



# NEWS

OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION

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For Immediate Release

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## **District Prepared to Serve Students with Highest Academic Need in Summer BOOST Program**

### ***Additional Hires Increase Program Support to 1,500 Students***

PITTSBURGH PA June 24, 2021 – Increases in summer pay, additional paid working days, and site consolidation are among the added strategies Pittsburgh Public Schools has taken to address staffing shortages impacting its Summer BOOST program. While additional hires over the past week will allow the program to serve approximately 1,500 students with high academic needs, families of roughly 1,000 students received notification today that their students would be unable to participate in the Summer BOOST Program. The Summer BOOST program will begin Monday, June 28th.

“We are extremely grateful to those teachers and staff who stepped up to take on summer work after a long and unprecedented school year,” said Superintendent. “While we are extremely saddened and disappointed that any student will be turned away, it is because of the teacher and staff’s commitment we will be able to serve our students most at risk of losing ground ahead of the next school year.”

Students have been prioritized for participation in the program based on need, including COVID Compensatory Services (CCS) and student performances in English Language Arts and Math. In addition to reducing the number of students served, the following changes have been made to summer programming:

- Approximately 50 students slated to attend Summer BOOST at the Pittsburgh Weil facility will now participate in the program at Pittsburgh King.
- Students set to receive both CCS and Extended School Year (ESY) at Pittsburgh Conroy will now only receive ESY beginning July 12th. There will be no CCS services provided at Pittsburgh Conroy during the summer. Families will receive additional information related to the rescheduling of services at a later date.

All families have received notification related to their student’s status in the program today via robocall and/or email. All students initially signed up for BOOST can keep their District-issued devices throughout the summer to access PPS programming and resources online at [www.pghschools.org/BOOST](http://www.pghschools.org/BOOST). Families looking for additional summer opportunities are encouraged to visit the Allegheny Child Care Finder at <https://find.alleghenychildcare.org> or call the Pittsburgh Learning Collaborative Family Hotline at 412-256-8536 (English) or 412-335-7446 (Española).