2012 Gifted and Talented Summer Programs
August 14, 2012
PPS Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) Program Goals

• Increase the number of AP STEM and English courses at every school.

• Increase AP/IB (International Baccalaureate) participation, particularly among African American students.

• Increase AP/IB exam success, particularly among African American students.

The Advanced Placement Incentive Program (APIP) grant will continue to support this initiative through district-wide student support programs, curriculum development and teacher support.
Continuum of AP/IB Services

Teacher Support

- AP/IB Champs act as a school liaison between teachers & the GT department
- Pre-AP Vertical teaming for STEM & English
- Professional Development for AP Teachers
- Pre-AP & AP Curriculum Development

Student Support

- AP/IB Champs act as a school liaison between students & the GT department
- AP and IB Spring Review Sessions
- AP and IB Summer Program
- Shmoop University Online AP Exam Review Program

Parent Support

- AP/IB Champs act as a school liaison between parents & the GT department
- Informational Sessions
- Mailers sent to homes of students with AP Potential

Increased enrollment and success in AP/IB courses
As a district, PPS has made significant gains in our goal to increase AP exam participation and performance.

**PPS AP Exam Participation 2009-2012**

- 2009: 524
- 2010: 549
- 2011: 586
- 2012: 617

**AP Exam Passing Rate 2009-2012**

- 2009: 45%
- 2010: 49%
- 2011: 53%
- 2012: 47%

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*Number of Students taking 1 or more AP exams

*Number of AP exams taken

*PPS, PA, Nation
We have also made significant progress in our goal to increase AP participation and success among African American students.

• The number of African American students enrolled in AP courses has increased by 79% in the past 2 years.

• The number of exams taken by African American students has increased by 10% in the past 2 years.

• The number of exams taken by African American students that received passing scores of 3, 4 or 5 has increased by 19% in the past 2 years.
Additionally, our student support programs have contributed to our goal to increase AP exam success.

**AP Summer Academy**

52% of students who took an exam and attended the 2011 AP Summer Academy and Spring Review Sessions received a passing score of 3, 4 or 5.

This is 5% higher than the district as a whole.

**AP Review Sessions**

56% of students who took an exam and attended the Spring Review Sessions received a passing score of 3, 4 or 5.

This is 9% higher than the district as a whole.
2012 Advanced Placement Summer Academy
Carnegie Mellon University
July 16 - August 3

- Nine content areas were offered.
  - AP Biology, Chemistry and Physics
  - AP Statistics and Calculus AB
  - AP English 3 and English 4,
  - AP US History and Psychology

- Students participated in morning (9-12pm) and afternoon (1-4pm) sessions.

- The program was staffed by 8 PPS AP teachers.

- The program was fully funded by the federal Advanced Placement Incentive grant.
2012 Advanced Placement Summer Academy Attendance

- 135 seats were filled in AP Summer Academy courses.

- 40 students attended both a morning and afternoon course.

- Students from 7/9 PPS high schools attended the program.*

- The courses with the highest enrollment were English III and US History.

- 35% of AP Summer Academy students were African American, compared to 30% of the total AP student population.

*Students from Pittsburgh Obama were encouraged to attended the IBDP Summer Program. No students from Westinghouse attended the program.
2012 Advanced Placement Summer Academy Highlights

AP Biology students partnered with CMU students from Qatar to conduct college level Biology labs at the Mellon Institute.

AP Psychology students visited the University of Pittsburgh Learning Research and Development Center where they previewed actual experiments being developed by the center.
CMU Public Policy and International Affairs (PPIA) fellows spoke on student panels about the college-going experience.
2012 Advanced Placement Summer Academy Partners

Chaz Kellem, Manager of Diversity Initiatives, Pittsburgh Pirates spoke to students about diversity and the challenges he has overcome.

The Pirates also donated tickets to all students who participated in GT Summer Programs.

CMU, the generous host of the AP Summer Academy, arranged campus tours for all interested students.

Citiparks donated the use of the Vietnam Veteran’s Pavilion in Schenley Park for the end of Academy celebration.

The Pittsburgh Riverhounds recognized the hard work and dedication of our students by donating tickets to their August 10th soccer game.
This was the first year of the International Baccalaureate Diploma Program (IBDP) Summer Program

- The IBDP Summer Program was held at Faison from July 16-August 3 and was fully staffed by 6 IB teachers at Pittsburgh Obama.

- 4 content areas were offered for both 11th and 12th graders: English, Math, Physics and History.

- 48 seats were filled in IBDP courses, representing 22% of the eligible student population.

- 72% of IBDP Summer Program students were African American.
Program Feedback

“I felt that the program went well and, most importantly, it was meaningful. I was allowed to craft my course to specifically fit the needs of the students in the IB program.”  
- IBDP Summer Program Teacher

“Parents and students need to understand that this program provides a huge head start.”  
- IBDP Summer Program Teacher

“I felt [the course] was difficult to some degree, but not too difficult.”  
- IBDP Summer Program Student

“I think these kids are here because they want to go to college.”  
- AP Summer Academy Teacher

“I learned more and more everyday, I probably learned more in these 3 weeks than I did all last year.”  
- AP Summer Academy Student

“I felt I was gaining knowledge and it was fun being with people on campus and in Oakland.”  
- AP Summer Academy Student

*Parent/Family Feedback Forms were sent out in the mail this week*
2012 Gifted and Talented Summer Programs Summary and Next Steps

• Approximately 16% of students enrolled in AP or IB courses in the fall attended the corresponding summer program meant to prepare students for the rigor of college level work.

• 60% of all GT Summer Program students were non-white students.

• Looking forward to next year we plan to continue our work by:
  ➢ Working with teachers, counselors and AP/IB Champions at all high schools to communicate the importance of taking college level courses in high school to parents and students.
  ➢ Encouraging underrepresented students to enroll in AP courses and student support programs.
  ➢ Developing rigorous and culturally relevant AP and Pre-AP curricula.