

Closing the Education Gap: A Brief Overview of Programs for Low SES Students

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Introduction

- ❖ In our research, we looked into programs and factors that helped students of low socioeconomic status achieve greater success in school.
- ❖ We looked at specific programs and services provided to students many of whom have low socioeconomic status both in and out of the school setting.
- ❖ What can we do to decrease the education gap between students of high socioeconomic status and low socioeconomic status?



In School Services

❖ Services provided in schools for students with disabilities

❖ Students receive related services such as occupational therapy, physical therapy, brailist, speech and language pathology, social work, school health and interpretive services to improve fine motor skills, speech and cognition to propel their overall academic success.

❖ Study on how school based occupational therapy programming helps student handwriting.

❖ Students 7 to 10 years old.

❖ Received 528 minutes of occupational therapy on handwriting.

❖ Students who received occupation therapy services demonstrated improved letter legibility and better writing skills.

❖ Services provided in schools for low SES students

❖ AVID Program: The AVID (Advancement via Individual Determination) program is a global nonprofit program affecting over 700,000 student in 45 states and 16 countries around the world. It advocates for "holding students accountable to the highest standards, provide academic and social support, and [the students] will rise to the challenge."

❖ Schools across the country have afterschool busses along with late busses to take students home involved in afterschool, programs like sports, tutoring, and other activities.

❖ Eau Claire--Blugold Beginnings: Blugold Beginnings offers in-school tutoring and college prep all around Eau Claire and the surrounding communities.

Major Findings

- ❖ Programs provided in schools to students of low socioeconomic status help to close to education gap.
- ❖ Programs promote self-sufficiency, motivation, educational proficiency, and provide students with the traits and skills to be successful both in and outside of the school setting.
- ❖ Offer additional support and direction in education outside of the classroom.

180 - Day Program, Northwest Juvenile Detention Center

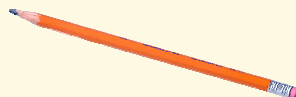
- ❖ The Northwest Regional Juvenile Detention Center (JDC) houses the "180-Day" program for individuals ages 11 to 17.
- ❖ Typically the individuals coming into the JDC would remain there for an average of 72 hours, which is not nearly enough time to provide useful help to these at-risk youths.
- ❖ The program itself focuses more in rehabilitative services and less on punishment.
- ❖ Participants in the program have to choose to participate in it; stays last from six months to a year.
 - ❖ First 30 days – Behavior Assessment
 - ❖ 4 program levels – about 4-6 weeks each
 - ❖ Remain in contact for 90 days after end of program
- ❖ Participants continue their education with individually tailored programs and are given the opportunity to involve themselves in the community.
- ❖ The goal of the program is to serve as an alternative to more serve detention centers outside of the area and reduce recidivism rates.

After School Programs

- ❖ MOST Initiative: The MOST (making the most out-of-school time) initiative is prominent in three US cities: Boston, Chicago, and Seattle. This initiative wants to broaden the programs available to low income kids in these cities.
- ❖ Afterschool Alliance: Raises awareness for how important good afterschool programs are. The Afterschool Alliance boasts more than 25,000 afterschool programs around the country.

❖ Specific States

- ❖ New York: New York City Development of Youth & Community: They offer quality afterschool programs to influence and reach young people in all the five boroughs of New York City for the time students are not in school.
- ❖ Georgia: The Afterschool Care Program: This program helps fund non-profit and public organizations that support programs for out-of-school time. They look to promote "self-sufficiency among families and end intergenerational poverty."
- ❖ Minnesota: The After-School Meals Program: Provides federally funded cost reimbursement for meals given to low income children in afterschool programs. This food attracts more students to the programs that use this food, and helps prevent child hunger and ensures they get the right nutrients to learn and grow.



Instrumental Rentals

❖ Cumberland Band Program

❖ Percussion instruments are provided to students.

❖ Renting an instrument from the school's selection, costs \$45 per year for the instrument and repairs are paid for by the school under most circumstances.

❖ Along with the instruments there are the essentials such as reeds, cleaning materials, valve oil, etc. These can also be purchased outside of the school if desired but the school offers most of them for free. There is a payment plan for reeds, \$10 for five reeds.

❖ When it comes to marching band a lot of the instruments and equipment are supplied for the students, such as all marching percussion and pit percussion, percussion sticks and mallets, marching brass instruments, color guard uniforms and equipment, and full band uniforms.

❖ When the marching band goes on trips every four years the students can pay the trip fees up front, or if they can't afford the costs all at once they can set up a payment plan that lets them pay over a period of time. If a student truly cannot afford to go on a trip, the school will help out and pay for them to go.



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