



# Colorado's Promising Partnership Practices

## Olander Elementary School for Project Based Learning



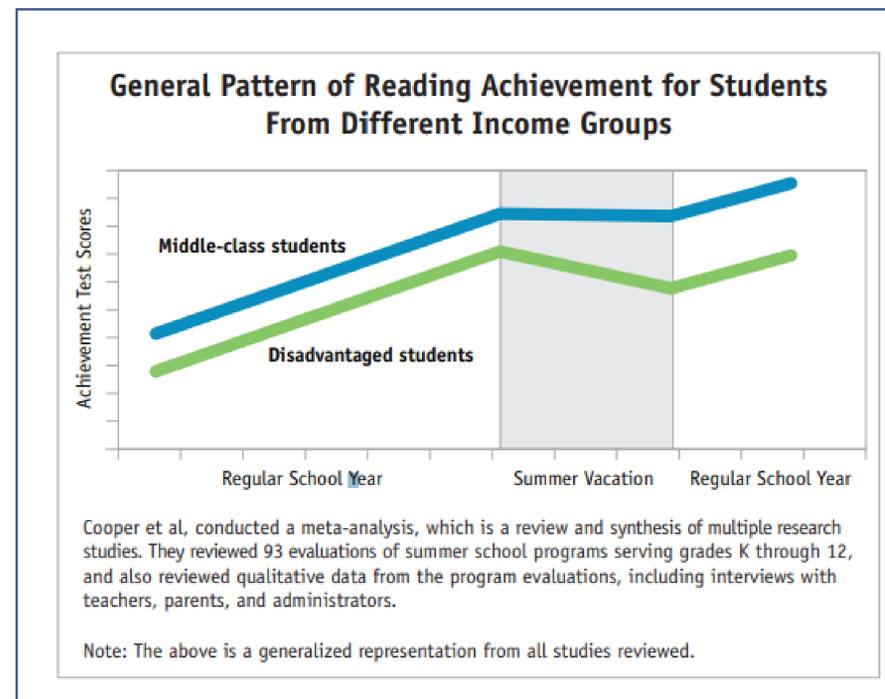
### Background

Statistically, students' scores are low following the summer recess. Scores declined over summer vacation by one month's worth of school-year learning. This can be worse for our Spanish speaking families. The idea is to provide resources and support to prevent a dip in knowledge and skills known as "summer slide" when school is not in session.

### The practice

- Our school purchases site licenses for our blended learning tools providing each student their own accounts to use both at school and at home.
- At the beginning of the year we dedicate the first meeting to showing parents what software the school uses for students to learn.
- The students work the whole school year with the applications at school and at home.
- Based on the individuality of these blended learning tools, we create an individualized packet that focuses on holes or gaps in learning.
- The ELD teacher and Family Liaison work together to create and distribute skill builder summer packets to students and families .

## BEATING THE SUMMER SLIDE



Studies show that students from lower-income families are far less likely to have access to summer learning opportunities, leading to greater summer learning loss and lower graduation rates.

"Summer is the most unequal time of the year," Matthew Boulay of the National Summer Learning Association

### Olander Elementary Website

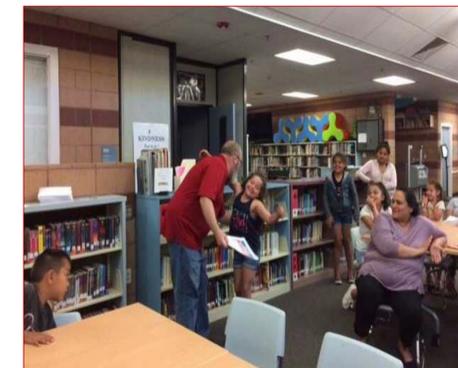
<https://ola.psdschools.org/>

### Targeted group

Spanish speaking families

- They need extra support during the summer, we meet families before the end of the school year. We meet with the main caretaker who may be a parent, grandparent, older sibling, or sitter.
- Parents feel that it is especially hard for them to help with their kids' education on their own
- Families in need, no internet or resources to pay for summer camps or programs.

### The Outcome



- ✓ At the beginning of the year we collect the packages and check the work.
- ✓ During the first months we check the students' progress using the blended learning tools and check their progress.
- ✓ Just in the second year implementing this practice, we have seen improvements in the students who worked in their packages during summer.
- ✓ We hosted a celebration and rewarded the success with certificates and small prizes for the students.

