

Background/Program Description

- Within KY's public schools, 90% of low minority schools have internet access in the classroom while only 50% of high minority schools have such access.
- The goals of the Computer Camp are 1) to instill an appreciation of computer knowledge and 2) reinforce computer and basic study skills knowledge that are fundamental for success in school.
- The program took place during the summer of 2008 for a total of 10 days – 3 hours each day.

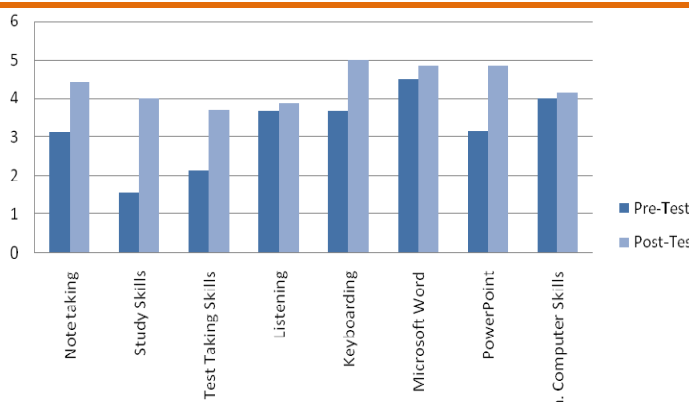
Participants

- A total eight students participated in the program. This represents a decrease of 25 students in comparison to last year's participant total (33).
- The majority of participants (63%) were female and 87% of the participants were African American (n=7).
- All of the participants receive free/reduced lunch (n=8) and were rising eighth-graders.
- A total of 7 JCPS middle schools were represented by participants.

Evaluation Results

- The **attendance rate** for the eight attending students was 82.5%. Specifically, 25% of students had perfect attendance, 62.5% of students missed one day, and 12.5% of students missed two or more days.
- A total of seven of the eight participating students (87.5%) completed a fifteen item **pre and post-test assessment of computer and study skills**. The pre-test score was 73.3 and the post-test mean score was 90.6 - an increase of about 17% over the pre-test average.
- As shown on Figure 1, participants reported **knowledge growth** in all subject areas. The largest increases in knowledge were reported in the areas of study skills, PowerPoint, and test taking skills.
- 57% of participants felt that the program will help "a lot" and 29% responded that the program will help "a little".
- 57% rated the **instructor** as "good" or "excellent" while 43% rated the instructors as "fair".

Figure 1: Change in Participant Knowledge of Computer Camp Concepts (N = 7)



Recommendations

- The low number of participants indicates a need to adopt recruitment strategies that will result in increased registration of participants.
- While only 8 participated, 13 students were registered. The program director may want to investigate the cause behind the low turnout of registered participants by making contact with those individuals and addressing the concern.
- Based on the student open ended responses, the program may want to incorporate more hand on, challenging and interactive strategies into the curriculum.