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To our partners, supporters, mentors, and friends,

This past year The SMILE Program had an exceptionally successful year serving over 326 underrepresented students in seven school districts and 30 teachers. We know that our after school academic program has a positive impact on our students. They have good school attendance, good behavior, and strive for and achieve good grades. Our teachers' professional workshops provide SMILE leaders with hands-on curriculum which they learn through workshop activities and bring back to their students. The curriculum includes exciting themes such as Ocean Exploration, Biotechnology, Wind Turbines, and Environmental Issues.

We have involved our corporate partners as mentors in our Annual Challenges which gave students an added dimension of career exploration to the high school biotechnology and middle school wind turbine projects. Employees of American Power Conversion by Schneider Electric and AMGEN have participated through their company's community outreach programs.

Our students continue to graduate from high school well prepared to enter college and pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. We have developed a partnership with the URI Center for Student Leadership and undergraduates in a variety of college majors have volunteered at all the SMILE events. Some of our SMILE graduates now in college have become mentors encouraging the younger students to work hard and have high expectations.

Our number of clubs and school districts continues to grow with additional funding from our supporters. We will continue to seek out these opportunities so that more students will be able to have SMILE experiences. The SMILE pipeline from elementary to middle to high school has a great impact on the lives of our students. A former SMILE student just graduated from medical school. She had been in SMILE since 4th grade.

Your support has made a world of difference to our students and teachers. We thank you for all your efforts on behalf of all our SMILE students and teachers.

Sincerely,

Carol Englander
Director
This year, The SMILE Program served 326 students in 16 schools across Rhode Island. Clubs are held directly on school sites to provide a strong link to the regular school day, are run by dedicated SMILE teachers, who are also teachers during the school day, and offer a high quality and hands-on science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) academic enrichment experiences. Coventry, North Kingstown, and Pawtucket high schools took part in SMILE from January 4th through March 6th when we did the biotechnology portion of our curriculum. They also attended the High School Challenge Weekend. In the upcoming year, we hope to expand by implementing full-time clubs into the middle and high schools in these three school districts.

![Map of Rhode Island showing participating school districts]

**Participants Served**

*Participated from January 4 - March 6 in Biotechnology portion*

**Table 1. PARTICIPATING STUDENTS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Level</th>
<th>Total # of Students per Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School*</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>326</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Includes high schools participants in Biotechnology for 8 weeks
Teachers Professional Development
Dr. Annie DeGroot and Dr. Malcolm Spaulding both spoke at our May workshop about two relevant and timely topics. Dr. Spaulding spoke about the Deep Water Horizon Oil Spill and Dr. DeGroot spoke about vaccines and immunology topics.

Club Meetings
Providing academic hands on enrichment and an engaging environment that motivates students to improve academically.

District-wide Family Science Nights.
Davisville Middle School SMILE did their first Family Science Night.
The SMILE Program seeks to improve the educational outcomes of underrepresented and underserved students by giving them confidence in their academics and life skills in order to pursue higher education and career opportunities of their choice. Our work supports the University of Rhode Island’s initiatives to achieve the enrollment of a talented and diverse community of students, as well as increase first-year retention of freshmen by focusing on college preparedness of underserved pre-college students who are in grades 4 – 12. With a dedicated team of SMILE staff members, club teachers/leaders, school administrators, college faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, and community members, The SMILE Program experienced another successful year.
"The best part of the EOSA was when we were able to be more hands on than we are at school because sometimes that helps you learn better and it definitely helped me but I really loved it all. It was a great experience."
4th Grade Student, Woonsocket Elementary School

"SMILE is a good way to learn about math and science if you are not good at them. You also meet new friends"
7th Grade Student, Woonsocket Middle School

"I like to learn more than just what I learn in class"...
11th Grade Student, So. Kingstown High School

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Level</th>
<th>Students Participating</th>
<th>Percent Participating</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>72%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Teachers' Professional Development
Professional development workshops are the foundation of the program structure. SMILE provides continuous support to the club teachers through professional development workshops, networking, curriculum materials, and equipment. Workshops are conducted three times a year, are led by URI resource faculty and SMILE professional staff.

Weekly Club Meetings
All activities and events revolve around the weekly after school club meetings that take place in each school. Club meetings last 1.5-2 hours and provide fun, integrated math and science activities in a relaxed atmosphere. In each school, the SMILE club has a year round schedule of activities that focus on:

- Hands-on and Engaging Science and Math
- Scientific and Career Exploration Field trips
- College Awareness

District-wide Family Science Nights
These events bring together SMILE students, their families, and community members. Students demonstrate interactive science activities. SMILE personnel inform parents and students about college admissions and student financial aid. The Family Science Night is a wonderful expression of interest and support by parents and community members. Parents have the opportunity to get more involved in their children's education, and see them as competent learners. The children's self esteem soars!

Annual Events
- Elementary Outdoor Science Adventure
- Middle School Engineering Challenge Weekend
- High School Challenge Weekend
I. SMILE provides high quality program activities:
- Fourteen After-school clubs.
- Five Family Science Night in SMILE communities.
- Three Professional Development workshops for SMILE teachers
- Three Annual Events for SMILE students:
  Elementary Outdoor Science Adventure (EOSA),
  Middle School Engineering Challenge Weekend,
  High School Engineering Challenge Weekend

II. SMILE students have:
- Increased social/academic connections.
- Increased self confidence and self esteem
- Increased confidence in their science and math ability
- Increased college aspirations and expectations.
- Improved academic achievement.
- Increased college awareness opportunities
- Increased college admissions knowledge
- Developed relationships with caring adults

III. SMILE motivates students to do well in school and continue their education.
High school SMILE students are enroll in a four years of science and math plan to college.
All SMILE seniors graduated from high school and will go on to college.

IV. SMILE provides engaging hands on activities. This year we continue the implementation of the NOAA
Learning Ocean Science Through Ocean Exploration curriculum. During the Summer of 2009 SMILE teachers
received training on this curriculum and the use of the Ocean Explorer Web Site.

V. SMILE facilitated the engagement of university faculty and students in SMILE activities.
- URI faculty made presentations at the teacher workshops, introducing science concepts and career opportunities
to bring back to students;
- URI college students, faculty, were mentors and educators at the annual events;
- 40 AMGEN Mentors Network participated in the biotechnology High School Challenge Weekend
- 8 APC by Schneider Electric mentors participated at the Middle School Engineering Challenge Weekend.
- Engaged URI leadership students in developing and conducting the EOSA
- Delivered a spring-term course (PLS 492) for URI students facilitating the EOSA.
- Delivered a three credit course for SMILE teachers.

VI. SMILE continued to expand its role as a campus partner in pre-college STEM outreach activities.
- Collaborated in grants with Chemistry Department, URI College of Engineering, and URI Transportation Center;
- Form part of the AMGEN -URI STEM planning team for middle schools.
CONTINUATION RATES

In the school districts where we serve, only 40% of the high school graduates will continue on to college. By having a pipeline, students can join as early as the 4th grade and continue through 12th grade, preparing to continue on to college along the way. Our goal is to increase the numbers of underrepresented minority and low income students well-qualified to enter higher education. Approximately 93% of SMILE high school graduates have attended college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Level</th>
<th>Total # of Students per Level</th>
<th>Students Continuing 2009-2010</th>
<th>Percent Continuing 2009-2010</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary (5th graders only)</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle School</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School*</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>249</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Does not include high schools involved in biotechnology portion
Overall Program: 326

SPONSORS

The SMILE Program gratefully acknowledges the following organizations for their support

American Power Conversion by Schneider Electric
Amgen Foundation
Amgen International Network
Eaton Aerospace Foundation
Holiday Inn, South County RI
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Toray Plastics (America), Inc.

Central Falls School District
North Kingston School District
South Kingston School District
West Warwick School District
Woonsocket School District
21st Century Community Learning Center, North Kingston

University of Rhode Island
URI Amgen Bruce Wallace Biotechnology Lab program
URI Transportation Center
Tarra Evans joined The SMILE program in 6th grade and continued until she graduated high School. Her love of science started early in her school years. She participated in all SMILE activities at the elementary and middle school. In high school Tarra continued in SMILE, was part of a peer group who knew it was “cool to be smart”, got excellent grades, took all the science and math courses she could. She graduates high school with honors and applied to Brown University’s Medical School. She was accepted with an eight year full scholarship. This June 2010 Tarra graduated Brown Medical School and accepted a residency position at the prestigious Pennsylvania Hospital in obstetrics and gynecology.

Congratulations Dr. Evans. Continue to do wonderful things!
The SMILE Program is very proud of your accomplishments.

Michaela Cashman joined SMILE in 4th grade. She enjoyed everything to do with science especially if it involved being outdoors. The Elementary Outdoor Science Adventure was a perfect fit for Michaela. She loved field science rain or shine. In Middle School she stayed involved with SMILE and her friends, took career field trips, and participated in three URI Engineering Challenge Weekends. Everything was interesting to her. In high school, Michaela continued with The SMILE Program, took all the science and math courses she could, participated in SMILE annual environmental health challenges at URI and the EPA, and was selected for a Summer Environmental Internship with the EPA.

Michaela selected the University of Rhode Island with a major in Environmental Science and Wildlife Management. In her Freshman year she was selected to participate in Costa Rica Expedition Wildlife. During the summer she trapped small mammals on a coffee farm to study the effect of coffee agricultural practices on small mammal populations. In her second year at URI, Michaela took on the position of student leader for the SMILE Elementary Outdoor Science Adventure. She did a wonderful job combining science field studies with leadership development for the 4th and 5th graders. Michaela has been in SMILE for 9 years and at the college level she has returned as a SMILE mentor. Her enthusiasm and love of learning are inspiring!