10,000 Newark Public Schools students through partners including: Arts Horizons; Changing Perceptions Theatre; Dramatic Impact; GlassRoots; Music Ascension; Writer’s Theatre of New Jersey (formerly Playwrights Theatre of New Jersey); NJPAC; Yendor Productions; and the YMCA Newark.

Meeting its primary mission to provide students entering grades one through eight, Summer Plus provided high quality summer learning experiences that focused on academic enrichment along with enrichment in the areas of STEM, the arts, recreation, and social emotional learning.

Over a short period of time we have been able to measure the impact of this partnership on our young people. Data from NAER's survey of Summer Plus 2017 measuring Social Emotional Learning, reveals that students who participated in Summer Plus arts programming, showed overall positive growth in attitude toward student confidence, interest in trying new experiences, an increase in cultural competency, empathy and perseverance. Summer 2018 ushers in enrichment for 3,600 students as NPS and NAER continue to provide arts experiences to help fight summer slide and we are excited to be able to bring this experience to our students once again.
About the Office of Expanded Learning Time:

The Office of Expanded Learning Time (ELT) oversees the administration and implementation of before/after school and summer programs for NPS. The goal of ELT programming is to enhance the academic experience of students through a portfolio of quality programs and partnerships.

ELT Programs: Serving Grades
- Afterschool Futures K-3
- Afterschool Excel 3-8
- 21st CCLC 7-9
- Bolden Center 9-12
- Leagues 4-8
- Nutrition K-12
- Summer Plus 1-8
- College and Career 7-9
- Summer @ Bolden 9-12
- Sports Camps 4-12
- Explore Newark 1-8

Team ELT
- Sarah Cruz, Special Assistant for Expanded Learning Time
- Stephanie Richards, Senior Manager for Expanded Learning Time
- Kendra Burton, Manager, Nutrition and Enrichment
- Karen Ector, Senior Coordinator, 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Ilene Baldwin, Coordinator, Expanded Learning Time
- Charlyn Robinson, Community Engagement Specialist, High School
- Hassan Abdus-Sabur, Community Engagement Specialist, 21st Century Community Learning Centers
- Program Monitors: Kelly Marquis (Lead), Ralph Amendola, John Cunha, Sam Galvez, Julian Hines, James Major
- Nutrition Specialists: Christine Conaway-Way, Henrietta Spencer-Green, Deborah Cuthbert, Amiyrah Waddell, Joe Czaszynski
- Interns: Alfajiri “Nandi” Wesley, Eugenio Aranzamendi, Zahir Thomas, Angela Etienne, Masya Hammond-Watson

Coming Up in Expanded Learning Time:
May 5: Newark Public Schools, Soccer for Success Tournament, 9:30 AM at Newark Schools Stadium
May 8: Newark Thrives! Ignite Session: Connecting OST to Schools
May 18: Junior NBA Clinic @ Weequahic
May 31: Last Day of Excel Programs
June 2: Elementary Cheer Tournament, 12 PM Weequahic High School
June 2: The Chosen Ones, Youth Leadership Conference @ the Bolden Student Center 8:30 -4:30
June 8: Last day of the 17-18 21st Century, Bolden Center and Futures Programs, please look out for 18-19 Registration forms!
June 9: Elementary Basketball Championship Game @ Weequahic
July 9: Summer Programs begin!