

Tahoma Summer Learning

Tahoma School District is developing targeted summer learning opportunities for students. The goal is to provide support for students to reduce summer learning loss. The learning will be consistent with what research indicates is effective while being as cost effective as possible.

Summer Learning Loss

Do you feel as if your child isn't quite as good at reading and math at the end of the summer as they were in June? They probably aren't! You are noticing something called summer learning loss and the cumulative impact can be dramatic.

We want parents and students to realize how important it is to engage in learning activities over the summer months. This learning doesn't have to be drudgery with drill and kill worksheets. Instead, read a book, explore a special interest, help read the maps and navigate on a family trip, or estimate during a shopping trip. The possibilities are endless and can be fun. We'll even send parents and students ideas all summer long.

Summer learning loss can be up to 3 months or more for students who do not engage in learning activities during summer break. This really adds up over time. Even if students make average gains during the school year, if they lose three months every summer in five years that student will be 15 months behind students who don't experience summer learning loss. Over 10 years that student may be three years behind!

Learning Connections (K-5)

Teaching and Learning produces a newsletter every other week throughout the summer that is e-mailed home to parents. Print copies are available at the district office for parents who do not have e-mail access. The newsletter has reading, writing, and math ideas for parents to use during the summer to support learning with their children.



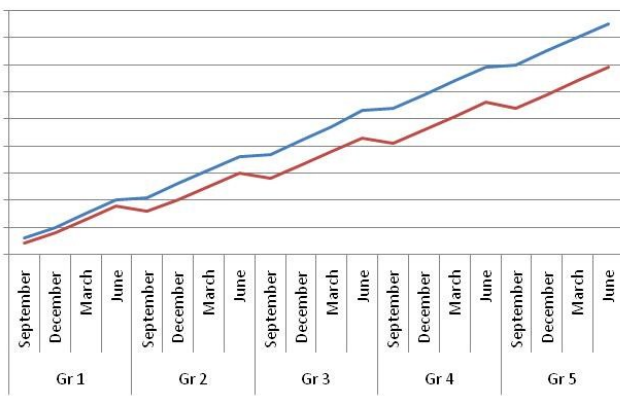
Learning Connection newsletters are customized by grade level with reading and math worksheets students can complete for skill building practice. Included in each newsletter are community events and activities that parents might consider participating in. We have a wonderful learning community with many rich opportunities to support families throughout the summer. We hope parents take advantage of these resources.



It is critical that we have current e-mail addresses for parents in our student information system. Please update your e-mail at the main office at your child's school or with the district Central Services staff.

Visualizing the Cumulative Effects of Summer Learning Loss

— Maintains During Summer — Loss During Summer



Summer Book Club (K-5)



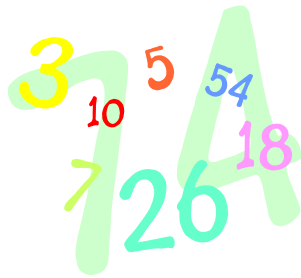
Students not yet reading at grade level in the Reading Assistance Program (RAP) and Special Education students in grades K-5 will be participating in a summer book club. This program is being modeled after a summer reading program that has shown promising results in other areas in the country.

(Educational Leadership/April 2008, "Got Books?")

- Just before school is out targeted students will select 10 high interest books and magazines at their independent reading level.
- Parents of targeted students will be notified of this program and will be asked to ensure their child reads daily during summer using information sent home with the reading materials.
- Mid-summer book swaps—July 13th and August 11th at Tahoma Central Services Center
- E-mail & postcard reminders to parents/students to encourage summer reading.
- Books are returned at the end of the summer to reuse the following year reducing the on-going costs in subsequent years.

Math Tutoring (K-12)

Is your K-5 child having trouble with some of the math connections problems in the weekly Learning Connections newsletter? Are you a secondary student stuck on some of the math problems you are working on through our on-line learning resources?



Come and get help from our high school Math Club students!

Our high school math club students will be providing weekly math help for our Tahoma students.

Location: District Central Services Board Room
Time: 9:00 a.m.—noon
Dates: Wednesdays only from June 29th - August 3rd.

August HSPE Testing (10-12 Only!)

August retesting is available for students who did not meet standard in reading, writing, or science on the spring High School Proficiency Exams (HSPE). Students will have assistance at the high school with pre-registration. Students must pre-register by June 17th so test books can be ordered.

HSPE Testing Dates

August 8 – 9	Writing Days 1 and 2
August 10	Reading
August 11	Science

Math On-Line Resources



Our secondary math program includes a rich array of on-line resources that students and parents can access throughout the summer and into the school year. Students will be loaded into the Holt math program according to the course they are enrolled in next year during the week of June 20th. Access to these on-line resources will then be available to parents and students by June 27th. Resources include Grade 6 Math through Advanced Algebra.

We will be sending out recommended review activities using the Holt resources throughout the summer on our Tahoma website and also by e-mail to parents and students. Please be sure your e-mail address is current!

HOLT on-line math resources for Pre-Algebra —Adv Algebra
go.hrw.com

Practice problems
On-line quizzes
Holt textbook for each course

Students are set up in this system using their Skyward username and password with no spaces.

On-Line Summer School (6-12)

Students who have failed a core content class during the regular school year are being targeted for a blended learning summer program to help them build skills and earn credits, if needed. In our blended learning program much of the class is on-line with a weekly 3 hour check in that is face to face with the student and teacher.



Counselors in each school will be contacting targeted students and parents with information about this option. The on-line summer program starts on June 21st!

Cost: \$125

Blended Learning Summer Program

- Math or Language Arts Focus
- On-line classes
- Weekly face to face sessions (3 hours)
- Courses run from June 21st—July 29th

More information and a registration form—see the Tahoma website. www.tahomasd.us

CatchUp Math

Another great resource parents are welcome to subscribe to is CatchUp math. There is a fee for this program of \$5.00 for summer access. Parents can pay directly in e-funds for this. The school cashier will then provide students with log-in and password information. If this is purchased after school is out we have log in information at District Office in Teaching and Learning.

\$5.00 fee

(pay school cashier or use e-Funds)

[See school cashier for log-in info sheet]

On-line Pre-Algebra through Geometry

Short quizzes—immediate feedback

Guided practice problems

Written and video lessons

Flash activities ♦ Math games ♦ Flashcards

www.catchupmath.com

Watch a 2 min video and do a sample lesson