

Watertown Summer School Programs Report 2009

Making a Difference...

We would like to begin by thanking the School Committee for their strong support for summer programming in Watertown. Summer programming can make a tremendous difference to students and their families providing a time to try out new ideas and new ways of providing educational services. To illustrate how powerful summer school can be we would like to share the experience of one student last summer. This student has many learning and physical challenges and in past years found focused participation in educational activities difficult.

This summer the program was differentiated to meet the student's unique needs including the identification of staff members to engage this student on a personal level. He was able to successfully complete the summer sessions he was enrolled in. His parents were so satisfied with his success and progress in this specialized, integrated program that they decided to enroll him in additional Summer Explorations sessions, foregoing their original plans for individual tutoring. Summer Explorations provided this child with a fun and meaningful summer learning opportunity where he was an active participant with peers from his own community. This student's positive summer experience also contributed to a smooth transition into his September program.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Introduction

The Watertown Public Schools provided a variety of learning enrichment opportunities for Watertown's preschool, kindergarten, elementary, and middle and high school students this past summer. The school district successfully provided summer programming to 346 students in 2009.

The inclusive preschool programs continue to be popular with families and enrollment in the preschool program increased growing from 41 (FY07) to 51 (FY08) to 53 (FY09). The kindergarten program decreased a little this summer going from 23 children (FY07) to 30 children (FY 08) and back down to 25 children (FY09).

This year the district completed our third summer in the implementation of the project-based learning model, the Summer Explorations Program, which enrolled 214 children, preschool through grade 5. This program attracted 91 children without disabilities whose families paid tuition using a sliding fee scale, 59 children paid tuition (FY07) and 72 children paid tuition (FY 08). Enrollment in the afternoon decreased a little over last year 47 (FY07) to 68 (FY08) to 51 (FY 09).

The Middle School ran 2 5-week classes serving 35 students, reinforcing their academics, social skills, and life skills through a combination of academic assignments paired with the hands-on application of their knowledge. One class focused on World Geography and incorporated reading *Three Cups of Tea*, by Greg Mortenson and Sarah Thomson (Young Reader's Edition) part of the Middle School's One School One Book program. The other class focused on Gardening and was jointly developed and supported by Watertown's Community Education Program, Watertown Citizens for Environmental Safety, and the Watertown Education Foundation. As part of the class, students created a garden in the Middle School courtyard. Their work in the garden was supported by interdisciplinary course work in the areas of English Language Arts, Science, and several relevant field trips. The class used technology to support and capture their work inside and outside the classroom using the internet to research plants and animals, MS Word to write articles, and a blog for on-line class discussions.

The Academic Summer Program at the High School enrolled 77 students a decrease from last summer when 89 students were enrolled. Students enrolled in academic classes designed to engage students in earning credits for courses they did not successfully complete during the school year. The program attracted students from Belmont (5), Minuteman (1), and Reading (1).

Tutoring in reading and math was also available to students from the Middle and High School. 20 students participated in tutoring sessions over the summer.

The rest of this Report focuses on the Summer Explorations Program which completed its third year as a summer program operated jointly by special education and community education. Given the relative newness of the program, staff continue to collect data and reflect on the effectiveness of this new structure.

Summer Explorations Program 2009

Goals of Summer Exploration 2009

- *Implement recommendations from Summer Explorations 2008.*
- *Maintain the participation of tuition-based students in a difficult economic climate.*
- *Meet the IEP requirements for summer instruction (Extended School Year) for students with disabilities, including an increasing number of Watertown children with Autism Spectrum, Language-Based and Neuro-Developmental disorders.*

Recommendations from Summer Explorations 2008

- ❖ Standardize policy across the district in order to guide Educational Teams in making recommendations for the Extended School Year. Develop a rubric or criteria to assist the Teams in determining which students qualify for four, six, and eight two-week sessions.

Evidence of Completion:

- In 2008 Team Chairs had a discussion of what needed to be considered when making recommendations for the Extended School year however a written rubric was not formulated. It is recommended that this task be completed in January 2010. The rubric should not be based on the diagnosis alone, but rather on the severity of need and the hours of services the student receives during the school year and the risk of substantial regression over the summer months.
- ❖ To facilitate successful learning experiences and reduce the number of transitions for PDD and Language-based students in grades 1 and 2, develop two 4-week courses to run consecutively.

Evidence of Completion:

- In the early spring, administration released a request for proposals for 4-week courses for children in grades 1 and 2 with Autism Spectrum and Language-Based disorders. Prospective teachers were encouraged to submit proposals that would be co-taught with a special education teacher, and that would also be inclusion courses.
- Welcome to the Jungle and Money Matters were two 4-week courses that were selected and ran consecutively for children in grades 1 and 2 with Autism Spectrum Disorders and their peers without disabilities. The courses were co-taught by a regular education and a special education teacher and provided instructional support for 31 children.
- Music Makers! and Cuddly Critters were selected and ran consecutively for children in grades 1 and 2 with Language-Based disorders and their peers without disabilities. The courses were also co-taught with a special education teacher and provided instruction support for 41 children.
- The Afternoon program was also modified and 4-week classes were developed and run for children in grades 1 and 2. The courses offered were: Spectacular Ocean , Gardening, You Are What You Eat, and Around the World.
- 2-week classes continued to be offered for children in grades 3-5 both morning and afternoon.
- ❖ Prior to the close of school for the summer recess, make sure that all ABA Program Books for discrete trials for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders are up-to-date and ready for the summer instructional period.

Evidence of Completion:

- In the spring, the Melmark consultants were charged with the task of reviewing the program books to be sure they were up-to-date.
- ❖ In order to keep students focused and active during the afternoon component, make sure the program has access to sufficient air-conditioned space.

Evidence of Completion:

- Air-conditioned rooms were provided for all afternoon classes.
- ❖ To ensure sufficient staffing for the 12:00 to 2:00 time period between the morning and afternoon courses, release a separate posting seeking applicants for the Bridge time period and in particular, encourage only staff not assigned as 1:1 instructional aides to apply.

Evidence of Completion:

- Staff hired to provide 1:1 support in the morning remained with their students through 2 p.m. to cover Bridge time period.
- A combination of morning and afternoon staff were hired to cover the Bridge time period, which provided the correct ratio of staff to students to maintain safety.
- ❖ Identify in advance students who will be participating in the Bridge Program (lunch, recess, physical activity) who will require 1:1 support to ensure their success and safety.

Evidence of Completion:

- Students with 1:1 support in the morning maintained that support through 2:00 p.m. Most often, the morning 1:1 staff person provided the 1:1 support for the additional two hours.
- An average of 54 students ate lunch daily, and participated in recess and structured physical exercise, including students with disabilities. In 2008 an average of 45 children participated in the lunch program.
- ❖ Reserve the Hosmer School small gym for daily use by Summer Exploration to provide a large space for recess on rainy mornings and hot days; and a gym space for the physical education activities that occur during the Bridge time period.

Evidence of Completion:

- This year, the gym was not rented to the sports camp that traditionally rents the space.
- The gym proved to be a wonderful resource given the rainy weather during the summer of 2009.
- All students participated in recess and the afternoon physical education activities.
- ❖ Consider restructuring the afternoon program schedule to address the challenge of the 4:30 to 5:30 period, when many students have become tired and have less energy for active participation.

Evidence of Completion:

- The teachers extended the project-based learning portion of the afternoon and moved recess to later in the day. After recess, children worked on completing hands-on projects, group activities or enjoyed guest speakers. Afternoon enrichment workshops were also offered later in the day.
- ❖ School districts are required to offer a summer program for students with disabilities at risk of substantial regression in their learning over the summer. Increasing the participation of tuition-paying students provides opportunities for inclusion and helps to reduce the expense of operating programming year round. Possible sources of new students are the private schools within the area. In January 2009, brochure information should be directly sent to the private schools. We will investigate if the iPass Data Base can be used to identify private school students who reside in Watertown and send brochures to their residences.

Evidence of Completion:

- The summer brochure was mailed to the St. James Armenian School, the St. Stephen's Armenian School, the JCD School and the Atrium School. Follow up phone calls were also made. A total of 3 private school students attended Summer Explorations. This enrolled was the same in 2008.

Notable Successes of Summer Exploration 2009

- Summer Explorations 2009 provided high quality summer enrichment to 214 students, preschool through grade 5. This was a decrease from an enrollment of 275 in 2008. One reason for a decline in enrollment at the elementary level is that last summer students with disabilities, who would be entering sixth grade in the fall, were referred to the Middle School to participate in the Middle School program. In past years, students entering sixth grade in the fall received services in the Summer Explorations program at the Hosmer. Based on recommendations from faculty at the Middle School, students from the elementary schools eligible for summer school attended the summer school program at the Middle School this past summer to support a successful transition of students to the Middle School.
- While the total number of students served has fallen this past year, the participation of non-special education students has remained relatively stable over the past two years - 44% in 2008, and 42% in 2009.
- Summer Explorations 2009 provided high quality learning opportunities for 123 Watertown children preschool to grade 5 with disabilities. This programming provided appropriate learning environments which met children's needs, preventing out of district requests and/or home tutoring.
- The Middle School Classes built on the project-based model this past summer and provided high quality educational experiences and increased enrollment from 25 (FY 08) to 35 students (FY09).
- Summer Explorations Attendance rate (85% of students enrolled) demonstrates the continued use of project-based and student choice as positive and successful

- programming. The following data depicts this success; 19% (35/181) of students had adequate attendance, 33 % (59/181) of students had good attendance, and 33% (59/181) of students had excellent attendance.
- Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) data was used to compare June and September reading skills. Of the 163 students grades K to 5, appropriate data was available on 87 students. The MAP results revealed 84 of the 87 students maintained or improved their literacy skills. Two out of the three individuals that demonstrated skill regression participated in the grade 3 assessment for the first time. The assessment administered at Grade 3 significantly differs from the Primary MAP assessment.
 - Several new and improved morning programs were implemented to target students with significant disabilities:
 - The Great Start preschool program provided integrated classrooms as well as small group targeted instruction days for students that required more intensive interventions.
 - Two 4-week courses were developed and run consecutively for students entering grades 1-2.
 - A Primary Learning Support program (previously called Primary Language-Based program) was modified to meet the needs of a growing population of children with a diagnosis related to neurological impairments.
 - A Primary Autism program provided discrete and support services to 12 students with an ASD diagnosis entering grades K through 2.
 - An Intermediate Self-Contained Autism Classroom was continued for 3 students in grades 3 through 5.
 - All Autism/ASD programs received substantial support from Melmark consultants.
 - Transportation: Morning transportation included special education vans as well as a school bus serving the majority of students requiring transportation. The school bus route and service was streamlined to use only one instead of two buses, resulting in savings of approximately \$250 per day x 40 days = \$10,000.
 - Afternoon Program:
 - An average of 51 students participated in at least one 2-week afternoon project-based session.
 - 19 Children who participated in the afternoon program had IEPs. All children were successfully integrated into classroom activities, with either 1:1 aides or additional inclusion support.
 - 11 Families qualified for Child Care Resource Center (CCRC) vouchers available to low income families.
 - By accepting CCRC vouchers and offering a sliding fee scale, Summer Explorations was able to provide full day, safe, affordable, educational

opportunities as an option for low-income families, and support families in these difficult economic times.

- Assessments: Progress reports were sent home to parents at the end of each session.

Parent Survey Information

Parent Satisfaction surveys were distributed to each parent. A total of 37 surveys were returned. The surveys asked questions related to program quality and overall student enjoyment of the Summer Explorations experience. The overall results revealed parents satisfaction with the program quality and a positive experience for their children.

Parents were surveyed for program feedback to measure both the success of Summer Explorations 2009, as well as to inform planning and design of Summer Explorations 2010. Results were as follows (see Appendix 4 for charts and additional data summary):

1. When asked to rate the level of special education or therapy supports, 51% replied adequate supports were provided, 35% replied their children did not require special education supports, 14% did not think enough special education or therapies were provided.
2. When asked to rate the satisfaction, 97% were satisfied or very satisfied with their child's experience in the summer program.
3. When asked to rate their child's participation 95% said their child had a cooperative or a very positive experience.
4. When asked to rate the content of their child's programs 75% responded that it was appropriate.
5. When asked to rate the class sizes 92% indicated the sizes were adequate.
6. When asked to rate the coordinators response to concerns all respondents, 100%, indicated the coordinators usually or always responded to concerns.
7. When asked about their interest in attending Summer Explorations 2010, the vast majority of respondents, 95% indicated that they would be very interested or at least it would be considered.
8. The transportation options were greatly utilized by the respondents; 80% of these students utilized the yellow school bus option, 14% were dropped off by their parents, and 6% rode on the special education vans.

Recommendations for Summer Explorations 2010

Program Planning

1. Offer the same number of courses that ran in 2009 to reduce the number of courses that have low enrollment and result in cancellation. A second session of a course will be added if enrollments are high.
2. Improve communication regarding registration confirmation.
3. There will be 2 substantially separate Autism programs, grades 1-2 and grades 3-5.
4. Improve access to technology for all programs.
5. Tighten up communication with the company that provides special education transportation.
6. In response to parental and student requests, the afternoon program will include one weekly offering of outdoor recreational activities.
7. Create a mission statement to guide the development of summer programming preschool through grade 12.
8. Investigate incorporating more technology into Summer Explorations curriculum through Sugar Labs training and software.

Project-Based Course Offerings

1. Summer school application will be revised to generate more curriculum content and activities to ensure enough depth to sustain a 4- week course.
2. Encourage applicants to offer curriculums which include high interest areas, (nature, sports, animals, outdoor activities, music).
3. Investigate and evaluate the option for offering a 6 week program (2 – 3 week sessions or 3 – 2 week programs for older students) rather than the full 8 week program offered the previous 3 years.

Appendices

APPENDIX 1: Summer Explorations 2009 Brochure

APPENDIX 2: Listing of courses actually offered during Summer Explorations 2009

APPENDIX 3: Afternoon Lunch Menu, Physical Education Activities and Enrichment Activities

APPENDIX 4: Parent Survey Data

APPENDIX 1: Summer Explorations Brochure

**WATERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SUMMER PROGRAM 2009**

Watertown Public Schools are pleased to present an exciting program of options for students who are looking for interesting and enriching activities this summer. We hope that our programming will help families to plan a summer of varied and enjoyable activities for their children. Locations, course descriptions and registration forms for all courses are included in this brochure. Classes are open to students from other districts if space allows. For more information on classes and the sliding fee scale please call Beth Sahakian at (617) 923-7653 or Student Services at 617-926-7767.

Overview

- 1. Early Childhood Program**, for children 3 & 4 year olds entering preschool in Sept 2009.
- 2. Looking Forward to Kindergarten**, for children entering kindergarten in September 2009.
- 3. Summer Explorations**. Learning opportunities for children entering grades 1 through 5.
- 4. The Academic Program for Grades 7-12** will offer an opportunity for students to improve their proficiency in English, Math, US History, and SAT preparation.

Early Childhood Program

A Great Start, 3 & 4 year old children

The Early Steps Integrated Preschool has designed inclusive summer learning experiences for 3-4 year old children. Classes provide center based hands-on play experiences to promote development in all skill areas. Activities are planned on a thematic basis with many outdoor experiences incorporated into the day. All integrated classes will meet three days a week for six weeks.

Date: June 29-August 7

Time: 8:30AM-11: 30AM

Location: Hosmer School

Looking Forward to Kindergarten

Children entering Kindergarten in Sept 2009.

This enrichment class offers children a preview of the kindergarten curriculum in the areas of literacy, math, science and social studies.

Learning and socialization experiences are planned through thematic units for six weeks.

Date: June 29-August 7, M-Fri

Time: 8:30AM-12:00AM

Location: Hosmer School (Mon.-Fri)

Tuition: \$525

3-Day Program Tues, Wed, Thurs

Tuition: \$275

Early Childhood Registration Form

Registration for Early Childhood Programs begins on March 2nd and ends on May 1st. TO REGISTER SEND completed registration and a check made out to the Town of Watertown, Summer Programs 2009, Watertown Public Schools, 30 Common Street, Watertown, MA 02472. Questions call Barbara Stewart @ 617-926-7766.

Student Name _____ Age ____ School _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Does your child receive support services during the school year? Please specify.

I give my permission for the release of medical and IEP information.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Fee Enclosed \$ _____ Payment Plan Requested: ___ Yes

Summer Explorations

Entering Grades 1- 5 at the Hosmer School. This summer we are again offering an exciting new approach to our elementary program. Summer learning experiences are being offered for children entering first grade through entering fifth grade. This inclusive program is designed to maximize children's interests and strengths academically and socially while stressing the acceptance of differences. **For 1st and 2nd grade**

children we are recommending two 4-week sessions instead of four 2-week sessions to reduce the number of transitions. Classes for students in grades 3,4,5 will continue to be four 2-week sessions.

Air-conditioned classrooms will provide a comfortable indoor learning environment. Each day will have a morning and afternoon component. Students can register for either half or full-day programs.

Summer Exploration Sessions

The two 4-week sessions are:

- Session A: June 29-July 24
- Session B: July 27-Aug 21

The four 2-week sessions are:

- Session 1: June 29-July 10
- Session 2: July 13-July 24
- Session 3: July 27-August 7
- Session 4: August 10--August 21

Morning Session - 8:30AM-12 Noon

The mornings of each summer session will be project-based and include enrichment activities that incorporate academic experiences in literacy, science, and math that will be explored through a hands-on curriculum. The activities will be designed to broaden and stimulate student interest in a variety of topics along with cognitive, language, physical, and social development. Services for students on IEPs will be integrated to the fullest extent possible. Support services of speech/language therapy, occupational therapy, physical therapy, school/home collaboration and school nurse services will be provided as appropriate for individual children in the mornings only.

Afternoon Session - 12 Noon-5:30 PM

From 12-1PM children will enjoy eating lunch together (included in the afternoon tuition) and have recess. From 1-2PM structured recreational time will be provided. Monday will be karate, Tuesday-Skyhawks, Wednesday-dancing, Thursday-Play Soccer and Friday-yoga. From 2-5:30PM the learning will continue with project-based learning. Classes will incorporate academic experiences in literacy, science, and math that will be explored through a hands-on curriculum. The activities will be designed to broaden and stimulate student interest in a variety of topics along with cognitive, language, physical, and social development.

Tuitions

Grades 1-2

Morning Only 8:30AM-12Noon, 4 wks/\$500

Afternoon Only 12Noon-5:30PM, 4 wks/\$500

All Day 8:30AM-5:30PM, 4 wks/\$1000

Grades 3-5

Morning Only 8:30AM-12Noon, 2 wks/\$250

Afternoon Only 12Noon-5:30PM, 2 wks/\$250

All Day 8:30AM-5:30PM, 2 wks/\$500

A sliding fee is available to Watertown Pubic School families. For more information please

call 617-926-7767 or e-mail

bstewart@watertown.k12.ma.us

If enrollment in any session does not reach the maximum number of 10 students, the session may be cancelled. All tuition for cancelled classes will be refunded.

SESSION A/AM-GRADES 1-2

Welcome to the Jungle! Gr. 1-2

Elizabeth Uccello

Grab your binoculars and your raincoat, because we are off to 'visit' the rainforest. Together we will learn about the beautiful plants and exotic animals that live in the jungle. We'll study the weather than makes these tropical places so special and we'll even create our own rainforest inside the classroom.

By the Sea Gr. 1-2

Jordanna Tanguay/Janelle Tribble

Send your child to the beach in the classroom. Students will work together to create a tide pool, build sandcastles, conduct water experiments and create ocean art. Not only will they become scientists, observing and learning about sea life, but also participants will build teamwork, literacy, writing and math skills without noticing.

Music Makers! Gr. 1-2

Sarah Patashnick/Sarah Thiemann

Do you enjoy singing and making music? We will be singing, playing games, making instruments and having fun learning about music. We will demonstrate all of our music making in a performance at the end of the session.

Amazing Air & Other Science Fun Gr. 1-2

Judy Kearney/Liz Barberio

Children will work with balloons, parachutes and paper airplanes. They will learn about the properties of air and how they affect flight. They will explore the concepts of chemistry and making balls and ramps. Children will identify, predict, experiment, record findings, observe and make conclusions from their investigations.

SESSION A/PM-GRADES 1-2

Spectacular Ocean Gr. 1-2

Christine Therrien/Gina Defusco

This is a fun filled unit all about the ocean and ocean life. Students will learn about sand, water and the sea creatures found in the ocean. Children will engage in creative art activities and lessons to create an ocean mural. Each activity will become a part of the class mural.

When I Grow Up Gr. 1-2**Elise Levitt**

Students will participate in a fun, academic and hands-on unit that explores how students can be anything they want to be when they grow up! We will be playing games, role playing and using digital media to learn about many different professions.

Gardening Gr. 1-2**Nicole Brown/Michael Boyd**

Blossom as a student just like plants and flowers. We will be planting, investigating and observing multiple areas of the garden. Student will learn through hands-on activities, nature walks, the arts and special snacks.

SESSION B/AM-GRADES 1-2**Adventures In The Rainforest Gr. 1-2****Melissa Snow/Sam Miller**

Step out of New England and into the exciting rainforest! The classroom will be transformed into a rainforest before your very eyes. We will delve into what secrets the Amazon holds such as animals, weather and resources. Hands-on experiences with exotic animals and plants will all be at your fingertips. Learn about the importance of saving the rainforest and how you can do your part to be “green.”

Money Matters Gr. 1-2**Sarah Noftsker/Janelle Tribble/J. O’Neill**

AAJackie Why money is used? Children will learn the definition of money, styles of bills and coins and how they are made. Students will also set up a store with cash registers and merchandise and practice being an employee and a consumer.

Sports Around the World Gr. 1-2**Kristin Murphy/Michael Boyd**

Students will learn the different continents of the world and have the opportunity to make their own paper Mache globes. Through reading and class discussions, students will learn the rules of each sport and then play the sport. Emphasis will be placed on following the rules, working as a team, good sportsmanship and having fun! Wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle.

Cuddly Critters Camp Gr. 1-2**Tara Curtin/Patricia Torchio**

Who can resist? Soft cotton bunny tails, and floppy puppy ears – send your child to summer school to learn about the perfect pets and handle real animals while learning reading, writing and math skills. Animal poems, books, art projects, math games – baby animals will be throughout your child’s’ summer school days.

SESSION B/PM-GRADES 1-2**You Are What You Eat Gr. 1-2****Sarah Noftsker/ Jackie O’Neill**

Students will have an opportunity to learn about a variety of areas related to food, the food pyramid and food groups, healthy eating and lifestyles. Each student will take on the role of a chef and will cook no bake recipes.

Around the World Gr. 1-2**Nicole Brown/Michael Boyd**

Grab your passports and join us for a trip around the world. Children will learn about a variety of cultures and activities from across the globe by playing multi-cultural games, learning different languages and making art projects.

Poetry Power!, Gr 1-2**Samantha Allen/Samantha Miller**

In this class children will be introduced to the exciting world of poetry. They will explore where poetry hides in the world around them and in themselves. Students will not only read and create poetry, but also learn to be expressive in other areas such as watercolor and pastel paintings.

SESSION 1/AM–GRADES 3-5**Watertown Kids News, A Production of the Summer Explorations Television Network, Gr 3-4****Toni Carlson/Danika Johnsky**

Children will work with a media specialist and English Language Learner teacher to produce, Watertown Kids News, a real kids news broadcast that will be aired on the local Watertown Cable channel and the Watertown Public Schools website. Children will write scripts, film videos and participate in the editing and production of the news show. Some components of the production will include a local news story, sports broadcasting, interviews with local personalities, cooking shows, movie reviews, weather broadcasts and more.

Sports Around the World, Gr 3-4**Kristin Murphy/Michael Boyd**

Students will learn the different continents of the world and have the opportunity to make their own paper Mache globes. Through reading and class discussions students will learn the rules of each sport and then play the sport. Emphasis will be placed on following the rules, working as a team, good sportsmanship and having fun! Wear comfortable shoes and bring a water bottle.

Theatre in the Park, Gr 3-4**Beth Fried/Arlene Rautenberg**

This class offers an experience to perform in plays, create costumes and design sets and props. Students will participate in plays as well as individual performance pieces such as songs,

poems, choral readings and enjoy performing in an outdoor setting.

Rockband-Stars Wanted, Gr 4-5

Zaida Wincelowicz/Patty Donovan

Can you feel the beat because the rhythm is gonna get you! Experience the thrill of being in a Rockband. Children will have the opportunity to create and perform their own songs as well as make their own instruments. Every day is a dress rehearsal with karaoke and Dance Dance Revolution. Students will enjoy learning the connection between poetry and making music and motion.

Art Bytes, An Intro to the World of Digital Visual Art, Gr 4-5

Amy Drago/Joanne Polci

Ever thought it would be fun to take out or add somebody to a photo, change the color or distort it in some way? Ever look at a magazine ad and wondered how they created it? Welcome to the world of digital visual art. This course will include digital drawing, photography manipulation and graphic design. Students will create original art works using the computer as their medium, create digital magic by learning how to manipulate photos to create images of fantasy and also learn some graphic design by creating an ad for a product.

SESSION 1/PM–GRADES 3-5

Horizons Art, Gr 3-4

Ryan Gonsalves/Christine Daigle

This is an intensive art course that will enhance basic skills and teach several techniques. Course will include additive and subtractive sculpture, sketching, painting and art history. For students who already love to create art and have fun doing it. After this class, artists will look at the world from a different perspective.

All About Clay, Gr 3-5

Rita Foglia/Joanne Polci

Use your imagination to create pots, creatures, masks and tiles through handbuilding and coil. Student will use self-hardening clay and will paint their creations. We will also experiment with polymer clay as well as make our own clay.

Money Matters, Gr.3-5

Sarah Noftsker/Jackie O'Neill AAJackie

Children will be introduced to the basic definition of money ranging from why money is used, how it is made and how to use it, including a brief history of currency and styles of bills and coins. Students will also set up a store with cash registers and merchandise and practice being an employee and a consumer.

SESSION 2/AM– GRADES 3-5

You Are What You Eat, Gr 3-4

Sarah Noftsker/Jackie O'Neill

Students will have an opportunity to learn about a variety of areas related to food, the food pyramid and food groups, healthy eating and lifestyles. Each student will take on the role of a chef and will cook no bake recipes.

Basketball Mania, Gr 3-4

Kristin Murphy/Michael Boyd

Students will discover what makes a basketball player an all-star. Through reading and writing, students will learn about the specifics of the sport and how this can help them on the court. Students will learn about their favorite player and share their biography with the group. Students should wear comfortable sneakers and come prepared to run, dribble and be a team player each day!

Horizons Art, Gr 3-5

Ryan Gonsalves/Christine Daigle

This is an intensive art course that will enhance basic skills and teach techniques such as additive and subtractive sculpture, sketching, painting and art history. For students who already love to create art and have fun doing it. After this class, artists will look at the world from a different perspective.

Watertown Kids News, A Production of the Summer Explorations Television Network Gr. 4-5

Toni Carlson/Danika Johnsky

Children will work with a media specialist and English Language Learners teacher to produce, Watertown Kids News, a real kids news broadcast that will be aired on the local Watertown Cable channel and the Watertown Public Schools website. Children will write scripts, film videos and participate in the editing and production of the news show. Some components of the production will include a local news story, sports broadcasting and interviews with local personalities, cooking shows, movie reviews and weather broadcasts.

Survivor Island-Watertown, Gr 4-5

Zaida Wincelowicz/Patty Donovan

The tribal council is calling your name! Students stranded on a deserted island will collaborate to survive. Survivors will complete hands-on activities including building shelters and finding food. Survivors will overcome challenges and successfully brave the island elements while having fun and participating in team building.

SESSION 2/PM–GRADES 3-5

Around the World in 10 Hosmer Days, Gr 3-4

Jen Scharf/Christine Daigle

Students will learn about cultures of children from around the world. Discover Europe, Africa, Mexico, India, and the Caribbean. Experience cultural games, folk tales, food and more. Hope to see you on our journey.

Poetry Power!, Gr 3-4

Samantha Allen/Samantha Miller

In this class children will be introduced to the exciting world of poetry. They will explore where poetry hides in the world around them and in themselves. Students will not only read and create poetry, but also learn to be expressive in other areas such as watercolor and pastel paintings.

Money Matters, Gr. 3-5

Sarah Noftsker/Jackie O'Neill AA Jackie Why money is used? Children will learn the definition of money, styles of bills and coins and how they are made. Students will also set up a store with cash registers and merchandise and practice being an employee and a consumer.

SESSION 3 AM–GRADES 3-5

Dare to Dream, Gr 3-4

Teresa Souliotis/Lisette Barberio

Our dreams are our hopes for the future. Dreams become goals for action and sustain us. Through reading, writing, music and art, we will learn that people of all ages have the courage to dream and to accomplish something worthwhile. We will explore our own dreams, strengths and talents in the course.

Ready, Set, Play!, Gr 3-4

Patrick Kevane/Brian Connors

Students will have the unique opportunity to take advantage of the beautiful summer weather at school! Students will be exposed to a variety of unique games (Frisbee golf, kickball, bocce ball). The fun won't stop there; students will actively be engaged in the classroom by integrating sports into their math, writing and reading.

Acting Out!, Gr. 3-5

Tamara Fleischer

“Act Out” is a therapeutic improv group aimed to encourage self-expression and story telling, boost confidence, and build teamwork skills. Through participating in improv games kids can have fun and “Act Out” at the same time! Students will begin to build trust as group (through group activities) and explore confidence (through individual activities) performing as well as understanding the ground rules of improv. Then students can harness their creativity and engage in individual and group work. Parents will be invited to a “coffeehouse” performance at the last session.

Rockband-Stars Wanted, Gr 4-5

Zaida Wincelowicz/Patty Donovan

Can you feel the beat because the rhythm is gonna get you! Experience the thrill of being in a Rockband. Children will have the opportunity to create and perform their own songs as well as make their own instruments. Every day is a dress rehearsal with karaoke and Dance Dance Revolution. Students will enjoy learning the connection between poetry and making music and motion.

Around the World in 10 Hosmer Days, Gr.4-5

Jen Scharf/Christine Daigle

Students will learn about cultures of children from around the world. Come with us and discover Europe, Africa, Mexico, India, and the Caribbean. Experience cultural games, folk tales, food and more. Hope to see you on our journey.

SESSION 3 PM–GRADES 3-5

Adventures in the Rainforest, Gr 3-5

Melissa Snow/Samantha Miller

Step out of New England and get caught up in the exciting rainforest! Watch as the classroom is transformed into a rainforest before your very eyes. We will delve into what secrets the Amazon holds such as animals, weather, and resources. Hands on experiences with exotic animals and plants will all be at your fingertips. Also, learn about the importance of saving the rainforest and how you can do your part to be “green.” So let's go! Head on down to the Amazon with us!

Green Art, Gr 3-5

Rita Foglia

Everything we make in this class will be made from everyday objects that you might throw away. Help keep our environment clean by creating beautiful works of art with newspaper, magazines, fabric, scrapes of wood, plastic packing material, tile and more. Students will be encouraged to bring found objects to class, such as old toys and games, fabrics, and recyclable containers to create their own expressive sculpture. Bring your imagination!!

Fit Foods for Healthy Kids, Gr 3-5

Deb Johnson

Using MyPyramid for Kids, the children will learn how to make healthy food choices from each of the food groups, as well as how to be physically active every day. The children will learn how to make healthy snacks (fruit smoothies, yogurt parfaits, trail mix, pineapple salsa, quick veggie pizza, etc.), as well how to read a nutrition facts label. Learning portion sizes will help them personalize their own food

guide pyramid so they can track their food intake and create a menu. Exercises will include a walking club, games will include "Five Food Groups Search and Rescue", projects will include making placemats, mini posters about the nutrients found in fruits and vegetables, as well as decorating their own chef hats and aprons.

SESSION 4 AM-GRADES 3-5

Ready, Set, Play!, Gr 3-4

Patrick Kevane/Brian Connors

Students will have the unique opportunity to take advantage of the beautiful summer weather at school! Students will be exposed to a variety of unique games (Frisbee golf, kickball, bocce ball). Students will also be integrating sports into their math, writing and reading.

Horizons Art, Gr 4-5

Ryan Gonsalves

This is an intensive art course that will enhance basic skills and teach several techniques. Course will include additive and subtractive sculpture, sketching, painting and art history.

Recommended for students who already love to create art and have fun doing it. After this class, artists will look at the world from a different perspective.

Native American Culture, Gr. 4-5

Jen Scharf/Christine Daigle

Children will learn about history, holidays, games ceremonies and cultural views from the Native American child's perspective. Students will learn by making crafts, playing games and literature and math activities.

Food Power!, Gr. 3-5

Sarah Thiemann

Superfoods Make Superkids! This program will offer kids the skills to make healthy food choices along with information on creating a healthy balance of food intake and physical activity. Kids will increase their independence in making good personal food choices by learning about various aspects of food, identifying Superfoods, and understanding the relationship between power in (*food*) and power out (*physical activity*). Recipes, games and other tools will offer engaging activities for a variety of skill levels. The program will include hands-on cooking activities incorporating science, math, writing, reading, and reading comprehension. The program will end with a healthy feast for family and friends created by the kids!

SESSION 4- PM GRADES 3-5

3D Art, Gr 3-5

Rita Foglia

We will work with many materials to produce 3-D art. We will "sculpt" with wire, wood and clay, mosaic with tile, or sew a stuffed animal. This class focuses on creating whimsical works that will make you smile.

Wilderness Scouts, Gr 3-5

Ryan Gonsalves

Students will develop outdoor skills and learn about environmental systems such as the web of life and the water cycle.

Fit Foods for Healthy Kids, Gr 3-5

Deb Johnson

Using My Pyramid for Kids, the children will learn how to make healthy food choices from each of the food groups, and how to be physically active every day. The children will learn how to make healthy snacks (fruit smoothies, yogurt parfaits, trail mix, pineapple salsa, quick veggie pizza, etc.), and how to read a nutrition facts label. Learning portion sizes will help them personalize their own food guide pyramid so they can track their food intake and create a menu. Exercises will include a walking club, games will include "Five Food Groups Search and Rescue", projects will include making placemats, mini posters about the nutrients found in fruits and vegetables, and decorating their own chef hats and aprons.

Academic Program Gr 7-12

Academic courses are designed for students who wish to improve a low or failing grade. All courses will be held at the **Watertown High School. Courses will begin on Monday, June 29th and end on Friday, July 31st. Each class will last two hours. Classes will be held Monday-Friday from 8:00AM-10:00AM and 10:00AM - 12:00 noon.** The class schedule will be determined once enrollment is completed. Curriculum will be geared toward building skills as well as meeting credit requirements and will be based upon the individual needs of students enrolled. MCAS remediation and preparation will be a part of the curriculum in each of the classes. Individual course descriptions are listed below.

An in-person registration for academic classes will be held in the Watertown High School Foyer, Thursday, June 26th from 8:00AM-11:00AM. Classes that are under-enrolled may be cancelled.

Cost for Academic Courses

Watertown Residents

\$240 one course

\$430 two courses

Non – Residents

\$275 one course

\$525 two courses

\$595 SAT Prep Course

*A sliding fee scale is available to Watertown residents. Please call Beth Sahakian at 617-923-7653 or e-mail:

bsahakian@watertown.k12.ma.us

for more information.

Credit

Watertown Public School students who are approved by the High School Headmaster, Middle School Principal, or Guidance Counselor and who satisfy the requirements of our Summer Program will have grades credited to their permanent school record together with their previously earned academic grade. The Headmaster or Middle School Principal in accordance with the written policy on summer school makes all decisions about credit. A Guidance Counselor will be available after the close of school one morning the week of June 23rd as well as Monday morning, June 30th in the Watertown High School Guidance Office, to answer questions regarding enrollment in summer school. Call (617) 926-7736 to check on times when the counselor will be available.

No summer academic credit will be issued until tuition payments have been made in full.

Attendance

Regular and punctual attendance is important and expected at the Watertown Summer School. Grades reflect attendance, effort and classroom participation. Parents and students should understand that no more than (3) three absences are allowed without penalty. Students must apply for an absence exemption within 48 hours of the date when they return to school from the absence. After the second absence, the student and parents will be notified in writing, by telephone or at a parental conference. **Two (2) times late to class counts as one (1) absence toward the allowed limit of three (3) absences. Missing more than half a class counts as a full absence.** Students whose absences exceed three must appeal in writing to the High School Headmaster or Middle School Principal to be considered for credit, regardless of the grade that they received in the class. Additional work may be required at the Headmaster or Principal's discretion.

Secondary Resource Support

Students with special needs who require assistance with attaining credit for regular academic courses and monitoring their skills, can

receive daily support with their academic work on an as-needed basis

Progress Reports

Progress reports will be mailed home after two weeks of class. Progress reports must be signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the summer school office. A final grade report will be mailed out within one week of the final class meeting.

Academic Courses

English, Gr. 9-12. This class will focus on the essential components of literacy, emphasizing vocabulary, language, reading and writing skills. Students will also review MCAS and other test-taking strategies. The course will include a study of poetry, short stories, plays and a novel. These reading materials will reflect reading ability, interest level and core grade requirements.

United States History, Gr 9 & 10. This course deals with the major events and issues involving the development of the nation, from the time of the American Revolution to the present. The course will start with a review of the major issues and events of the nation's founding through the Revolution to the Civil War. Emphasis is then placed on U.S. History from the post-Civil War Era to the present; on the value of history as a preparation for the future; on societal self-reflection; on the inevitability of change; on inquiry-oriented skill development; on American values; and on the development of attitudes and appreciations that are consistent with a democratic open society. The students are given the opportunity to select topics and conduct research on an individual basis. Course credit upon successful completion. Fulfills US History graduation requirement.

Algebra, Gr 9-12. This course includes the study of variables, expressions and real numbers; linear equations; functions and graphs; systems of equations; polynomials and exponents; polynomials and factoring. The depth of coverage will depend upon the class make-up.

Language Arts/Social Studies, Gr 7-8. This course will concentrate on a review of basic reading and writing skills with an emphasis on vocabulary, sentence structure, the short story and the essay. Reading materials will be chosen to closely mirror selections encountered during the school year. With the use of essential questions, students will also study a historical topic in depth. After selecting from among a variety of posed questions, students will research the answer, which will be in the form of an essay

as well as an oral presentation. This engaging activity will also prepare students for the English Language Arts MCAS test. Emphasis and assessment will be based on the following skills: written expression, research, oral expression and critical thinking.

Mathematics, Gr 7-8. Are you interested in getting better prepared for a middle school math experience or would you like to improve your math skills so that you will be prepared for Algebra and MCAS? The mathematics topics covered, including reading and writing in math, will depend upon the make-up of the class.

SAT Preparation -7/7-10/1 \$595

Summit Educational Group teaches math and critical reading/writing and will offer a ten

session SAT preparation class at WHS beginning July 7th. The course consists of 31.5 hours of preparation, including a diagnostic test to assess strengths and weaknesses and practice tests to assess progress throughout the program.

Summit's SAT preparation balances fundamental academic skills like algebra, critical reading and grammar with essential test-taking strategies, to offer a comprehensive and effective preparation program for all students. Each student receives Summit's test prep materials as well as access to its web-based Test Center. Students should expect up to two hours of homework per session. Parents receive a midway progress report. Schedule provided with registration.

2009 SUMMER EXPLORATIONS REGISTRATION GRADES 1-2

SEND completed registration form and a check made out to the Town of Watertown, Summer Programs 2009, Watertown Public Schools, 30 Common Street, Watertown, MA 02472. **Registration closes May 1, 2009.**

Student Name _____

Grade Just Completed _____ School _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

Fee Enclosed \$_____ A sliding fee is available to Watertown residents. For more information call 617 926-7766. or e-mail bstewart@watertown.k12.ma.us

Indicate your first choice with a "1" and your second choice with a "2".

CHECK ONE: _____ **MORNING ONLY** _____ **AFTERNOON ONLY** _____ **FULL DAY**

\$500/4 Weeks \$500/4 weeks \$1000/4 weeks

Interested in School Bus Transportation-Gr K-5. A school bus will be available and will make frequent stops across Watertown if there are enough families requesting service. Please check here if interested. _____

FOR CHILDREN ENTERING GRADES 1-2

Session A **4-WEEKS June 29-Jul 24** **\$1000**

Morning Program

Grade Class Title

1-2 __ Welcome to the Jungle, Uccello

1-2 __ By the Sea, Tanguay/Tribble

1-2 __ Music Makers!, Patashnick/Thiemann

1-2 __ Amazing Air & Other Science Fun,

Kearney/Barberio

Afternoon Program

Grade Class Title

1-2 __ Spectacular Ocean, Therrien/Defusco

1-2 __ When I Grow Up, Levitt

1-2 __ Gardening, Brown/Boyd

Session B **4-WEEKS July 27-Aug 21** **\$1000**

Grade Class Title

1-2 __ Adventures in the Rainforest, Snow/Miller

1-2 __ Money Matters, Noftsker/Tribble/O'Neill

1-2 __ Sports Around the World, Murphy/Boyd

1-2 __ Cuddly Critters Camp, Curtain/Torchio

Grade Class Title

1-2 __ You Are What You Eat, Noftsker/O'Neill

1-2 __ Around the World, Brown/Boyd

1-2 __ Poetry Power, Allen/Miller

2009 SUMMER EXPLORATIONS REGISTRATION GRADES 3-5

SEND completed registration form and a check made out to the Town of Watertown, Summer Programs 2009, Watertown Public Schools, 30 Common Street, Watertown, MA 02472. **Registration closes May 1,**

2009.

Student Name _____

Grade Just Completed _____ School _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

Fee Enclosed \$_____ A sliding fee is available to Watertown residents. For more information call 617 926-7766. or e-mail bstewart@watertown.k12.ma.us

Indicate your first choice with a "1" and your second choice with a "2".

CHECK ONE: _____ MORNING ONLY _____ AFTERNOON ONLY _____ FULL DAY

\$250/2 Weeks \$250/2 weeks \$500/2 weeks

Interested in School Bus Transportation-Gr K-5. A school bus will be available and will make frequent stops across Watertown if there are enough families requesting service. Please check here if interested. _____

Session 1 2-WEEKS June 29-July 10 \$500

Grade Class Title

- 3-4 __ Watertown Kids News, Carlson/Johnsky
- 3-4 __ Sports Around the World, Murphy/Boyd
- 3-4 __ Theatre in the Park, Fried/Rautenberg
- 4-5 __ Rockband-Stars Wanted, Wincelowicz/Donovan
- 4-5 __ Art Bytes-Intro to World of Digital Visual Art, Drago/Polci

Grade Class Title

- 3-4 __ Horizons Art, Gonsalves/Daigle
- 3-5 __ All About Clay, Foglia/Polci
- 3-5 __ Money Matters/Noftsker/O'Neill

Session 2 2-WEEKS July 13-July 24 \$500

Grade Class Title Grade Class Title

- 3-4 __ You Are What You Eat, Noftsker/O'Neill
- 3-4 __ Basketball Mania, Murphy/Boyd
- 3-5 __ Horizons Art, Gonsalves/Daigle
- 4-5 __ Watertown Kids News, Carlson/Johnsky
- 4-5 __ Survivor Island-Watertown Wincelowicz/Donovan

- 3-4 __ Around the World in 10 Hosmer Days, Scharf/Daigle
- 3-4 __ Poetry Power, Allen/Miller
- 3-5 __ Money Matters, Noftsker/O'Neill

Session 3 2-WEEKS July 27-August 7 \$500

Grade Class Title Grade Class Title

- 3-4 __ Dare to Dream, Souliotis/Barberio
- 3-4 __ Ready, Set, Play, Kevane/Connors Snow/Miller
- 3-5 __ Acting Out, Fleischer
- 4-5 __ Rockband-Stars Wanted, Wincelowicz/Donovan
- 4-5 __ Around the World in 10 Hosmer Days, Scharf/Daigle

- 3-5 __ Adventures in the Rainforest,
- 3-5 __ Green Art, Foglia
- 3-5 __ Fit Foods for Healthy Kids, Johnson/

Session 4 2-WEEKS August 10-August 21 \$500

Grade Class Title

- 3-4 __ Ready, Set, Play! Kevane/ Connors
- 4-5 __ Horizons Art, Gonsalves
- 4-5 __ Native American Culture, Scharf/Daigle
- 3-5 __ Food Power!, Thiemann

Grade Class Title

- 3-5 __ 3D Art, Foglia
- 3-5 __ Wilderness Scout,Gonsalves/Daigle
- 3-5 __ Fit Food for Healthy Kids, Johnson

Watertown Community Education NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION

Summer Programs U.S. POSTAGE PAID

50 Columbia Street BOSTON, MA

Watertown, MA 02472 Permit No. 8876

Parent/Guardian of:

Detach and Return

ACADEMIC SUMMER SCHOOL GRADES 7-12 REGISTRATION

SEND completed registration form and a check made out to the Town of Watertown, Summer Programs 2009, c/o Watertown High School, 50 Columbia Street, Watertown,

Registration Form

Register by mail by sending the completed registration form and a check made out to the Town of Watertown, Summer Programs 2009, c/o Watertown High School, 50 Columbia Street, Watertown, MA 02472.

Student Name _____

Course _____ Course _____

Grade Just Completed _____ School _____

Home Address _____ Home Phone _____

Emergency Contact _____ Phone _____

Does your child receive support services during the school year? Please specify.

I give my permission for the release of medical and IEP information.

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: _____

Fee Enclosed \$ _____ Payment Plan Requested: _____

APPENDIX 2: Summer Explorations 2009 - Courses Offered
A Great Start (Preschool Program)
Looking Forward to Kindergarten

Session A – AM

Music Makers
Welcome to the Jungle
Amazing Air

Session A – PM

Spectacular Ocean
Gardening

Session 1 – AM

Sports Around the World
Art Bytes
Watertown Kid News
Rockband Stars Wanted

Session 1 – PM

Money Matters

Session 2 – AM

You Are What You Eat
Basketball Mania
Survivor Island

Session 2 – PM

Poetry Power

Session B – AM

Cuddly Critters Camp- Baby Animals (2 sessions)
Sports Around the World

Session B – PM

You Are What You Eat
Around the World

Session 3 – AM

Ready, Set, Play
Around the World in 10 Hosmer Days
Act Out!

Session 3 – PM

Adventures in the Rainforest

Session 4 – AM

Ready, Set, Play
Food Power!

Session 4 – PM

Wilderness Scouts

APPENDIX 3: Menus, PE Activities, Enrichment Activities

Lunch Menu 2009

MENU:

Mondays: Chicken Fryz

Tuesdays: Grilled Cheese

Wednesdays: Pasta & Meatballs

Thursdays: Hotdogs

Fridays: Pizza

*Cheese or jelly sandwiches will be offered daily as an alternative

Afternoon snack: Doritos, Oreos, Hoodsies, Popsicles, Granola bars

Afternoon Physical Education Activities 2009

MONDAYS

New this year: Boston Sports Club trainers will workout with fun exercises.

TUESDAYS

KZMOVES, move and groove learning basic hip hop, line dances, the limbo, stretching and lots of fun.

WEDNESDAYS

Summer Karate classes are a fun way for your child to learn self-defense. Our summer program offers **Karate lessons, Ninja games, Role-playing** and other activities that provide your child (ages 5 and up) with more than regular summer routines. Taught by instructors from Craig's Kempo Karate Academy these classes teach your child to defend themselves with more than just punching and kicking. They will learn how to keep themselves safe by using techniques from our **Back off Bully program** and our **Stranger Danger program**.

THURSDAYS

Play Soccer is designed to help young players improve their soccer skills and knowledge in a safe, fun and educational environment. Our non-competitive curriculum introduces soccer players to simple skills and fun games and will develop individual skills through a series of games, drills and scrimmages.

FRIDAYS

KZMOVES will teach country line dancing, musical note counting, the conga line and, weather permitting, dancing outside.

Afternoon Enrichment Activities 2009

Jul 9 **Oceans**, Students learn about plankton, and why almost all ocean life depends on them and discover how marine mammals stay warm. Students will make their own coral reef to keep!

July 23 **Plants**, Student learn about photosynthesis and germination. They will have a hands-on look at roots, shoots, and transportation inside a plant.

- Aug 6** **The Real McCoy,** Students discover several famous African American scientists and their incredible contributions to science.
- Aug 6** **Rainforest,** Students will build their own rainforest to keep! They will also become a tribal shaman and make medicine.
- August 20** **Nutrients,** Students have fun as they test for protein, starch and fat. They become food archeologists and climb the great food pyramid. They will learn about food groups, experiment with vitamins and learn about healthy choices.
- August 20** **Survive and Thrive,** From stinky skunks to flying frogs, students' journey through the amazing ways animals survive on earth. They will also make their very own creature that must survive.

APPENDIX 4: Parent Survey Data

Thirty seven parents responded to a survey asking for input regarding: special education support and therapies, curriculum and activities, class size, administrator responsiveness to parent and child needs, registration process, transportation, interest in attending Summer Explorations 2010 and additional comments. The following graphs depict key survey questions:

