



Building Literacy in Afterschool

Thursday, April 2, 2015

Speakers



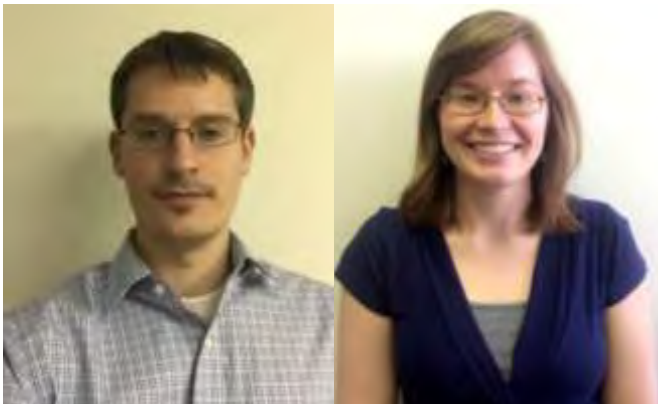
Simpson Street Free Press

Deidre Green, Managing Editor

Brianna Wilson, Assistant Editor & Teacher

Positive Direction Youth Center

Dorothy Tomlin, Founder & Director



New American Pathways' Bright Futures Afterschool Program

Peter Epstein, Education & Youth Manager

Mary Kathryn Tippet, Middle School Youth
Coordinator

Simpson Street Free Press



Madison, Wisconsin

Promoting Literacy in Out-of-School Time

Presented by Managing Editor, Deidre Green and Assistant Editor, Brianna Wilson

What is Simpson Street Free Press?

- ▶ After-school Academic Program
- ▶ Grades 3-12
- ▶ Journalism as a Portal for Learning
- ▶ Online Publications
- ▶ Book Clubs
- ▶ Word of the Week
- ▶ Financial Literacy Forums
- ▶ Geography Quiz Bowls
- ▶ Museum Trips
- ▶ Operates Year-Round



“Writing and literacy are areas where out-of-school programs can have the most impact.”

-National Partnership for Quality After-School Learning



Building Literacy Skills

- ▶ Work in tandem with what students are learning in the classroom
- ▶ Build on existing skills
- ▶ Grow academic confidence and curiosity
- ▶ Pairing younger students with older students (role-model effect)
- ▶ Individualized curriculum works for all students



Components of Quality Instruction

- ▶ Research-based, established curriculum
- ▶ Connections to the school day
- ▶ Experienced and skilled staff and volunteers
- ▶ Year-round access



Fostering Student Engagement

- ▶ Create student buy-in
- ▶ Positive reinforcement
- ▶ Showcase student achievement
- ▶ Position learning as cool





Thank
YOU! 

Positive Direction Youth Center
Bronwood, GA

Terrell Resource Center
Dawson, GA

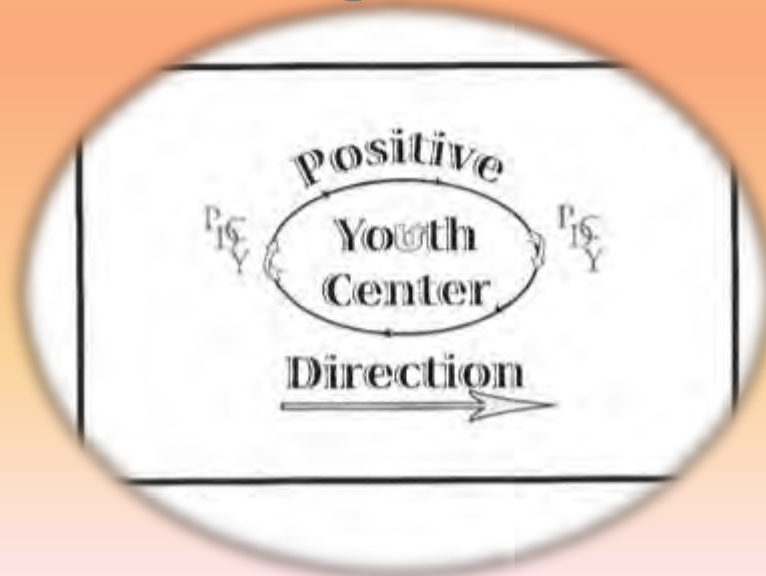
Positive Enrichment Learning Center/Carver
Dawson, GA

Positive Direction Youth Center

Dawson, GA

“Not Just A Program.....But A Unique Experience”

Serving 3 Sites



Educating One Student at a Time



Dr. Tomlin providing assistance

Responses To The Dollar General Afterschool Literacy Award

- ✓ PDYC/21st CCLC serves students at 3 different sites.
- ✓ We serve a diverse group of students
 - 95% African American
 - 3% Hispanic/Latino
 - 2% White
- ✓ We average 65 middle school students on a yearly basis with at least 50 present daily.

Positive Direction Youth Center (PDYC) was founded in the Summer of 2004, by visionaries who identified a need for youth services during after school hours. Being educators themselves, Mr. and Mrs. Tomlin knew that extra academic assistance contributed to students' academic success.

Mission Statement

To serve, strengthen, and support positive directions for youth in all areas of study. To prepare youth for a brighter tomorrow by empowering, educating, and motivating youth today.

Motto

“It Is Better To Train a Child, Than To Repair an Adult”

Vision Statement

Our vision is to assist and have a positive impact on each participant by providing academic support that transforms and empowers today's youth achievers, and to provide a supportive environment for them to grow and learn.

Our Primary Goals are to:

1. Provide academic enrichment
2. Promote good health and personal development
3. Improve afterschool attendance levels, homework completion rates and disciplinary referrals
4. Offer opportunities for parental engagement and educational development

A Job Well Done

Positive Direction Youth Center *A UNIQUE EXPERIENCE*

Dear Dr. Dorothy Tomlin:

Congratulations! We are pleased to inform you that the State Board of Education approved the FY15-FY19 grant award for Positive Youth Development Centers 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21st CCLC) program, at its July 18, 2014 meeting. For the first year grant period of July 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. Funding is authorized under Title IV, Part B of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as amended by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, and is made available for an approved project period of five (5) years contingent upon successful implementation of the sub grant and continued availability of federal funds for each of the five (5) fiscal years of the award.

The Positive Direction Youth Centers Partnership with 21st Century Community Learning Center was funded to provide academic enrichments, support and resources to students in the area of math, reading and language arts. Over the course of the years, students, parents and significant others have been exposed to needed academic learning resources that would not have been available without partnership between PDYC and the 21st CCLC. The program has inspired students and parents to become more involved in the education process. The program is comprehensive because it encompasses not just academic enhancements but social interaction, lifestyle skills and economics and parental involvement. These components are viewed as critical to students' success. Parents participatory involvement includes volunteering, working with program staff on various activities and serving as chaperones on field trips.

The success of both the Positive Direction Youth Centers and 21st CCLC program has been successful due to the commitment and dedication of the Program Director, her husband, staff who states "It Is Better To Train A Child, Than To Repair An Adult." This motto led the director to recruit teachers and staff who were committed to putting students learning a top priority.

Sub-Grantee Results For The 2013-2014 School Term

Indicators	2012-2013 State Average	Sub-grant Results	Meet or Exceeded State Average
3a-Reading/LA/English Literature Standardized Test (meets and exceeds)	85%	90.63%	Exceeded
3b-Math Standardized Test (meets and exceeds)	68%	75%	Exceeded
4a-Reading Grade Increases (fall to spring increases and those who maintained)	60%	64.78%	Exceeded
4b-Math Grade Increases (fall to spring and those who maintained A's or B's)	61%	60.87%	DNM
5c-Teacher reported improvement in homework completion	76%	96.40%	Exceeded
Total # who met or exceeded state average			*4/5=80%

CONTACT INFORMATION: Dr. Dorothy Tomlin - (229) 995-6251

Literacy-Specific Activities

- ❖ For at least 3 hours per week, students participate in direct reading instruction with their instructors face-to-face
- ❖ Students use web-based/computer-assisted learning programs
 - ❖ Study Island
 - ❖ BrainPop
 - ❖ IXL
- ❖ All lessons are aligned with Georgia Common Core Performance Standards

Services Offered

- In addition to monitoring the students' abilities to complete homework assignments
 - PDYC Instructors administer Language quizzes and Reading Assessments.
 - (The data is used to identify areas of weakness and plan for the next week's activities)
 - Individualized support is then provided to help improve the student's performance.
 - To enhance the literary skills of our middle school students, we implement research-based practices from the "You for Youth" website
 - The toolkit provided on this website addresses: literacy, math, science, art, technology and homework skills.

Benefits of the Program

Our middle school students also benefit from the increased access to technology.

- The students use iPads, as well as, Study Buddies to help enhance their cooperative learning skills and self-paced learning skills.
- To help promote reading, we participate in the Six Flags, “Read to Succeed” program.
 - All students that meet the guidelines are provided a free ticket for admission.
- Our students are given the opportunity to enhance their learning by taking cultural trips.
 - Once the trip is over, students are required to write about their experiences.

Positive Intervention Program (PIP)

We thrive to make sure that our students are not just getting by.

Through our PIP:

- Struggling students are identified.
- These students receive one on one tutoring
- Every instructor keep a running record of the one-on-one assistance provided.

Learning About the Effects of Smoking



Each Middle School student was given the opportunity to view the display, then provided a pamphlet to read.

The students visited the classes of the younger students and provided valid points from the reading of why they shouldn't smoke.

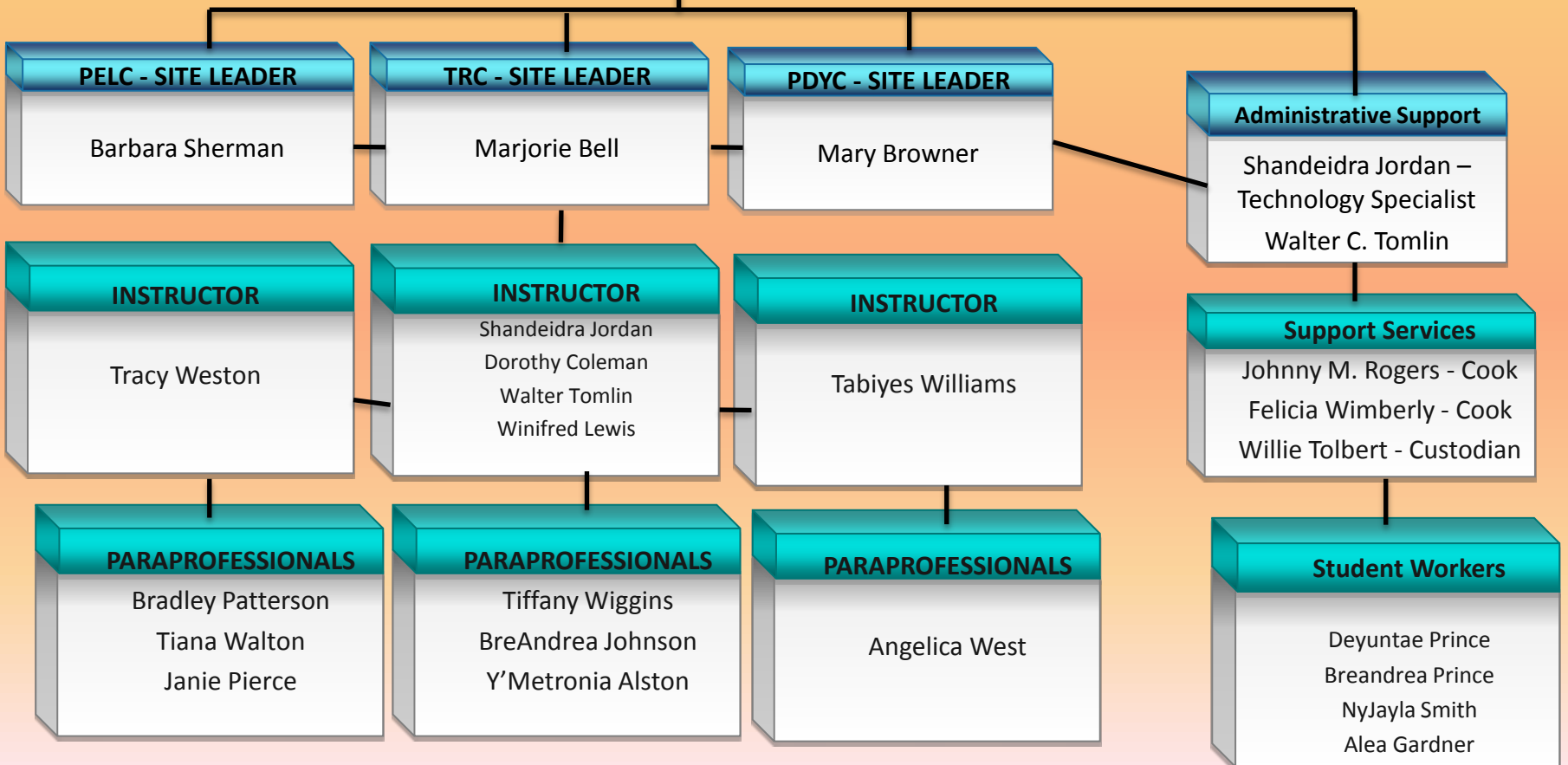
We used this as an opportunity to practice Public Speaking!



Meet the Staff of Positive Direction Youth Center Dawson, GA

Fiscal Agent
Herbert Tomlin

Program Director
Dorothy Tomlin



Learning Through Cultural events



Albany Civil Rights Museum



Coca-Cola Space Museum - Columbus



Georgia Aquarium - Atlanta

Learning Through Sports



Students from each site learning the fundamentals of the sport of baseball



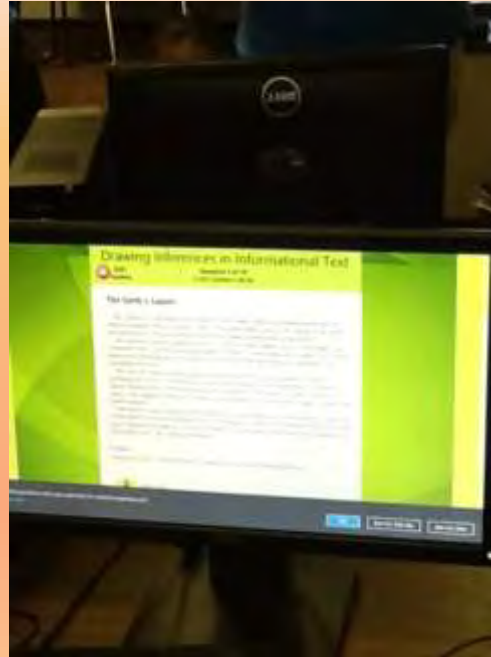
The equipment being used was donated to the PDYC/21st CCLC by Good Sports



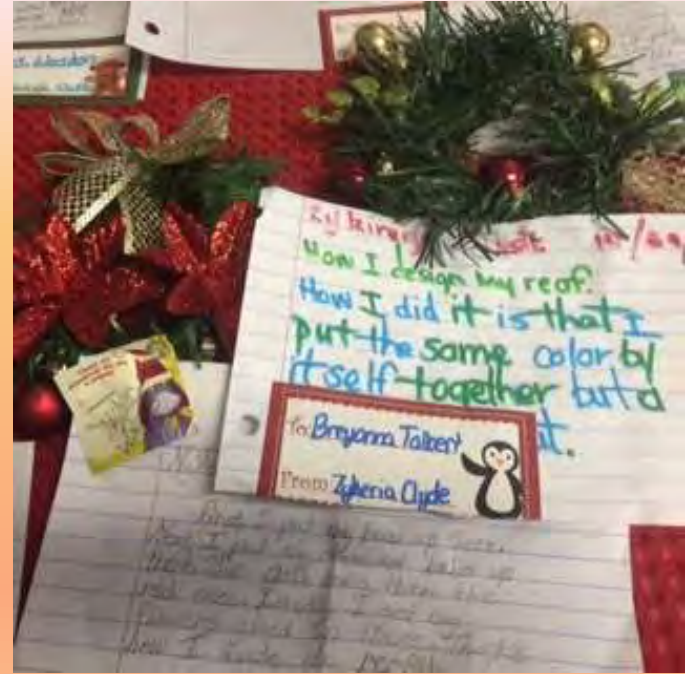
Hands-On Learning



Learning With Technology



Literacy Through Art



Students were required to write the steps followed to create their masterpieces.

Reading to Succeed



A Picture Says A Thousand Words



We Made the News

Dawson Youth Center receives grant for equipment

Posted: Oct 21, 2014 9:49 PM EDT
Updated: Oct 21, 2014 10:30 PM EDT

By Shannon Wiggins [CONNECT](#)



A Dawson Youth Center receives thousands of dollars in grant money to buy technology for their students.

Earlier this month Positive Direction Youth Center was awarded \$4,700 from the Sumter EMC Foundation and \$3,000 dollars from the Dollar General to purchase technology equipment for their after-school program.



The director purchased Elmos and i-pads for students at their three locations in Dawson and Bronwood.

"Having extra ipads and the Elmos, it just excites the kids and they want to come. They don't want to leave and they love the technology," said Dorothy Tomlin, Director and Founder.



"We believe that community involvement is one of the big things that we need to do and our members that participate in the Roundup program that's what that money is for," said Richard O'Hearn, Sumter EMC Energy Rep



Students are using the technology for the first time this week in celebration of " National Lights on After School Alliance" week.

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A Unique Experience

Positive direction offers Dawson opportunities

Updated: Feb 19, 2014 2:07 PM EST

By Dave Miller [CONNECT](#)



DAWSON, GA (WALB) - They're calling it "Not Just A Program, But An Experience."

The group is referring to activities cultivating arts, health, and wellness from 10 am to noon, at the Saturday Institute at 524 Oak Street, Dawson.

The activities for kids include Speed Reading, Skills for Success, Essay Writing, Drawing, Digital Photography, Engineering with Lego's, Art Activities, Sports, Chess Dominoes Math and the FLIP Program.

Boys 2 Men- Sponsors say: "We have aligned our schedule with that of the school system in order to offer our students a quality program. However, our Boys 2 Men component will be offered once a month."

Girls 2 Ladies- " We haven't forgotten about our little ladies. We have developed a Saturday Institute program for them as well. This program will be offered once a month, as well. They will experience, Etiquette, Computer Skills, exercise, and Professional Appearance.

Call 229 995 6251 for more.

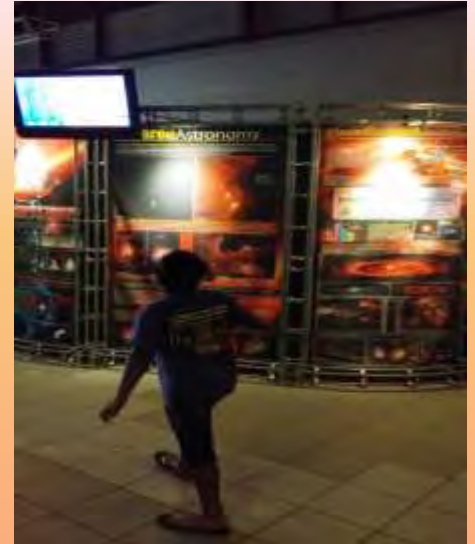
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Partnering With the Local Library



Coca-Cola Space Museum

Columbus, GA



PDYC Garden – The Beginning

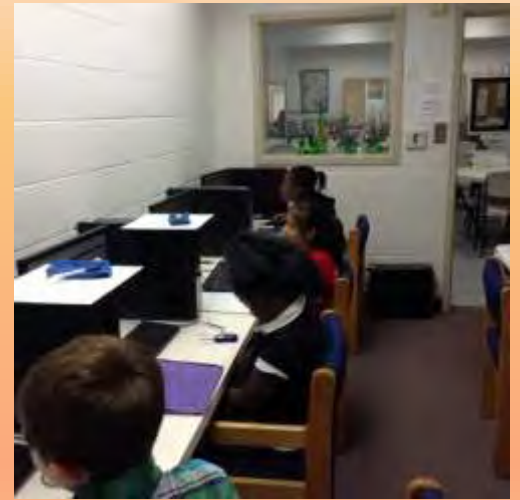
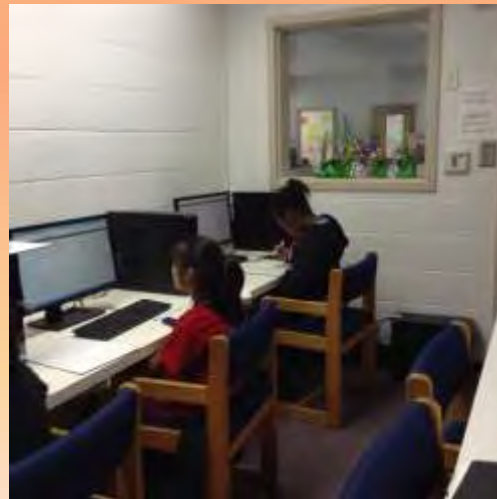


The Southwest Georgia Project, not only assisted with planting the garden, members educated students on the steps for growing healthy vegetables.

PDYC Garden - The Harvest



Work Hard/Work Smart





New American Pathways

Pathways to Bright Futures
Middle School After School Program
Atlanta, Georgia

Peter Epstein and Mary Kathryn Tippet

What do these people have in common?



Gloria Estefan, entertainer



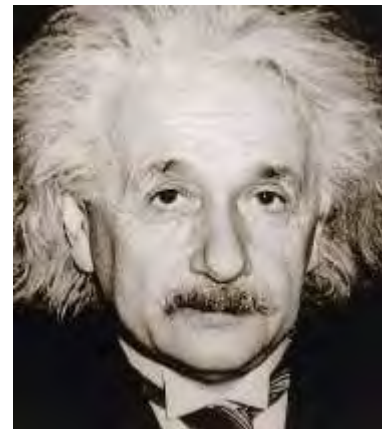
Roberto Goizueta,
Philanthropist and CEO of
Coca Cola



Luol Deng, basketball
player for the Chicago
Bulls



Madeleine Albright,
former U.S. Secretary
of State



Albert Einstein, Nobel
Prize-winning Physicist

Who We Serve

✧ Students in grades 6-8

✧ Refugee and immigrant students (ages 11-20)

✧ Students with varying levels of English proficiency, limited support services, and education gaps



Program Goals

- ✧ Teaching students to speak, read, and write English
- ✧ Grade level advancement
- ✧ Cultural and social-emotional support
- ✧ Establishing school/family connections



Bright Futures Program Model

Continuum
of student
support

+

Parent
Participation

+

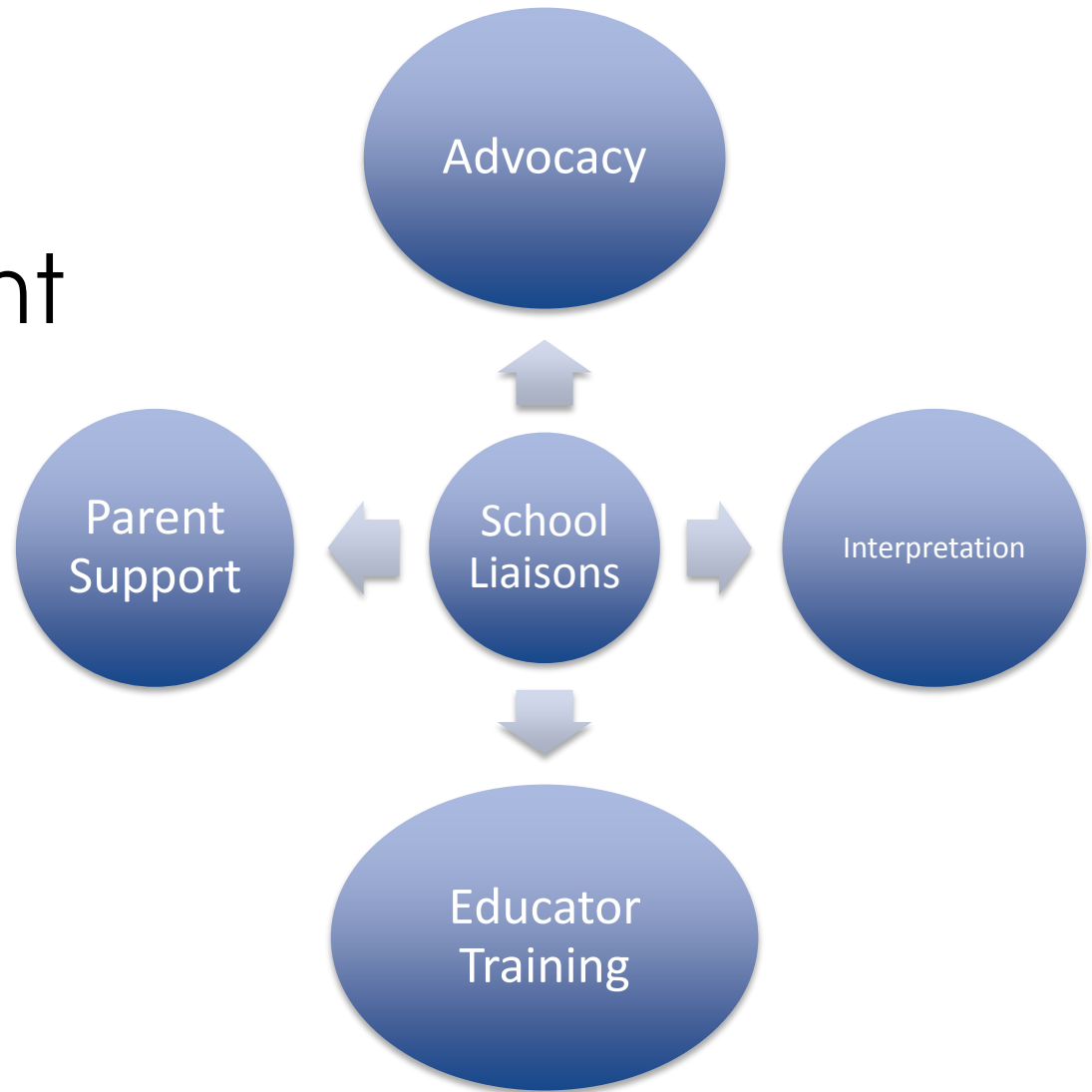
School
Involvement

=

**Student
Success**

School Liaison Program

✧ Parent engagement is key to student success



Family Engagement

- ✧ Student Applications
- ✧ Family Referrals
- ✧ Parent Teacher Conferences
- ✧ Parent Workshops
- ✧ School Cultural Orientations
- ✧ Parent Engagement Events
- ✧ Language Support (Interpretation Services)



National PTA Standards

- ✧ Supporting Student Success
- ✧ Communicating Effectively
- ✧ Welcoming All Families
- ✧ Collaborating with Community
- ✧ Sharing Power
- ✧ Speaking Up for Every Child



Our Schools

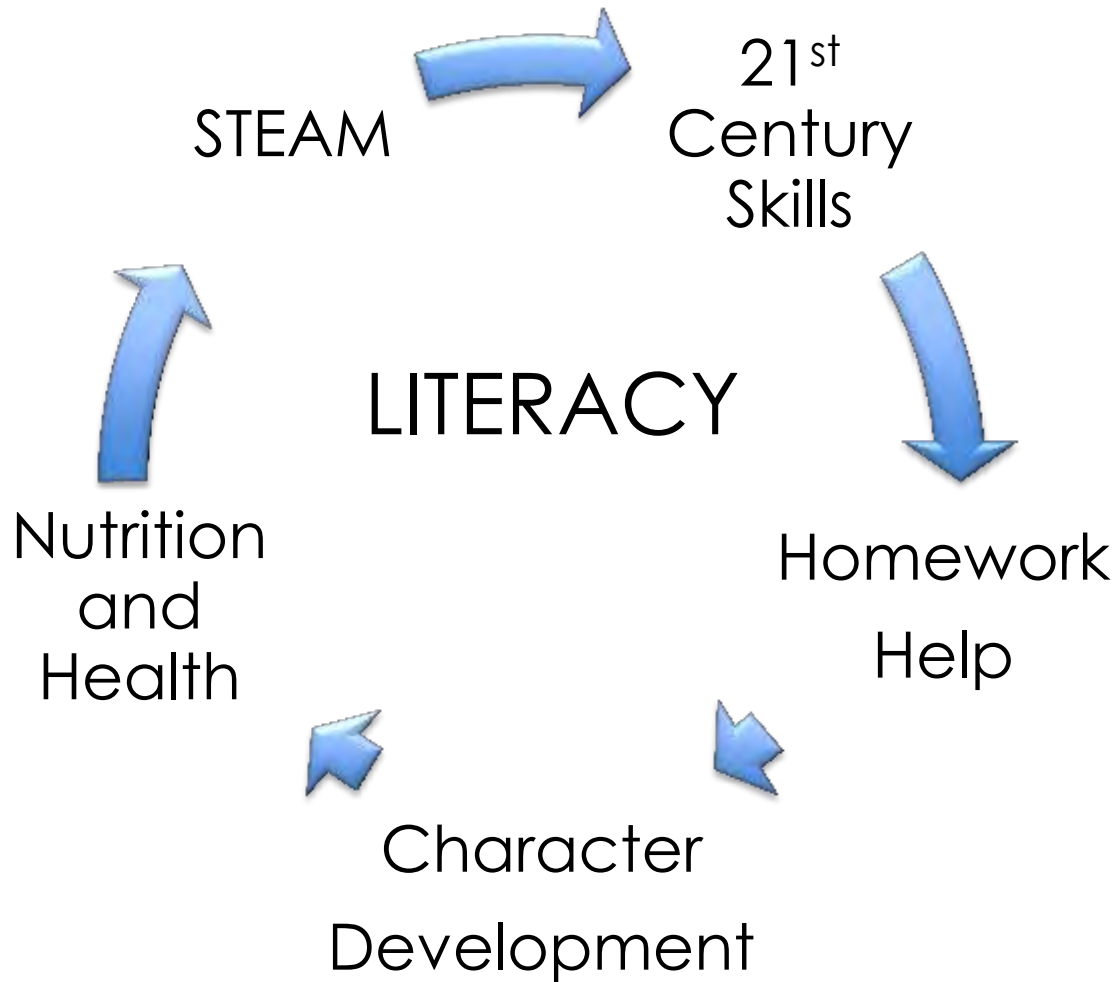
Mainstream Middle School

- ✧ Title I Focus school
- ✧ 93% of students eligible for free/reduced meals

Specialized School

- ✧ Title I Priority school
- ✧ 100% of students eligible for free/reduced meals
- ✧ 100% English Learners

Bright Futures Curriculum Focus



Literacy Focus

Reading A-Z

- ✧ Assessment and reading level placement (A,B,C, etc.)
- ✧ Participation in focused reading groups
- ✧ Tracking progress
- ✧ Practical application

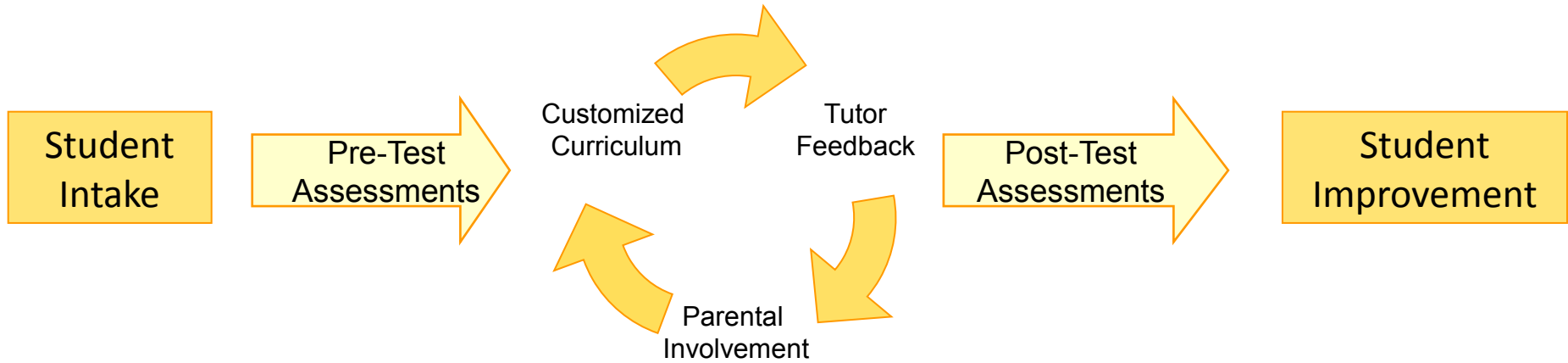


Program Activities

- ✧ Weekly Nutrition Lessons
- ✧ STEAM Activities
- ✧ Field Trips
- ✧ Community Service
- ✧ Sports



Continuous Program Improvement



✧ Data Capture & Assessment

✧ Staff Training

✧ Program Evaluation

Making Literacy Fun

- Visual Thinking Strategies
- Story telling
- Story Cubes
- Reader's Theatre
- S.W.I.R.L- Speaking, Writing, Illustrating, Reading, Listening
- Page to Stage
- Puppets
- 'Claymation'

Thank you!

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