

2015-16 Portland & Western Library Reading Programs Executive Summary

Program Description and Participants

The Portland and Western Library Reading Programs, established in 1992, provide remedial and developmental reading instruction after school for at-risk students who live in the Portland or Russell neighborhoods, especially those enrolled at Portland Elementary and Coleridge-Taylor Elementary. The primary goal of this program is to improve students' reading skills.

2015-16 Student and Elementary Schools

Portland Library

- ✓ N = 14
- ✓ Portland (13), Maupin (1)
- ✓ 50% female, 50% male
- ✓ 57% African-American, 43% white
- ✓ 14% Grade 1, 43% Grade 2, 29% Grade 3, 14% Grade 4

Western Library

- ✓ N = 16
- ✓ Coleridge-Taylor (16),
- ✓ 50% female, 50% male
- ✓ 94% African-American, 6% other
- ✓ 13% Grade 1, 38% Grade 2, 50% Grade 3

Evaluation Results Summary

- Attendance
 - ✓ Portland = 42 days (68% attendance rate)
 - ✓ Western = 47 days median (80% attendance rate)

- Reading Skill Growth

Portland (N = 4 students)

- ✓ Pretest = 24%
- ✓ Posttest = 41%

Western (N=11 students)

- ✓ Pretest = 26%
- ✓ Posttest = 44%

- Student Engagement

Students in the Western Library program completed a survey about which aspects of the program they enjoyed.

	Percentage of students responding YES
I like to read.	73%
I like the after-school reading program.	55%
The teacher and tutors helped me a lot.	91%
I read better because of coming to this program.	82%
I like working with the tutors.	100%
I like acting out the stories I have read.	100%
I have a library card.	45%
I use my library card.	45%
My grades have improved.	91%
I like the Family Read-Ins.	100%

Success and Commendations

- Goal 1: Provide remedial and developmental reading to at-risk students from the surrounding schools and neighborhoods.
 - ✓ All students attended schools within one mile of each library site. These schools serve many students with high needs as demonstrated by high free/reduced price lunch rates.
- Goal 2: Have students in regular attendance.
 - ✓ 74% = overall attendance rate
 - ✓ 80% = Western students attended consistently
 - ✓ 68% = Portland students attended consistently
- Goal 3: Improve reading skills.
 - ✓ All students in the Western Library Reading program showed gains in post-test scores. Three (of four) students at the Portland programs showed reading gains.

Recommendations

1. Work with program staff to improve program implementation at the Portland library site.