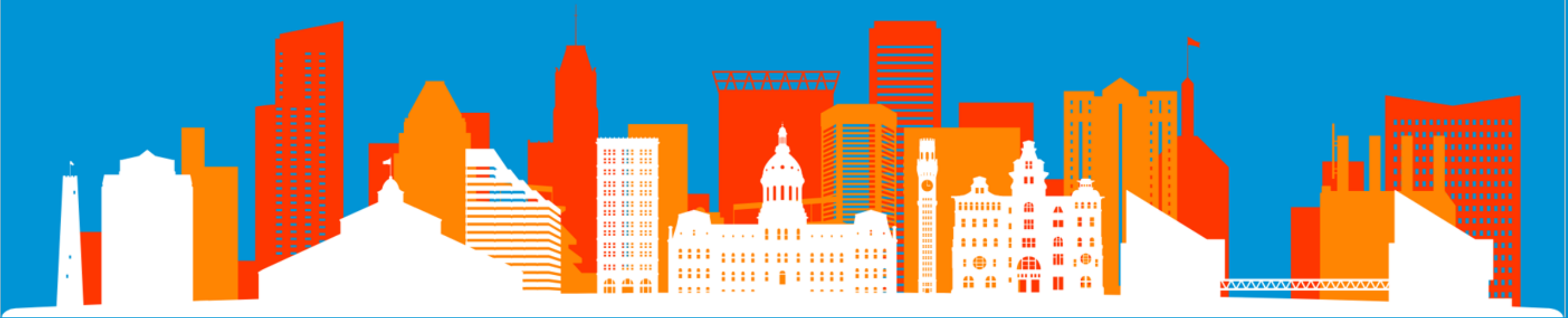# 2025 Summer Youth Engagement Strategy

Baltimore City Council Legislative Oversight Hearing – Summer Youth Program
Joint Committees: Public Safety and Education, Youth & Older Adults

May 1, 2025

Summer Learning 2025: Overview

- As expected, with the sunset of ESSER funds, summer 2025 learning programs have been strategically scaled back.

- Summer 2025 dates:
  - June 30 - July 31*
  - 5 weeks (20 days)
  - Monday – Thursday

*There are a few programs with modified weeks/dates. See Baltimore City Schools Summer Learning Programs website for details.

A Look Back at ESSER-Funded Summer Programs*

Summer 2022 - $24.6M

Summer 2023 - $28.9M

Summer 2024 - $20M

We anticipate spending ~$8M for Summer 2025.

*Additional funds were used through IDEA to provide Extended School Year (ESY) Programs for any student with a disability who had ESY services listed on their IEP

Summer Learning 2025: Planning Considerations

Considered programmatic attendance, fiscal impact, student demographics to help determine which summer programs to prioritize
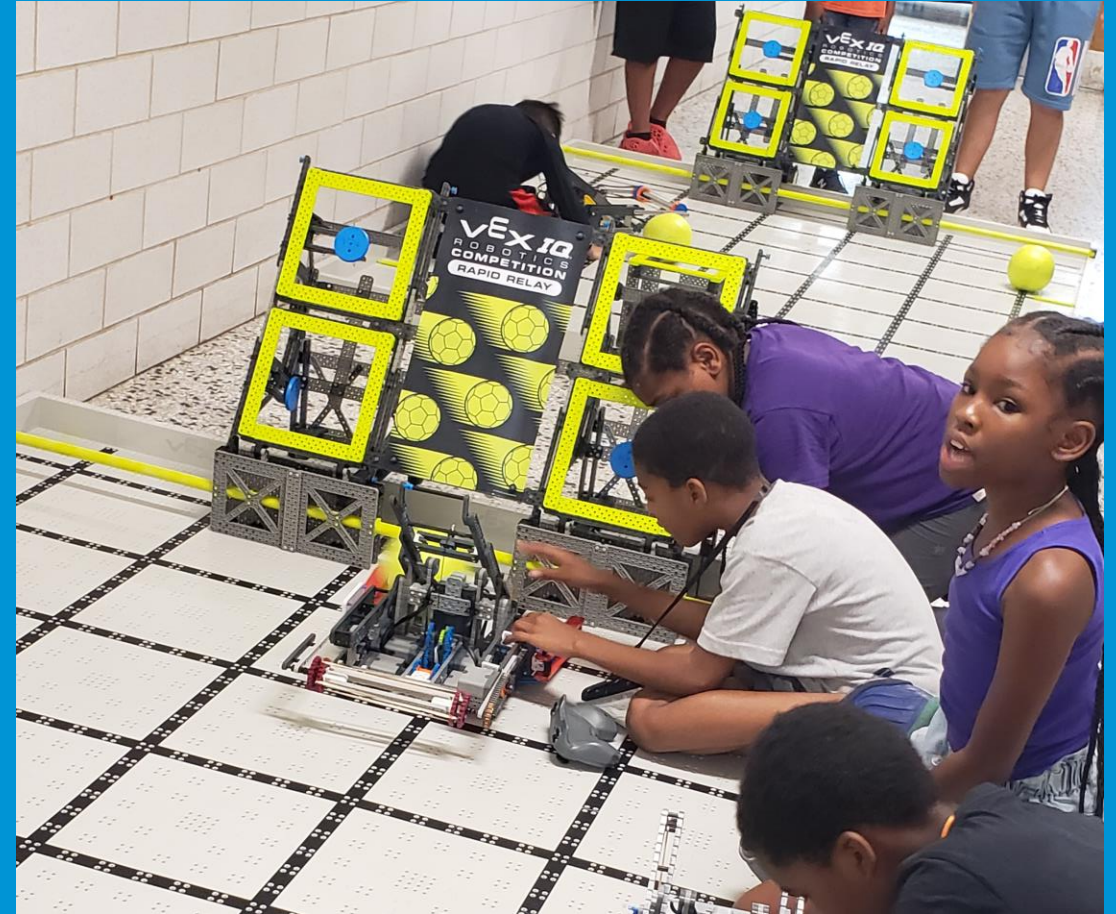
Aligned summer learning initiatives with state's PK- 3 Literacy Policy

Leveraged demographic data to optimize the placement of summer sites and ensure equitable access for students

Over 12,000 student seats available for Summer 2025!
Over 20 district-led and 6 externally-led programs!

BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

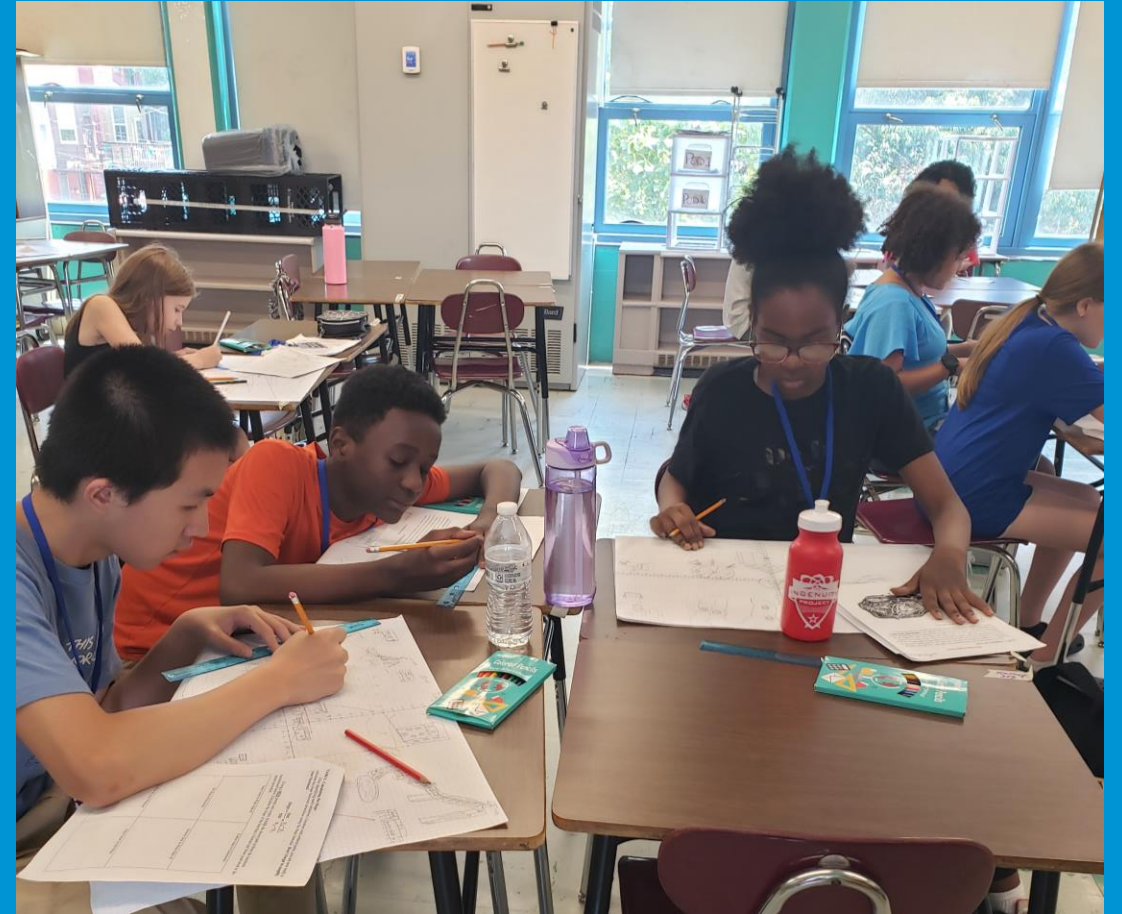# District-Led Summer Programs: Highlights*

- Academic Support & Enrichment
    - Access 2 Algebra
    - AP Summer Institute
    - Camp Curiosity (PreK)
    - Multi-lingual Learner HS Program

- CTE & Internship Opportunities
    - MS Career Exploration

- Fine Arts, Sports, & Robotics
    - Spanish Theater Camp
    - Physical Education Camp

*See Baltimore City Schools Summer Learning Programs website for a full list of programs.

Externally-Led Summer Programs*

- **Grades K-12**
  - B-360 (Dirt Bikes & STEM)

- **Grades K-5/K-8**
  - SpringBoard (Literacy)
  - Summer Arts for Learning (Literacy, Math & Arts Integration)

- **Grades 5-8**
  - Elev8 Freedom School
  - Ingenuity Project
  - Ailey Dance Camp

See Baltimore City Schools Summer Learning Programs website for a full list of programs.

Credit Recovery Programs

- Multiple Sites & Options
  - 4 in person sites, 1 Virtual site
  - 7,400 seats offered

- Wide Range of Course Offerings
  - All core content courses required for graduation are available
    - English, Math, Science, Government, History, Health, Art, Music, World Languages

Credit Recovery programs are an out-of-school-time opportunity for students to retake a course in which they were not successful and did not earn the credit.

Extended School Year (ESY)

- Extended School Year services are the **individualized extension** of specific special education and related services that are **provided to a student with a disability beyond the normal school year.**

- **Programs include:** Early Learning, Traditional, Life Skills, PAL (Program for Autistic Learners), Vision, DHOH (Deaf Hard Of Hearing), PRIDE (Promoting Respect Integrity Discipline & Excellence)

- **Summer Arts for Learning Academy (SALA)** Expanded to 4 sites (25 classrooms)

YouthWorks Opportunities in City Schools

- Eight CTE Sites *(Wind, BACH, Auto, Coast Guard, Carver House, BCFD, Southwest Professional Skills, Microsoft IRC)*

- Multiple School-Based Sites *(Principal-designated support projects and/ or special initiatives, supporting summer programs)*

- District Credit Recovery & AP Academy are YouthWorks sites where students will be paid for their participation

YouthWorks is a program within the Baltimore City Mayor's Office of Employment Development, Youth Services Division. We provide a 5-week job opportunity to thousands of Baltimore City young people between the ages of 14 to 21.

Summer Meals: Food & Nutrition

- USDA's Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) is available at all city schools* with 15 or more program participants. All sites are **open sites which means that** meals are available to all youth, even those not participating in the summer program.

- In Summer 2024, 118 schools offered summer meal programs – 46% of those programs were school-based programs (54% were planned at the district level). For Summer 2025, applications have been submitted for 99 schools as of April 28. Deadline for sign up is Tuesday, May 20.

- MD DHS will continue to offer Sunbucks/Summer EBT ** in 2025. While schools are closed, families will receive $40 per month in federally-funded grocery benefits on an Electronic Benefit Transfer (EBT) card to purchase food for each school-age child who is eligible for free or reduced-price school meals.

Participation in Summer Meals (July - August)	2023	2024
Breakfast - Average Daily Participation	5,475	5,133
Lunch - Average Daily Participation	7,894	7,733
Total Meals Served (Breakfast + Lunch from July - August)	320,862	308,776
Total School Sites Offering Summer Meals	126	118

* Baltimore City Housing Department serves meals at many non-school locations throughout the city.

** For more information please visit the **S-EBT Online Portal:** https://mymdthink.maryland.gov/home/#/sunbucks

BALTIMORE CITY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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