Community Indicators of Effective Summer Learning Systems
QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE

SHARED VISION AND CITY-WIDE COORDINATION

✓ **There is a shared vision for summer learning guided by a multi-year, community-wide summer learning action plan that includes defined goals and strategies and aligns with education and out-of-school time priorities.**

1. *Community-Wide Summer Learning Action Plan* — A group of community stakeholders uses a community-wide summer learning action plan to drive the work around specific summer learning goals and activities.

2. *Components of the Summer Learning Action Plan* — The summer learning action plan sets the direction for community action in all five of these areas: Engaged Leadership, Data Management, Continuous Quality Improvement, Sustainable Resources, and Marketing and Communications

3. *Scope of Summer Learning Action Plan* — The summer learning action plan includes targets and goals that set the direction for action for three or more years.

4. *Objectives and Measures for System Development* — The summer learning action plan includes both common objectives and standardized measures for system development.

5. *Adoption of Youth Outcomes* — A majority of providers target youth outcomes aligned with the summer learning action plan.

6. *Connection of Summer Learning to Other Community Priorities* — The summer learning action plan includes goals that are linked to other initiatives and those goals are reflected in the work of those other initiatives.

7. *Summer Learning Action Plan Updating* — There is a standard process for assessing and updating the summer learning action plan every year.

ENGAGED LEADERSHIP

✓ **Summer learning work is led by a stakeholder group that represents key sectors including city and/or county agencies, schools, funders, program providers, intermediary or coordinating body, and other community members (including parents and youth). There is shared accountability for the development and implementation of the summer learning action plan. Recognized leaders within the community, such as mayors and superintendants, act as summer learning champions.**

8. *Collaborative Planning and Coordination* — Development and execution of the summer learning action plan includes contributions from all of the following stakeholder groups: city or county agencies, program providers, schools, funders, an intermediary or coordinating body, community members (including parents and youth).

9. *Coordinating Structure* — There is a lead organization that acts as a central coordinating body for summer-specific strategies.

10. *Summer Learning Champions* — Champion(s) help build awareness about summer learning investments and opportunities, and help influence supportive policies and practices across the community.

11. *Mutual Accountability* — All stakeholders share accountability for performance targets outlined in the summer learning action plan through a transparent system.

12. *Consistent Stakeholder Engagement* — Among stakeholder organizations, participation in community planning and coordination is included the annual staffing plan of each agency so engagement is not impacted by personnel and leadership changes.

13. *Policy and Practice* — Both the city government and school district(s) have implemented policy and/or practice in support of summer learning.

DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

✓ **There are processes for data sharing, collection and analysis across summer learning stakeholders. The system includes summer learning data on scope, scale, access, quality, and outcomes.**

14. *Standardized Data Collection and Evaluation*

There is a standardized process for data collection and evaluation for all key summer learning data points: assessment of summer learning investments and opportunities, participation, academic outcomes, non-academic outcomes, and quality.

15. *Management of Summer Learning Data*

There is a centralized process for all of the following: collecting, storing, and analyzing summer learning system data.

16. *Data Sharing Agreements*

Data sharing agreements between a majority of providers allow for cross-system data collection, analysis, and evaluation.

17. *Alignment of Data Systems*

Communitywide summer learning data is housed and analyzed as part of a larger communitywide data system.

18. *Unique Student Identifier*

All programs participating in the summer learning system use a unique student identifier.

19. *Comparison of Participants and Non-participants*

Community has a process for collecting and comparing data between participants and non-participants across a variety of providers.

20. *Comparison Year-to-Year*

Summer learning data is tracked and compared year-to-year for a majority of providers.

CONTINUOUS QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

✓ **There is a process for quality improvement of both the summer learning system and summer learning opportunities. The system includes standards and tools for: quality assessment and program improvement; professional development and training; and opportunities to share resources and best practices.**

21. *Data-Driven Planning*

The summer learning coordinating body uses data on both program quality and program outcomes to update summer learning strategies.

22. *System for Quality Assessment and Program Improvement*

A majority of providers uses common standards, tools and processes for quality assessment and program improvement.

23. *Professional Development for Summer Learning Providers*

Community intermediary provides professional development and technical assistance linked to common quality standards for all providers involved in the system.

24. *Professional Development for Summer Learning Coordinating Body*

All stakeholders within the coordinating body receive training that is linked to common quality standards to build summer learning competencies.

25. *Provider Networking and Collaboration*

There are regular, planned opportunities for providers to share resources and best practices connected to common quality standards.

SUSTAINABLE RESOURCES

✓ **There are identified funding targets and strategies for scaling the system and improving quality of summer learning opportunities.**

26. *Comprehensive Resources* — Available resources support all of the following: program grants; program capacity building; community-wide marketing and communications; and program evaluation.

27. *Diverse Funding Sources* — The system is supported by at least four of the following funding sources: local private foundations; business donations and sponsorships; local public funding; national foundations; state funding; and federal funding.

28. *Cost- Effectiveness Analysis* — Stakeholders assess effectiveness of programs and opportunities across a range of per-student costs and program models.

29. *Resource Coordination* — Multiple funding sources are coordinated to support both programming and system development.

30. *Resource Management* — An intermediary organization manages all of the following: resource distribution, financial reporting, and compliance across the system.

31. *Summer Learning Coordinator* — Intermediary or lead organization has secured resources for at least one designated staff member to manage coordination of stakeholders and the development and maintenance of summer learning strategies.

MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

✓ **There are strategies to: understand summer learning demand; build awareness of need and available resources; and support recruitment and enrollment.**

32. *Message Alignment* — Members of all of the following stakeholder groups align messaging with the summer plan: city or county agencies; program providers; schools; funders; intermediary or coordinating body; and community members (including parents and youth).

33. *Coordinated Advocacy* — Members of all of the following stakeholder groups participate in advocacy connected to summer learning strategies: city or county agencies; program providers; schools; funders; intermediary or coordinating body; and community members (including parents and youth).

34. *Awareness Building* — There are community-wide strategies in place for both building awareness about the need for summer learning and about the availability of summer opportunities.

35. *Dissemination of Community Results* — There are community-wide strategies in place to disseminate results on summer learning impact for a majority of programs across the community.

36. *Recruitment and Enrollment* — There are community-wide strategies to drive recruitment and enrollment in a majority of programs across the community.

37. *Centralized Program Information* — The community has a centralized resource with current information on a majority of available program opportunities.

38. *Collaborative Marketing* — Providers are knowledgeable about a majority of opportunities within the community and can make referrals to them.

39. *Ongoing Communication with Families* — System-level communication with families about summer learning takes place throughout the year.

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