

SCHOOL ALLOCATION MEMORANDUM NO. 116, FY 14

DATE: May 28, 2014

TO: Community Superintendents
High School Superintendents
Children First Networks
School Principals

FROM: Raymond J. Orlando, Chief Financial Officer

SUBJECT: NYC Summer Quest Program Planning

This memorandum is providing resources to schools participating in the NYC Summer Quest program. These funds will provide support in the planning of the program. NYC Summer Quest is a five-week, full-day summer learning program that provides elementary and middle school students with fun, hands-on enrichment experiences while strengthening their academic skills. DOE teachers and educators from community-based organizations collaborate to offer students Common-Core aligned instruction, enrichment activities, sports and recreation, and field trips. The specific goals of the NYC Summer Quest initiative are to:

- prevent summer learning loss and promote gains that will contribute to a narrowed achievement gap;
- support key transition periods to ensure that students are prepared for success in new school environments;
- provide enrichment to address opportunity gaps;
- strengthen parent/caregiver involvement in the educational process of their children; and
- develop an evidence base to support program expansion and increased investment.

A substantive body of current research has demonstrated that summer learning loss contributes substantially to the achievement gap between low-income and high-income students. Most students lose about two months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months. Low-income students also lose more than two months in reading achievement, despite the fact that their middle-class peers make slight gains (Cooper, 1996). About two-thirds of the ninth-grade achievement gap between lower and higher income youth can be explained by unequal access to summer learning opportunities during the elementary school years. As a result,

low-income youth are less likely to graduate from high school or enter college (Alexander et al. 2007). Thus, the vision and goals of NYC Summer Quest support this priority as the initiative and program models are intended to narrow achievement and opportunity gaps.

Schools have the authority and associated dollars to plan and develop a comprehensive and balanced curriculum to implement a NYC Summer Quest programming model. Schools will receive an allocation allowing them to establish a school/CBO leadership team for pre-program planning and curriculum development. Schools will also conduct program awareness/recruitment/enrollment events, including family information and orientation sessions.

Funds will be placed in participating school's budget in allocation category **TL Summer Quest MS Expansion Planning**. These funds can be used for per session and OTPS.

[Click here to download a copy of the School Allocation Memorandum.](#)

Attachment:

Table 1 – School Allocations ([click here for a downloadable Excel file](#))

RJO: ydr

C: Gregory Jaenicke

School Allocation Memorandum No. 116, FY 14
Summer Quest Middle School Expansion
Planning

Table 1: Schools Allocation Summary

| Cluster | Network | Location | Amount |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 94CL06 | 94N608 | 08X101 | 2,384 |
| 94CL05 | 94N534 | 08X337 | 8,000 |
| 94CL05 | 94N535 | 19K171 | 2,823 |
| 94CL02 | 94N211 | 17K484 | 3,727 |
| 94CL06 | 94N611 | 23K493 | 6,027 |
| 94CL05 | 94N535 | 23K522 | 6,027 |
| 94CL01 | 94N107 | 08X448 | 5,762 |
| 94CL05 | 94N535 | 19K292 | 2,810 |
| 94CL02 | 94N211 | 23K184 | 4,500 |
| TOTAL | | | 42,060 |