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Boys & Girls Club of Danville

2021-22 United Way Progress Report (1st Quarter)

January 17, 2022

The Boys & Girls Club of Danville proposed six measurable objectives for the 2021-2022 Funding Agreement, as evidence of the effectiveness of our educational programs which the United Way of the Danville Area supports. I have listed below the progress made by our youth members so far this school year. Please note that kids have been involved in changing school settings that include in school and remote/virtual classes and homework when there are temporary COVID shutdowns:

1. Maintain or increase the percentage of members who maintain or improve their grades in at least one subject area:

2021-22: 1st Quarter: Initial 1st quarter school grades.

2. Increase the percentage of Power Prep participants who maintain or improve their grades in at least one subject area:

2021-22: 1st Quarter: Initial 1st quarter school grades.

3. Maintain or increase the percentage of members who maintain or improve their overall GPA:

2021-22: 1st Initial 1st quarter school grades.

4. Maintain or increase the percentage of Power Prep participants who maintain or improve their overall GPA:

2021-22: 1st Quarter: Initial 1st quarter school grades.

5. Maintain or increase the percentage of members who either gain or maintain Honor Roll status:

2021-22: 1st Quarter: Initial 1st quarter school grades.

6. 100% High School graduation rate.

2021-22: 1st Quarter: N/A as school is still in session.

Currently our kids have just finished their first semester of the FY22 school year. Therefore, we have initial grades for them, showing what they currently scored on their report cards for the beginning of this school year. This will give us a benchmark to set for them and continue to be able to work with them through homework help and tutoring. What we have seen is that kids have taken a step back from their last school year, while being advanced by the school district into a higher grade level. Much of this has to do with children having their classes and education done remotely during the COVID pandemic. They were relied on to take part in their remote classes and do homework online. Many either did not do that or were taking part in "water downed" curriculums due to all remote learning and lack of teacher's

availability. These things together made for many youths not advancing their educational development in a more positive way but taking steps backwards. Communication with teachers can be essential in helping us focus on kids' area of needs.

Numbers can be difficult to ascertain as grades are recorded and submitted usually to us in only four main subject areas (English, History, Math & Science). Other areas are PE and music. In prior years there were more classes in which to gauge their grades and actual progress. Also, the middle school and elementary member's grades are based on a 1-4 grading scale (including decimal places) as compared to the traditional letter grading scale like the high school levels currently still use. This makes the findings somewhat subjective in areas where under one "main" subject area, such as math, there are multiple "sub-areas" that the member may have stayed the same overall in a grade but improved in at least one sub-area within that same subject area. Also, teachers continue to assign less homework to students. Therefore, we continue to add different opportunities for these students to take part in, Club high yield learning experiences that we call Power Learn. Our socially distanced groups partake in activities that are both educational and yet fun!

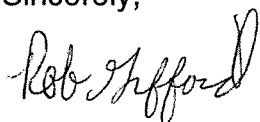
The percentage of Power Prep participants who improved their educational development in at least one subject has been 100%. Power Prep staff and volunteers continue to work with our kids in multiple educational subjects depending on the child's daily needs. Our staff and volunteers report that while most of the kids need a lot of help and have a long way to go to catch up to learning lost, the daily and weekly sessions are working towards that goal, and they are seeing improvement!

We are currently open for kids' afterschool from 2pm-6:30pm when school is in session at the physical school locations. When the school district closes due to increasing student COVID cases, we are open extended hours from 7:45am-5:30pm. This along with continuing to follow social distancing guidelines means additional staffing hours and expenses to help the youth and their families in our community, continue to catch up in their educational development.

Another area of need that is not part of our United Way objectives but is a big part of need that is essential in accomplishing our goals and objectives, is the social development of youth. Currently due to so much time off due to COVID and kids not being in an actual school setting, is a bigger lack of self-motivation, discipline, and respect for others which makes for a lack of academic responsibility on the child's part. This is a big reason why we have seen the youths in our community take such a drastic step back in their educational development. We work hard to make sure we are mentoring our youth and teaching them to be more self-motivated, disciplined, respectful, and responsible for their education and actions. I believe that these all tie in together to help everyone be more successful!

Overall, we continue to work hard to allow our kids the opportunity to maintain a high level of educational success that would not be possible without the support of the United Way of the Danville Area. We know that this will continue to increase higher education opportunities and outcomes as well as decrease poverty in our immediate community. Especially now as the COVID pandemic continues and new variants show up like Omicron, your important partnership not only allows us both to make a difference in the lives of our community's youth and their families but helps the Boys & Girls Club of Danville continue to be *The Positive Place for Kids!* We greatly appreciate your investment in our organization and for helping to open the door to a brighter future for our Club kids!

Sincerely,



Rob Gifford
Executive Director