“The Program”

STEPS:
Summer Transition Educational Program for Success
July 2008
Teacher Planning Team

- Group of teachers who met 1-2 times per month to organize, plan, schedule and implement the program.
- Design and host informational meetings for students and their families
- STEP 1: Set upon our theme: ‘Green’
- STEP 2: Added the academic piece: *Seedfolks*, graphing, percentages
- STEP 3: Added the student engagement piece: Service Learning, Career Exploration, College Planning, and Field Trips
- STEP 4: Recruit students
- **Challenges**: scheduling for meetings, time frame of deadlines, and what to expect questions?
Objectives

- Increase literacy - Math and English
- Improve MCAS scores
- Increase study skills
- Increase connections to community
- Increase opportunities for adult mentors
- Raise student and family aspirations for continued education and career readiness
General Overview of Program

- Parent Meeting: June 26th 7:00 pm
- Daily Schedule (included in packet)
- Transportation was provided for any student who wished to participate
- Breakfast and snacks were offered to students at no cost
- Guest speakers invited to enhance objectives
Build-A-Learner/
Opening Week Activities

- Engaging activities to jump-start learning and teambuilding
- Stress importance of schedule, guidelines and expectations
- Quote Activity, School Tour, Active Listening, Jiminy Peak Ropes Course
- Theme: Going Green: Jennifer Munoz
  - Looking at careers and resumes
- Career Exploration
- Analytical, Practical and Creative
Week Two Activities

- Junior Achievement
- Guest Speakers: Jennifer Munoz and Valerie Schwarz, Berkshire Food Project
- Gearing up for Service: Serving at Berkshire Food Project
Week Three Activities

- Career Exploration
- CareTaker Farm
- MCLA: College Search
- Jennifer Munoz: harvesting the garden
Career Exploration
CareTaker Farm
MCLA College Search
Week Four Activities

- Jennifer Munoz
- Gearing up for Service Fair
- Morgan Goodwin: Where do we go from here?
- End of summer projects
- Service Fair
- Celebration at Jiminy Peak
How has this program been effective?

Student responses:

- “It helped me get around the school and get to know the teachers.”
- The summer program helped me to learn active listening.”
- The summer program helped me because I learned that getting good grades is a good thing and that I have teachers I can trust. I also have a whole new way that I think of school and learning.”
More successes:

- Two students joined athletic teams
- Three students enrolled in CP classes to challenge themselves