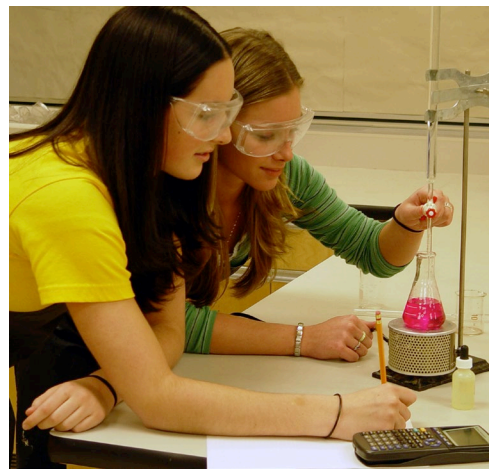# How College Access Programs are Helping Students Navigate This Summer

Voices of Summer Webinar Series

Welcome!

- Your phone line is muted.

- The webinar is being recorded.

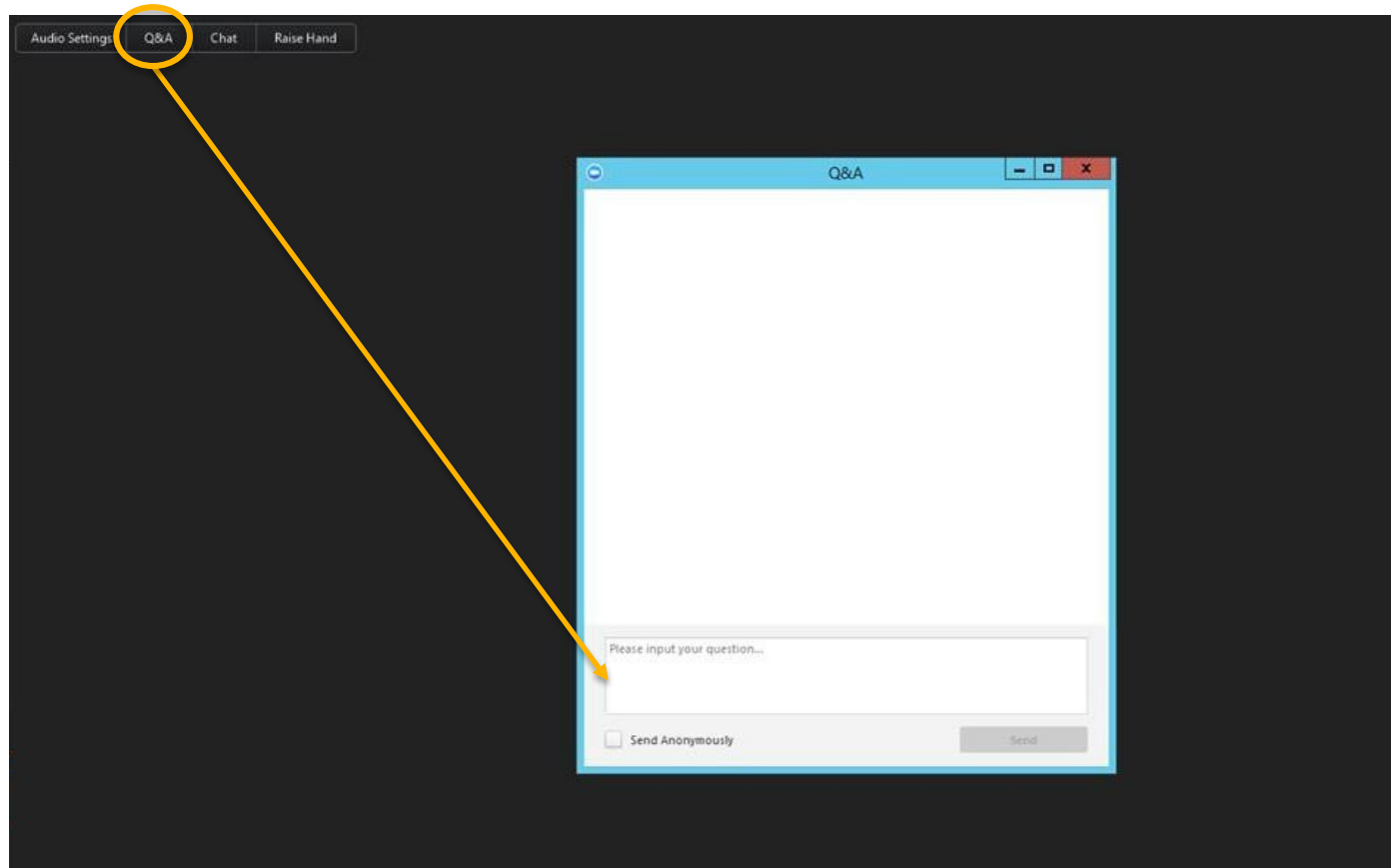- A link to the recording and slides will be made available.

Welcome!

Leslie Gabay-Swanston
Director of Program and Systems Quality
National Summer Learning Association

Webinar Overview

- About NSLA

- Panel
  - Georgia State University
  - MERIT
  - Urban Assembly
  - Partnership for LA Schools

- Audience Questions

- Announcements & Follow-up

Welcome!

About NSLA

NSLA is a national, non-profit organization focused on the powerful impact of one achievable goal: investing in summer learning to help close the achievement gap. NSLA uses the power of research, advocacy, training, and policy to transform America's neighborhoods and communities, one child at a time.

Our work is based on the simple idea that summer—a time that is easily overlooked yet critical to educational development—is bursting with possibility, and instrumental in closing the achievement gap between privileged children and our most vulnerable children.

Why Summers Matter

Summer is the time of greatest inequity for young people. When schools are closed, many low income young people lack access to meals, books and other learning resources, and physical activity.
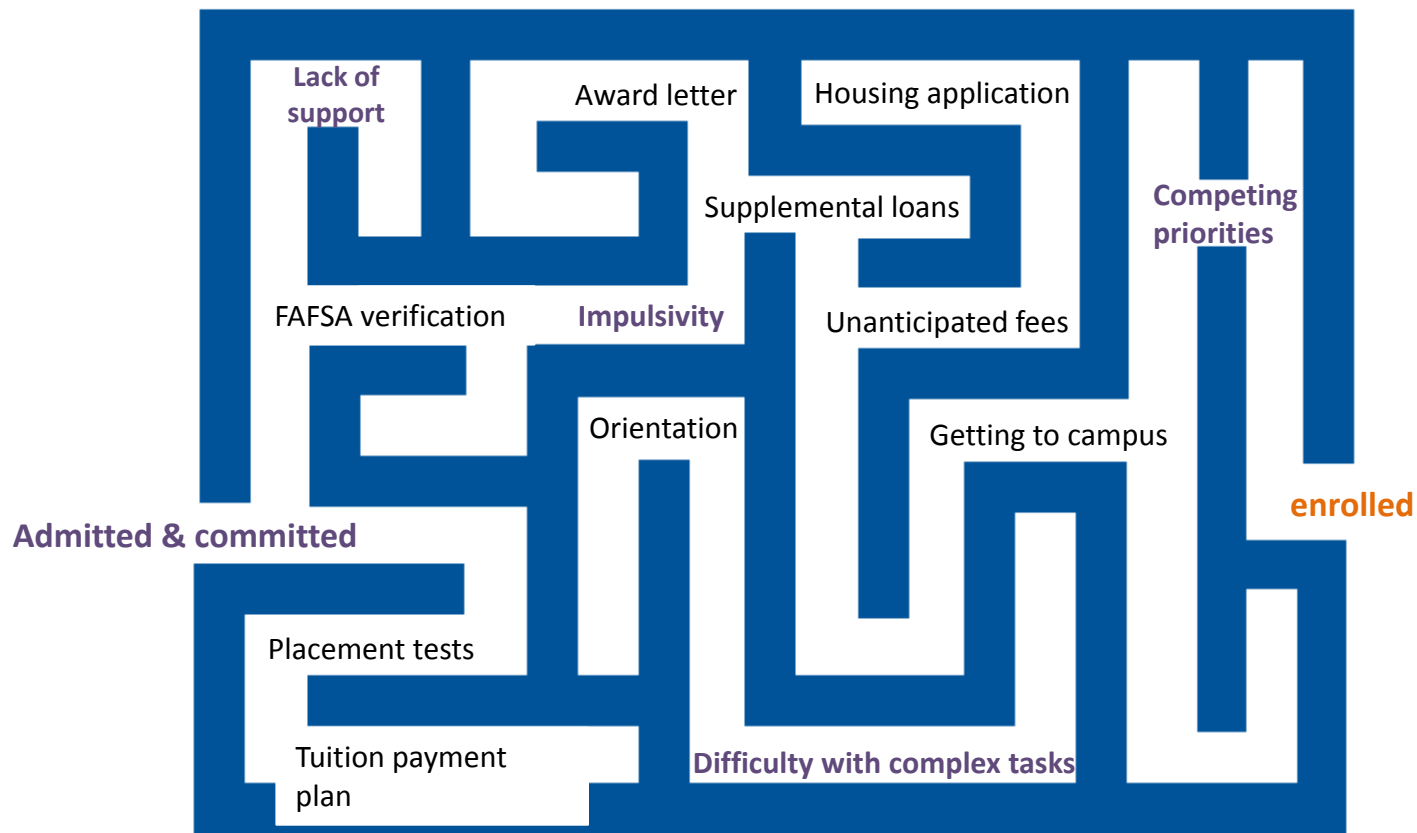
Panelists

Lindsay Page
Associate Professor of Research Methodology
University of Pittsburgh
School of Education

Summer melt & how an artificially intelligent virtual assistant helps students navigate the road to college
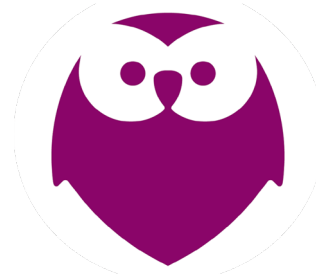
Lindsay C. Page

Georgia State University Partnership

University-specific effort to reduce summer melt

- ## GSU context
  - High rates of summer melt among recent cohorts
  - Majority of incoming students are Pell eligible
  - 1/3 admitted students are first-generation college goers

- ## Research collaboration with AdmitHub

Meet Pounce

Reminders

Guided Tutorials

Surveys

Building Pounce

Separate workflows pertaining to all steps in the GSU college transition process

📝 **Intent to enroll form submission**

💵 **FAFSA submission/verification, accepting loans, paying tuition bill**

🏫 **Orientation registration & attendance**

📜 **Transcript and test scores submission**

🏠 **Housing deposits**

💉 **Immunization records submission**

✍️ **Placement test sign-up**

🚗 **Planning for transportation**

🍝 **Meal plan sign-up**

Building Pounce

Hey {First Name}, do you plan to park a car on campus? 🚗

Yes

Cool! Would you like me to help you get a parking permit?

No

Yes

Visit bit.ly/parking to see parking fees and rates, and to figure out what option will best fit your needs. To register your vehicle and get a permit, please create an account here: bit.ly/parkpermit.

No

OK. For future reference, visit bit.ly/parking for parking info. 🚗 For other modes of transportation (shuttles 🚌 , the metro 🚇 , bike shares 🚲 , Zipcar, etc.) go to bit.ly/transit.
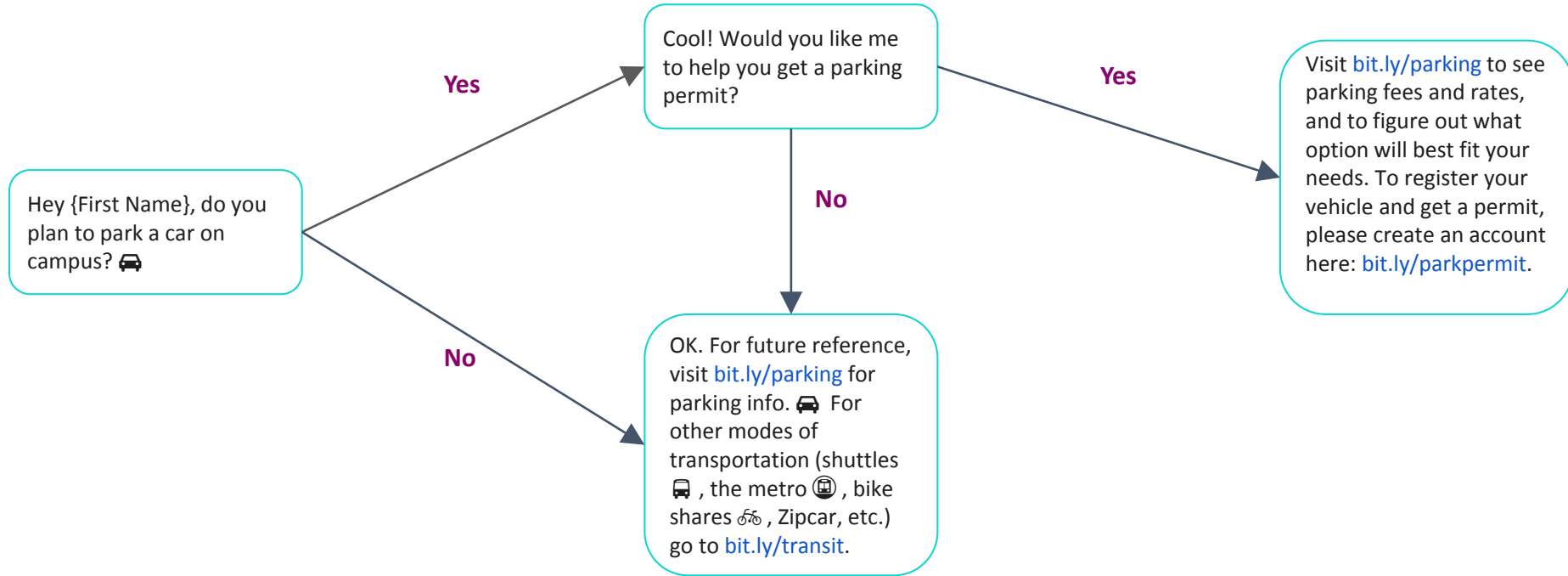
Chatbots

Computer programs that mimic conversation with people using artificial intelligence

Implementing Pounce

- Target sample (Summer 2016)
  - Admitted students with a US cell phone
  - 1,948 committed to GSU
  - 5,541 admitted but not committed

- Randomized controlled trial, stratified by GSU commitment status at time of randomization

- Pounce integrated with GSU student data systems
  - Specific workflows targeted only to students who needed them

Implementing Pounce

Reduced need for human input over time
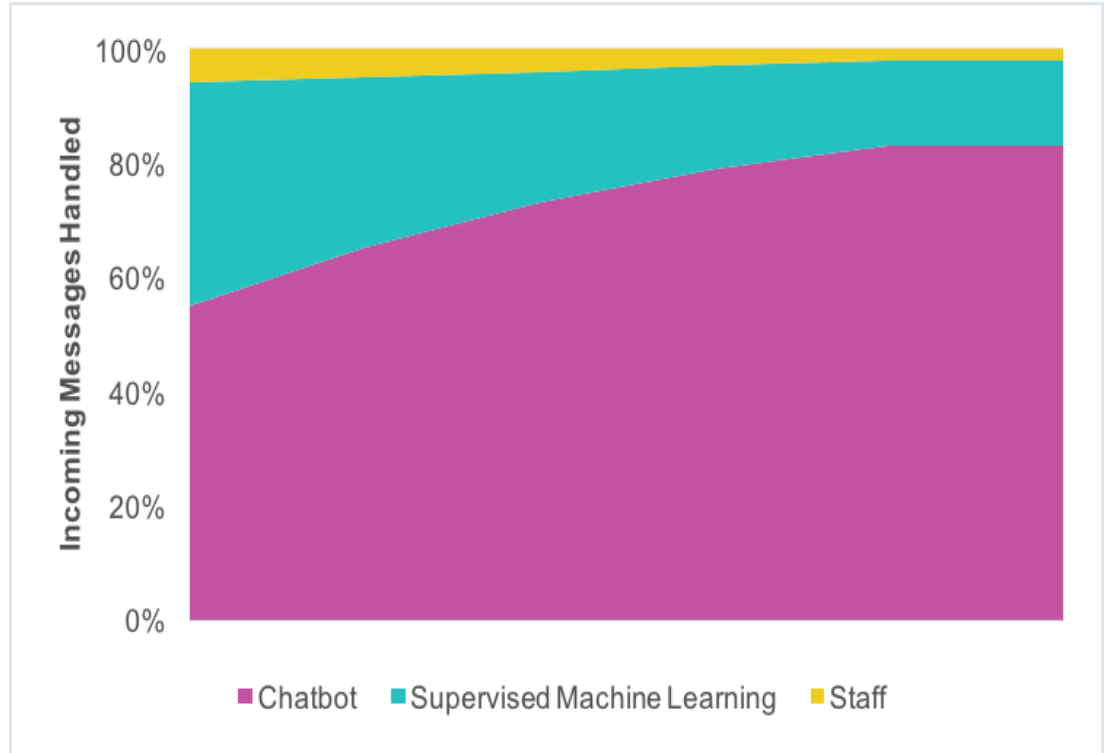
Pounce impacts on pre-enrollment steps & GSU matriculation

Impacts for GSU-committed students

	Control mean	Treatment effect
Enrollment outcomes		
Enroll in GSU	84.6%	3.3 pp *
Enroll in two-year college	1.7%	-1.3 pp **
Financial aid outcomes		
Verification hold	17.8%	-3.0 pp ~
Complete loan counseling	42.2%	6.3 pp **
Accept Stafford loan	37.5%	6.9 pp **
Other process outcomes		
Submit final transcript	68.8%	4.3 pp *
Attend orientation	85.7%	2.8 pp ~
Immunization hold	51.3%	-4.8 pp *

~ $p<0.10$, * $p<0.05$, ** $p<0.01$

Thank you.

lpage@pitt.edu / @linzcpage

Paper:

Page, L. C. & Gehlbach, H. (2017). How an artificially intelligent virtual assistant helps students navigate the road to college. *AERA Open, 3*(4), 1 – 12.

Panelists

Jake Weinfeld
Executive Director
MERIT

Panelists

Stephanie Fiorelli
Deputy Director of Alumni Success
The Urban Assembly, Inc.

The Urban Assembly Summer Bridge Program

> " Students thought they were done with the college process, but when I mentioned certain documents they needed to submit or accounts they needed to create, they were completely unaware. "

The Urban Assembly (UA) is a non-profit organization providing leadership and programmatic support to unique, small public secondary schools in high-need neighborhoods in NYC and to the schools' nearly 12,000 alums. UA schools are open to all students, and our goal is to prepare 100% of UA graduates for success in the 21st-century economy. **_The mission of the Urban Assembly is to advance students' economic and social mobility by improving public education._**

Summer Bridge Overview + Goals

1,500 seniors. 20 high schools. 21 coaches.
75% enroll. 11% melt. 70% persist.

<u>**Coach**</u>: *UA alum who returns to their high school to help seniors secure their postsecondary paths.*

PROGRAM GOALS
❖ **90%** of students with college plans will matriculate
❖ **85%** of students will participate in alumni texting campaign
❖ **40%** of coaches will return to coach the following summer

---

DISTINGUISHING QUALITIES
❖ Summer Bridge vs Bridge to College
❖ Coaches attend variety of colleges
❖ Emphasis on career and professional growth

Summer 2019 Impact + Assessment

❖ Students spoke with their coaches on average **4X**

❖ **70%** talked to their coach *at least* once after graduation

89% of students who planned to attend college, did so.

❖ **Student / Coach Connection**

40% in person
41% by text
11% by phone
6% via email
3% via social media

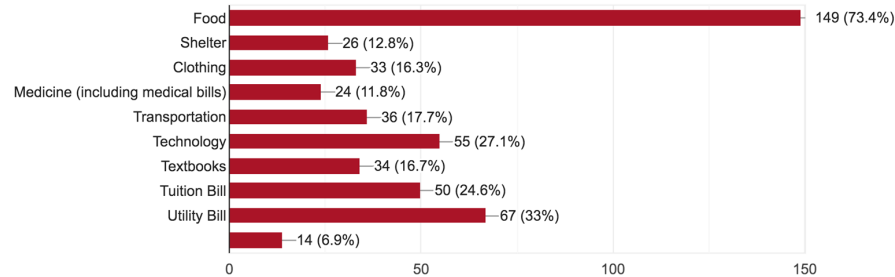**87% of alumni participated in the UA texting campaign**

"She told me that she wouldn't have been going to college without me, and that I'm always there for her when she needs me."

Summer Bridge + COVID-19

Which categories best describes your request? Check all that apply.

203 responses

Category	Value
Food	149 (73.4%)
Shelter	26 (12.8%)
Clothing	33 (16.3%)
Medicine (including medical bills)	24 (11.8%)
Transportation	36 (17.7%)
Technology	55 (27.1%)
Textbooks	34 (16.7%)
Tuition Bill	50 (24.6%)
Utility Bill	67 (33%)
	14 (6.9%)

❖ Emphasis on GROW model coaching
❖ Increase of coach / student ratio
❖ Reliance on digital communication
❖ Training around alternative pathways
❖ Concentrated collaboration

"I'm learning to use my coaching time more wisely because the virtual shift shows us how to maximize communication platforms. It's something I can teach my students too."

NYC Summer Bridge Consortium

❖ Meetings Twice Per Month

❖ Slack Workspace

❖ Google Resources

Collectively serving 25,000 students in NYC

What's Next?

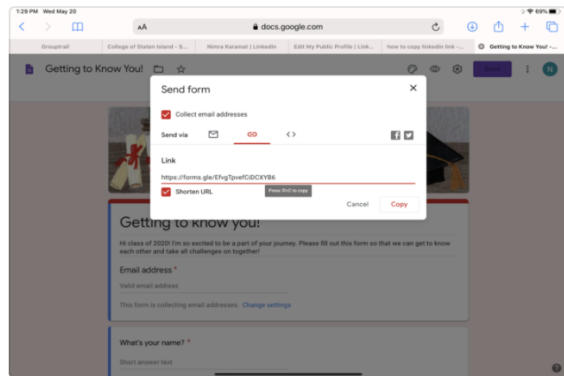**#coaching_tips** ☆

👤 25 | Add a topic

The URL link?

Today ⌄

Nimra (SCJ) 1:30 PM
Image from iOS ⌄

1:30 press send and press the little paper clip icon

it should give you an option to shorten the link

Karolina Gómez LGJ 1:30 PM
Im sorry and I on the wrong page?

Ashley (GLO) 1:30 PM
highlight the word you want to hyperlink and press CTRL K

Kwaku Darko
May 19

Hi everyone, I hope this is enough information about me and my hopes this summer.

Getting to Know You : Par...
Google Docs

5 class comments

Karolina Gomez May 19
I also hope to build truth worthy relationships with my students where they feel comfortable coming to talk to me if they have any issues and just not be afraid to speak up.

Liliana Perez Diaz 10:33 AM
I think this is something very unique about the UA, the fact that they really make the effort to ensure that their current students and alumni are on their unique path to success!

Erick Rivera Castillo 11:36 AM
I feel like knowing the process of the UA schools just makes it even better for you and us to be part of summer bridge and help them do this.

Nimra Karamat 1:35 PM
The UA is a family and like you, I truly value building those trusting relationships with the students. Letting them know that you're there as a coach and not a critic is so important to guiding them.

Keneil Martin 1:50 PM
agreed!! we all have our own experience and it can help others along the way

---

"Being a part of the UA community has allowed me to make connections, network, be a part of exciting programs, and be introduced to certain opportunities."

Panelists

Karlo Silbiger
Coordinator of College-Going Culture
Partnership for Los Angeles Schools

Summer Melt Pilot 2020: Creating Community to Strengthen the Transition to College

Dr. Karlo Silbiger

Coordinator of College-Going Culture

partnershipla.org

PARTNERSHIP
FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS

About the Partnership

- One of the largest in-district public school transformation organizations in the US
- 13,500 LAUSD students
- 18 schools (9 elementary, 4 middle, 5 high)
- 3 neighborhood feeder patterns (Boyle Heights, South LA, Watts)
- Focus on building the capacity of the adults who surround our kids
- Also focus on systems change to limit the systemic barriers that impact all communities like the ones we serve

PARTNERSHIP
FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS

Our Summer Melt Data

College System	Total Students Planning to Matriculate	Melt Rate
UC	158	10%
CSU	488	22%
Community College	927	28%

Our Pilot Key Components

- Near Peer Advisors
- Focus on high need, high impact destination colleges (partnerships)
- Build community among students
- Start early
- Introduce students to college resources
- Focus on SEL skills (seeking support, managing schedule)

PARTNERSHIP
FOR LOS ANGELES SCHOOLS

Our Pilot Key Challenges

- Student Recruitment
- Partnering with Colleges
- Bridging to the Fall
- Building Capacity at the School Site for Future

Questions

National Summer Learning Week

NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING WEEK

JULY 6-11, 2020

National Summer Learning Week is a national advocacy day aimed at elevating the importance of keeping kids learning, safe and healthy every summer – all so students return to school ready to soar!

www.summerlearning.org/summer-learning-week

nsla

FOLLOW US

Find NSLA on social media to keep updated on
#summerlearning

@SummerLearning

@SmarterSummers

@SmarterSummers

@SummerLearning

nsla

Thank you!

www.summerlearning.org

nsla