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**21ST CENTURY GRANT
SUMMER PROGRAM EVALUATION: 2003**

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ABSTRACT

The 2003 21st Century Grant summer program served 370 students at five elementary school sites—Carver, Hodge Road, Knightdale, Lockhart, and Zebulon. Grade levels served and program dates varied by location. The summer program provided reading intervention to students identified as in need of academic assistance. Seventy-one percent of summer program participants were free or reduced-price lunch recipients (FRL), 34% were classified as limited English proficient (LEP), 41% were Black/African American, and 39% were Hispanic/Latino students. These subgroups were over-represented relative to their percentages within the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) population. Approximately 42% of the summer program participants entered the program with below grade level scores. Academic outcomes are not yet available for analysis.

PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

During the summer of 2002, summer school was available to elementary students scoring below grade level systemwide. In 2003, summer school was only available to five Wake County Public Schools (WCPSS) East Wake elementary schools—Carver, Hodge Road, Knightdale, Lockhart, and Zebulon—recipients the 21st Century Grant. The sessions were held from June 5th through July 2nd. The length of the program varied by school. Each school’s program was held for 15 to 20 days. The grant served four schools in 2002. Knightdale was added to the schools receiving the 21st Century Grant in 2003. Two program locations (Carver and Hodge Road) added students in kindergarten and 1st grade. As a result the 21st Century 2003 summer program served 84 more students than in 2002.

The program day began at 8:00 AM and ended at 1:30 PM. Overall the summer program served 370 students in grades K-5 ranging from 41 to 127 students by site. The program provided reading intervention to students identified as needing academic assistance. Each school chose its own curriculum. All of the 2003 21st Century Grant schools used the Voyager

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curriculum in the summer of 2002 (See E&R Report No. 03.02, Voyager Summer Academy 2002 Results). Knightdale and Hodge Road also used the Voyager curriculum in the summer of 2003, but the other three schools did not choose to use the Voyager curriculum. At these schools the teachers, site coordinators, and principal chose the curriculum activities. Teachers were given the freedom to make adjustments as needed. A teacher from Hodge Road who had experience with the Voyager curriculum provided a half-day training session to seven teachers at Knightdale who were unfamiliar with this curriculum.

Figure 1
21st Century Grant Summer Program
2003

School	Dates	Number of Days	Number of Students	Grade Levels Served	Curriculum
<i>Carver</i>	June 5 – June 27	17	85	K-4	School Designed
<i>Hodge Road</i>	June 9 – July 2	18	127	K-5	Voyager
<i>Knightdale</i>	June 9 – June 27	15	56	2-4	Voyager
<i>Lockhart</i>	June 5 – July 2	20	61	2-5	School Designed
<i>Zebulon</i>	June 9 – July 2	18	41	2-4	School Designed

POPULATION SERVED

Guidelines for student selection were broader than in 2002 and varied by campus. K-5 students who scored below grade level on EOG or local reading assessments, those recommended by teachers, and/or those students with Limited English Proficient (LEP) status were invited to attend the 2003 summer program. At K-2, the possibility of retention was also considered as a criterion for selection. The grade levels served also varied by school. Thus, low test scores were only one of several criteria used, and schools were given more leeway in the selection criteria. Limited data were provided on recruitment efforts. Overall, 370 students were served in the East Wake 21st Century Grant summer program. Students in grades 3-5 were invited based on their EOG level and teacher recommendations. Students in grades K-2 were invited based on their reading book level, the possibility of retention, and teacher recommendations. LEP students were given particular consideration due to concern over their ability to retain reading skills over the summer.

Similar to the 2002 summer program, the highest percentages of students enrolled were low income (as measured by free or reduced-price lunch participation [FRL]) and Black/African American. One notable change in the summer program demographics between 2002 and 2003 is the substantial increase in LEP and Hispanic/Latino students served (see Figures 2 and 3). The percentage of participants that were LEP and Hispanic/Latino more than doubled. FRL, LEP, Black/African American, and Hispanic/Latino students were over-represented relative to their percentages within the WCPSS population.

Figure 2
21st Century Grant Summer School Program
Demographics by NCLB* Subgroups: 2002 and 2003
Grades K-5

Subgroup	2002		2003	
	Grades 2-5		Grades K-5	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asian	4	1.4%	10	2.7%
Black/African American	147	51.4%	153	41.5%
American Indian	4	1.4%	1	0.3%
Hispanic/Latino	58	20.3%	144	39.0%
White	70	24.5%	50	13.6%
Multiracial	3	1.1%	11	3.0%
FRL	196	68.5%	262	71.0%
LEP	43	15.0%	124	33.6%
Students with disabilities	85	29.7%	72	19.5%
Total Number of Students Served	286		370	

* NCLB—No Child Left Behind

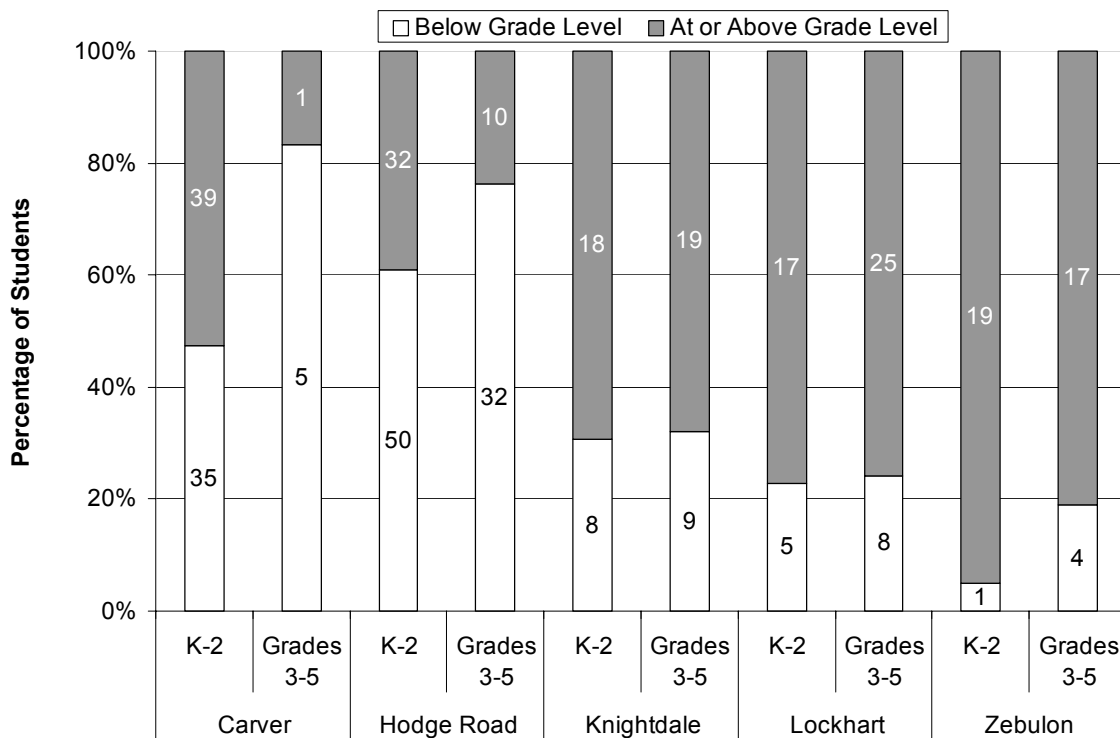
Figure 3
21st Century Grant Summer School Program
Demographics by NCLB Subgroups: 2002 and 2003
Grades 3-5

Subgroup	2002		2003	
	Grades 3-5		Grades 3-5	
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Asian	1	0.6%	4	2.8%
Black/African American	98	58.3%	73	51.4%
American Indian	0	0.0%	1	0.7%
Hispanic/Latino	27	16.1%	42	29.6%
White	41	24.4%	19	13.4%
Multi-Racial	1	0.6%	3	2.1%
FRL	115	68.5%	91	64.1%
LEP	17	10.1%	34	23.9%
Students with disabilities	58	34.5%	42	29.6%
Total Number of Students in Grades 3-5 Served	168		142	

More than 50% of summer school students performed at or above grade level prior to the summer program.

- 55% of the grade 3-5 students were at or above grade level on the Reading EOG (Level III or IV) prior to summer school.
- 56% of the students in grades K-2 were at or above grade level local standards prior to summer school.
- The percentage at or above grade level before service varied by school.

Figure 4
Student Participation in Summer Program
By May 2003 Test Score Status



Service to Low Achievers Grades 3-5

Of the 209 students who attended the five East Wake elementary schools and scored at Level I or II in reading on the May 2003 EOG, 58 (28%) participated in the summer program.

- The total number of students who scored below grade level on the May 2003 EOG Reading test ranged from 13 to 60 by school.
- Of students who scored below grade level on the May 2003 EOG Reading test, 7% to 68% were served by the summer program (by campus).

Figure 5
Number and Percentage of Students Below Grade Level
Served by Summer Program
(May 2003 EOG Reading Test)

School	Total Number Level I & II on May EOG	Number Level I & II Served	% of Level I & II Served	Total Students in Grades 3-5 Served
<i>Carver</i>	54	5	9%	8
<i>Hodge Road</i>	47	32	68%	44
<i>Knightdale</i>	35	9	26%	30
<i>Lockhart</i>	13	8	62%	39
<i>Zebulon</i>	60	4	7%	21
Total	209	58	28%	142

Overall, fifty-one percent of summer school students in grades 3-5 entered the program with EOG scores at or above grade level. Less than 1% of summer school students in 2002 scored at or above grade level upon entry, when guidelines were more specific.

- By school, the number and percentage of students entering the program with on-grade-level scores varied greatly (see Figure 6). The number of students entering the summer program with EOG scores at or above grade level ranged from one to 25.
- Between 13% to 81% (by school) of students served by the summer program scored above grade level on the May EOG Reading test (prior to the summer program).

Figure 6
Number and Percentage of Students Served in Summer Program
Who Scored Level III or IV on the
May 2003 EOG Reading Test

School	Total Number Level III or IV on May EOG	Total Students in Grades 3-5 Served	Number of Level III & IV Served	% Served Who Scored At or Above Grade Level Prior to Summer Program
<i>Carver</i>	237	8	1	13%
<i>Hodge Road</i>	259	44	10	23%
<i>Knightdale</i>	298	30	19	63%
<i>Lockhart</i>	299	39	25	64%
<i>Zebulon</i>	273	21	17	81%

Service to Low Achievers (Grades K-2)

Among K-2 students served by the summer program 56% were at or above grade level before participation.

- 55% of Kindergarten students in the 2003 summer program were below grade level.
- 49% of 1st grade students in the 2003 summer program were below grade level.
- 40% of 2nd grade students in the 2003 summer program were below grade level.

Figure 7
Number and Percentage of Students Below Grade Level
Served by Summer Program
Grades K-2 (Book Level)

School	Total Number Below Grade Level	Number Below Grade Level Served	% of Below Grade Level Served	Total Students in Grades K-2 Served
<i>Carver</i>	109	35	32%	77
<i>Hodge Road</i>	78	50	64%	83
<i>Knightdale</i>	102	8	8%	26
<i>Lockhart</i>	65	5	8%	22
<i>Zebulon</i>	70	1	1%	20

Figure 8
Number and Percentage of Students Served in Summer Program
Who Scored Above Grade Level on the
2003 Book Level (Grades K-2)

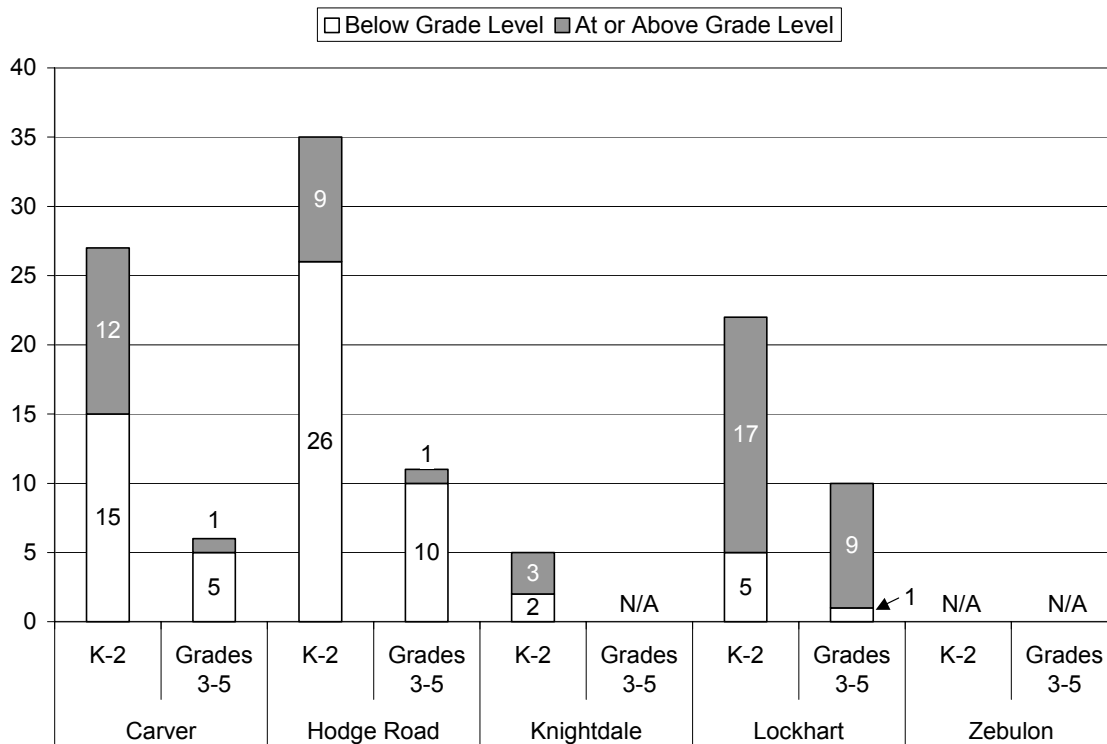
School	Total Number with Book Level Score At or Above Grade Level	Total Students in Grades K-2 Served	Number At or Above Grade Level Served	% Served Who Scored On or Above Grade Level Prior to Summer Program
<i>Carver</i>	321	77	39	51%
<i>Hodge Road</i>	326	83	32	39%
<i>Knightdale</i>	391	26	18	69%
<i>Lockhart</i>	401	22	17	77%
<i>Zebulon</i>	371	20	19	95%

Service to LEP Students

Some schools chose to emphasize LEP student participation in summer school, and some served considerably more LEP students than others (from 0 at Zebulon to 46 at Hodge Road). At all schools, the number of LEP students served was higher at the K-2 than the 3-5 grade spans. A higher percentage of LEP than non-LEP students entered the summer program below grade level. More than 50% of LEP summer school students performed below grade level prior to the summer program.

- 59% of grade 3-5 LEP students were below grade level on the Reading EOG (Level I or II) prior to summer school.
- 54% of LEP students in grades K-2 were below grade level local standards prior to summer school.

**Figure 9
LEP Student Participation in Summer Program**



Note: N/A represents no LEP students served by the summer program within that category

STUDENT OUTCOMES

Very little outcome information is available on the 2003 summer school. Evaluation & Research Department staff were provided with data on student attendance, but no consistent testing took place at the end of summer school, and arrangements were not made to collect K-2 data for

participants from schools in the fall. Measures used in 2002 were not available. The 21st Century grant, which funded the program, did not require that this data be provided.

The assessment generally used to measure academic performance in grades 3-5 is EOG tests in reading and mathematics. For the 2002 summer school, we compared test scores from May to those earned on retests at the end of summer school. However, this was not possible in 2003. The EOG was initially given in May, with the first retest offered one week later. A second retest was offered districtwide from June 9th through June 13th during the first week of the summer program. Carver, Hodge Road, Knightdale, and Zebulon followed the district scheduled and offered retest 2 during the first few days of summer school. Lockhart Elementary offered EOG retest 2 on July 1 and 2. Most summer school students did not take EOG retest 2. Five students at Lockhart Elementary took retest 2 following the 2003 summer program.

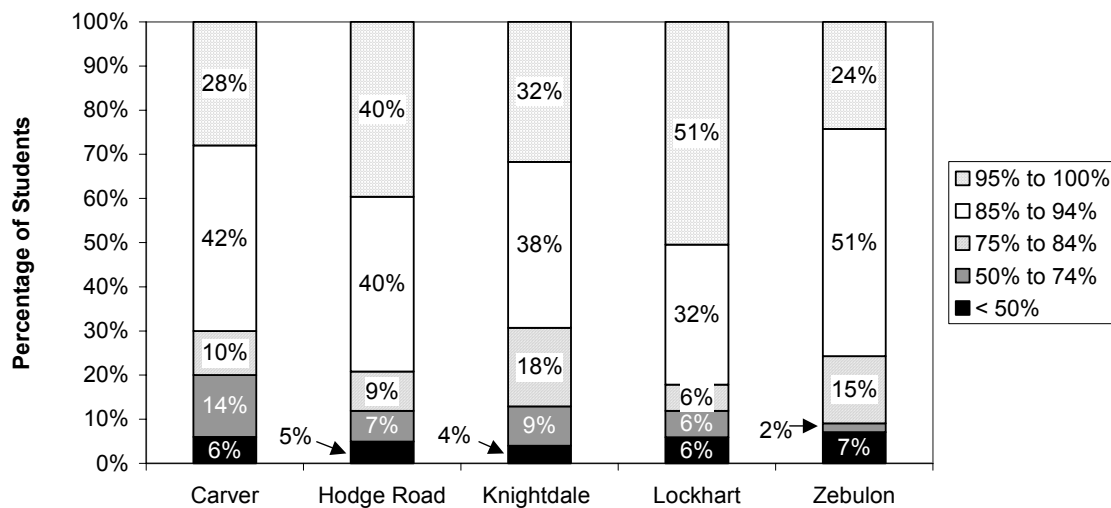
At grades K-2, the K-2 assessments which provide information on students' book level data was only available for the spring of 2002-03 at the time of this evaluation. This data is collected centrally only in the spring.

Attendance

The majority of students attended 85% or more of the days of their summer program, which varied from 15 to 20 days by school.

- 23% to 40% of students at each site attended the entire summer program.
- 51% to 71% of students at each site attended nearly all of the program (93% or more of the days).
- 70% to 79% of students at each site attended the vast majority (85% or more) of the program.

Figure 10
Percentage of 2003 Summer Program Attended
By School Site



RECOMMENDATIONS

Due to changes in selection criteria and greater freedom given to school administration in the selection of students to be served, a different population was served in 2003 than in 2002. The percentage of students who scored below grade level served was lower, and the percentage of LEP students served was much higher than in 2002. The total number served increased by 84 students.

Evaluation and Research staff were requested to provide data on this summer school effort after it ended. Staff who managed the program were not aware that achievement data would be needed. Very little can be concluded about the effectiveness of the 2003 summer school program due to lack of assessment measures immediately following the program.

The following are suggestions for future summer school programs and possible evaluation of their effectiveness:

- Schools need to carefully consider which students they want to target in their program. To promote optimal effectiveness, the program should then be designed and students recruited in line with these guidelines. A program for LEP students, for example, might need different materials and strategies than one that involved only English speakers.
- Evaluation and data collection plans need to be discussed and built in prior to implementation of summer school efforts to be sure appropriate data collection occurs.
- If the goal of a summer program is to provide academic assistance to students below grade level, then May EOG scores or book level scores (depending on grade level) should be a primary consideration when choosing students for the program. EOG retest 2 should be offered at the end of a summer program so that student achievement can be measured. K-2 students assessed by book level should be reassessed immediately following the summer program.
- If this is not feasible, a standardized pre/post instrument might yield useful data.

Attachment 1
Percentage of Students Below Grade Level as of May 2003
Served by Summer Program
(Book Level and EOG)

School	Grade	Total Number of Students Below Grade Level*	Total Below Grade Level Served		Total LEP	Total LEP Below Grade Level Served		Total Served
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
<i>Carver</i>	K	46	9	20%	10	5	50%	17
	1	33	10	30%	11	5	45%	28
	2	30	16	53%	8	5	63%	30
	3	19	2	11%	3	2	67%	3
	4	21	3	14%	5	3	60%	5
	5	14	--	--	0	--	--	0
	All	163	40	25%	37	20	54%	85
<i>Hodge Road</i>	K	16	8	50%	9	6	67%	15
	1	31	18	58%	11	7	64%	29
	2	31	24	77%	15	13	87%	39
	3	16	14	88%	5	4	80%	17
	4	19	12	63%	0	--	--	21
	5	12	6	50%	6	6	100%	6
	All	125	82	66%	46	36	78%	127
<i>Knightdale</i>	K	38	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	1	37	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	2	27	8	30%	5	2	40%	26
	3	10	4	40%	0	--	--	14
	4	12	5	42%	2	0	0%	16
	5	13	--	--	0	--	--	0
	All	137	17	12%	7	2	29%	56
<i>Lockhart</i>	K	22	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	1	14	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	2	29	5	17%	22	5	23%	22
	3	7	6	86%	7	0	0%	24
	4	4	2	50%	5	1	0%	11
	5	2	0	0%	1	0	0%	4
	All	78	13	17%	35	6	17%	61
<i>Zebulon</i>	K	27	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	1	28	--	0%	0	0	--	0
	2	15	1	7%	0	0	--	20
	3	18	1	6%	0	0	--	11
	4	25	3	12%	0	0	--	10
	5	17	--	--	0	0	--	0
	All	130	5	4%	0	0	--	41

Note: Chart does not include students with missing book level scores or EOG data.

* Reflects the total number of students scoring below grade level at each school.

**Percentage of Students At or Above Grade Level as of May 2003
Served by Summer Program
(Book Level and EOG)**

School	Grade	Total Number of Students Below Grade Level*	Total Below Grade Level Served		Total LEP	Total LEP Below Grade Level Served		Total Served
			Number	Percent		Number	Percent	
<i>Carver</i>	K	87	7	8%	10	4	40%	17
	1	91	18	20%	11	5	45%	30
	2	97	14	14%	8	3	38%	30
	3	77	1	1%	3	1	33%	3
	4	67	0	0%	5	0	0%	5
	5	93	--	--	0	--	--	0
	All	512	40	8%	37	13	35%	85
<i>Hodge Road</i>	K	85	7	8%	9	3	33%	15
	1	92	11	12%	11	4	36%	29
	2	71	14	20%	15	2	13%	39
	3	73	3	4%	5	1	20%	17
	4	82	7	9%	0	--	--	21
	5	104	0	0%	6	0	0%	6
	All	507	42	8%	46	10	22%	127
<i>Knightdale</i>	K	87	--	--	0	--	--	0
	1	90	--	--	0	--	--	0
	2	112	18	16%	5	3	60%	26
	3	104	10	10%	0	--	--	14
	4	91	9	10%	2	0	0%	16
	5	103	--	--	0	--	--	0
	All	587	37	6%	7	3	43%	56
<i>Lockhart</i>	K	113	--	--	0	--	--	0
	1	120	--	--	0	--	--	0
	2	103	17	17%	22	17	77%	22
	3	104	15	14%	7	5	71%	24
	4	100	7	7%	5	3	60%	11
	5	95	3	3%	1	1	100%	4
	All	635	42	7%	35	26	74%	61
<i>Zebulon</i>	K	95	--	--	0	--	--	0
	1	101	--	--	0	--	--	0
	2	105	19	18%	0	0	--	20
	3	89	10	11%	0	--	--	11
	4	84	7	8%	0	--	--	10
	5	100	--	--	0	--	--	0
	All	574	36	6%	0	0	--	41

Note: Chart does not include students with missing book level scores or EOG data.

* Reflects the total number of students scoring below grade level at each school.