



Wisconsin Avenue School Summer School Newsletter

Wisconsin Avenue School SUMMER SCHOOL 2003 - Glen Burk and James Sayavong Editors

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PARENTS GIVEN MANY OPTIONS IN 2003 SUMMER SESSION

STUDENTS WERE ENROLLED IN LOCAL OR SUPPLEMENTAL and WRAPAROUND PROGRAMS

The five-week summer school session was held June 30-August 1, 2003. One-half of the 237 children were enrolled in the “*supplemental services*” program. Others enrolled in our *local school* program. The curriculum in each program was different and is reviewed elsewhere in this newsletter. Most of the enrolled kindergarten-5th students participated in the *all-day* program as follows:

- Bus service to school from neighborhood school sites
- 8:15 am—Free Breakfast for all children
- 8:30 am—12:30pm -*Local* classes in reading, language arts & math. The *supplemental* program was two hours each of “*SRA Direct Instruction*” in reading & math
- 12:30 pm—Free Lunch for all children
- 1:00 pm—4:00 pm - Recreation, arts/crafts, field trips
- 4:00 pm—Dismissal, walk or buses home
- Extended hours 7:00 am-6:00 pm for working parents

CHILDREN FROM AROUND THE WORLD ATTEND OUR SUMMER SESSION

Many of our English Language Learners (ELL) students were born in different parts of the world, to include: Laos, Liberia, Mexico, Nigeria, Nepal and other countries. Mr. James Sayavong, is our regular school assistant principal, and was the summer school principal of the *supplemental services* program. He wrote and won two grants to support instruction for our ELL students. The goal of both grants is to help students become proficient in English, while strengthening and preserving the child’s first language and culture. Family literacy classes were taught by Kongson Thoummavong after school and on Saturdays using Title III grant funds. She continued these lessons this summer. By the end of the summer school session, her ELL students were speaking English more fluently. Our children come from many countries & speak different languages, but all smile in the same language.



Office staff: James Sayavong, Blanca Diaz, Glen Burk and Vicky Sprinks.



ELL students and their summer school teachers.



Laos



Liberia



Mexico



Nepal



Nigeria

WISCONSIN AVENUE SCHOOL

SUMMER NEWSLETTER

WISCONSIN AVENUE SCHOOL MADE AYP
PROGRESS IN ALL TEST AREAS

During the first week of summer school, principal Glen Burk received a test report analysis from the Madison Department of Public Instruction (DPI). It stated that during the 2002-03 school year, our children achieved *Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP)* in *ALL tests*, by *ALL ethnic groups* and in *ALL other measures* of progress. This was a fantastic reward for the efforts of staff and students. Staff already was aware that the children surpassed the previous year's scores in *all areas* (reading, language, math, social studies & science) and *achieved all target goals* in our *2002-03 School Educational Plan*. This achievement moves our school from a "School Identified For Improvement" (SIFI) to an "Effective School." Our school needs to achieve *AYP* in one of the next two years to be classified as an "Excellent School." We are confident of success.

LARGE SUMMER SCHOOL STAFF SERVES
THREE PROGRAMS FOR OUR CHILDRENLOCAL SCHOOL STAFF:

Principal: Glen Burk Staff: Lerma Anacta, Elsie Basquez, Paul Bounyong, Myrna Grossman, Alicia Herrera, Kongsone Thoumavong, Susan Lemley and Howard Thomas

SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES STAFF:

Principal: James Sayavong DI/Lit Coach: Bernadette Halloran

DI Reading Teachers: Khampheua Bouakongxaya (Wisconsin Avenue Literacy Coach), Anne Martin, Patricia Pingitore, Maria Porn, Ge Yang and Elizabeth Monato

DI Math Teachers: Stephanie Blankenheim, Michelle Prioletta, Juanita Martinez, Jonathon Mudge, Barbara Reading and Bonnie Schmidt DI Paraprofessionals: Leticia Barrillas, Hilda Garcia, Luz Celia Hernandez and Migdalia Rodriguez-Torres

Secretaries for Both Programs: Blanca Diaz and Vickie Spinks

MMTEP & UW-M Students Teachers: DaLynn Brookshire-Cain, Ebony Davis, Karen Ford, Michelle Gilbert, Linda Kurth, Maurice Marshall, Kristen Nelson, Hattie Nicholas, MaxMary Offor, Shelly Robinson-Rutkowski, Deborah Tillman, Kari Tuskowski, Dorothy Vanderkolk and Michael Williams

School Safety Assistants: Paul Davis and Sheila Staten

Kitchen Staff: Cook Manager - Evelyn Bivins and cooks Shantell Campbell and Edroe Whitley

Parent Volunteers: Patricia Larry and Pat Powell

Administrators Interns: Vongdeuan Gonzaga & Daniel Xiong

Wraparound Staff: Co-Directors—Maurice Bolds and Amy Espinosa Assistant Directors—Jennifer Brown & Mary Showell. Seventeen skilled members of the recreation department wrap-around staff supervised the children on the playground, in the lunchroom, in all afternoon activities and as the children came and left on buses. Children will have fond memories of summer.

THE AFTERNOON WRAP-AROUND
ACTIVITIES ADDED FUN & EXCITEMENT

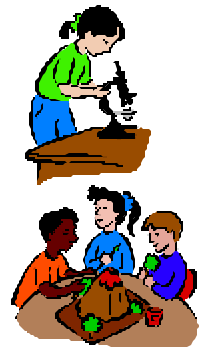
The afternoon wrap-around activities were a major attraction for children to register for summer school. Some remember the fun last summer at Grand Avenue Middle School, where we held our session due to asbestos removal at our school. Maurice Bolds and Amy Espinosa were co-directors of the afternoon program. They and their large wonderful staff supervised breakfast, lunch, extended hours (7:00-8:30am) & afternoon (12:30-6:00pm). Afternoon fun included: swimming, roller skating, scouts, sports, museum, zoo, bookmobile, bowling, violin and piano lessons, Pelican Cove water slides park, Chuck E Cheese and arts and crafts. The morning reading, math, language arts and other experiences were the *heart* of our summer program, but the afternoon fun was the *life blood*.



CAMPING TRIP - Six summer school children were selected to spend a week at Friendship Center Camp near Dodgeville, Wisconsin.

LOCAL SCHOOL STUDENTS STUDY THE
NATURAL WORLD & FORCES OF NATURE

All six of the local school classes participated in the "Urban Tree House" environmental education program led by Bradley Blaeser and the Neighborhood House staff. NH has been a "partner" with our school for many years. A few of the subjects taught were: water cycle, transpiration, living systems, energy & motion, the changing earth, exploring matter, living things grow and change. Our classes tapped maple trees last spring.



"DIRECT INSTRUCTION" HELPS IMPROVE STUDENT MATH AND READING SKILLS

Parents of students in schools identified for improvement (SIFI), due to low test scores and teacher assessments, were encouraged to enroll their children in a *supplemental service* program. MPS schools and *private tutoring services* were "providers" of *supplemental services*. Schools were provided rosters of children identified as *below grade level* in achievement. Parents of these children were *targeted* by the schools and encouraged to participate in this *NCLB Act* sanction. Nearly all of our parents chose "MPS-Wisconsin Avenue" for *supplemental summer services*. Our school enrolled more than one-half of all MPS elementary students in the program. This was achieved through many letters home, phone calls, face-to-face parent contacts and a school-wide "pep rally" to view a slide show of the 2002 summer school program. The slide show presented classroom activities and afternoon recreation field trips, crafts, swimming, sports, skating, picnics and other fun. The *supplemental* summer session included *only* children on the *below grade level* roster. *Two hours of reading* and *two hours of math* were taught using the *SRA Direct Instruction* teaching method. *SRA Direct Instruction* is a research based method that has proven successful in raising student achievement in schools across the country.



Khampheua Bouakongxaya and one of her DI reading groups paused for a smile during a lesson. Ms. Bouakongxaya is our *literacy coach*. She and Tina Johnson, a special education teacher on our staff, wrote & won a *CSR Direct Instruction grant* for \$125,000 per year for the next three years. We are confident of improved test scores and student achievement in the years ahead.

UW-M MMTEP RESIDENT STUDENTS HELP TEACH SUMMER SCHOOL STUDENTS

Once again this summer, we were fortunate to share teaching and learning experiences with highly talented MMTEP students (14), all of whom are in the two-year UW-M special education program. They taught beside the local school teachers. We thank them for the opportunity to draw upon their skills this summer. Each will be an effective teacher in MPS during the coming school year.



LOCAL SCHOOL CLASSES GO TO CIRCUS TO SEE WAGONS, CLOWNS AND ANIMALS

On Friday July 11, two packed buses of the *local school* classes went to the lakefront to see the circus parade wagons. It was a chilly morning. The children were led around the grounds in small groups by teachers, MMTEC teachers and parents. Some children fed carrots to a giraffe and pellets to goats, a kangaroo and other animals. The clowns were colorful and funny. Some children bought cotton candy, popcorn and other goodies. All had a fun time. The children wrote and illustrated stories about the circus.

SUMMER SCHOOL CHILDREN GET "JUMP START" ON DIRECT INSTRUCTION

This summer experience with *direct instruction* methods will prove beneficial for our summer school children. They will be *vanguard student leaders* in their classrooms this fall, when their teachers say, "Ready, all read the sentence." "Ready, Rosa your turn. Great!" "I like the way Tony is listening." The summer school children learned to be very attentive and responsive to teacher directions.

PICTURE PAGE OF 2003 SUMMER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES



Mrs. Myrna Grossman and her three UW-M MMTEP interns posed with kids at circus



Mr. Ge Yang, "Direct Instruction" reading teacher, instructing grade 1st students.



ELL students from around the world (Laos, Liberia, Nepal and Nigeria) all smile in the same language.



Mrs. Susan Lemley working with small group of kindergarten children on a phonics lesson .



Students enjoyed the many afternoon Wrap-Around activities that included trips, games, arts/crafts.



Ms. Stephanie Blankenheim taught "Direct Instruction" reading classes to 3&4 graders.