

The JCPS Backpack League



A Summer Learning
Adventure

2019

The Purpose

The Backpack League was designed to engage incoming third through sixth graders through authentic, project-based experiences designed to accelerate reading and math skills.



Campers were able to choose their own adventures. Field trips and hands-on learning opportunities took students into the community to learn.



Special learning opportunities were offered to students including CrossFit Kids and Culinary Class.



Students had on-going opportunities to visit the Library, created especially for the Backpack League.



Students' experiences led to many new artifacts for their backpacks – 2394 after the first two weeks!

The Backpack League by the Numbers



4 Weeks

23 Adventures

68 Field trips

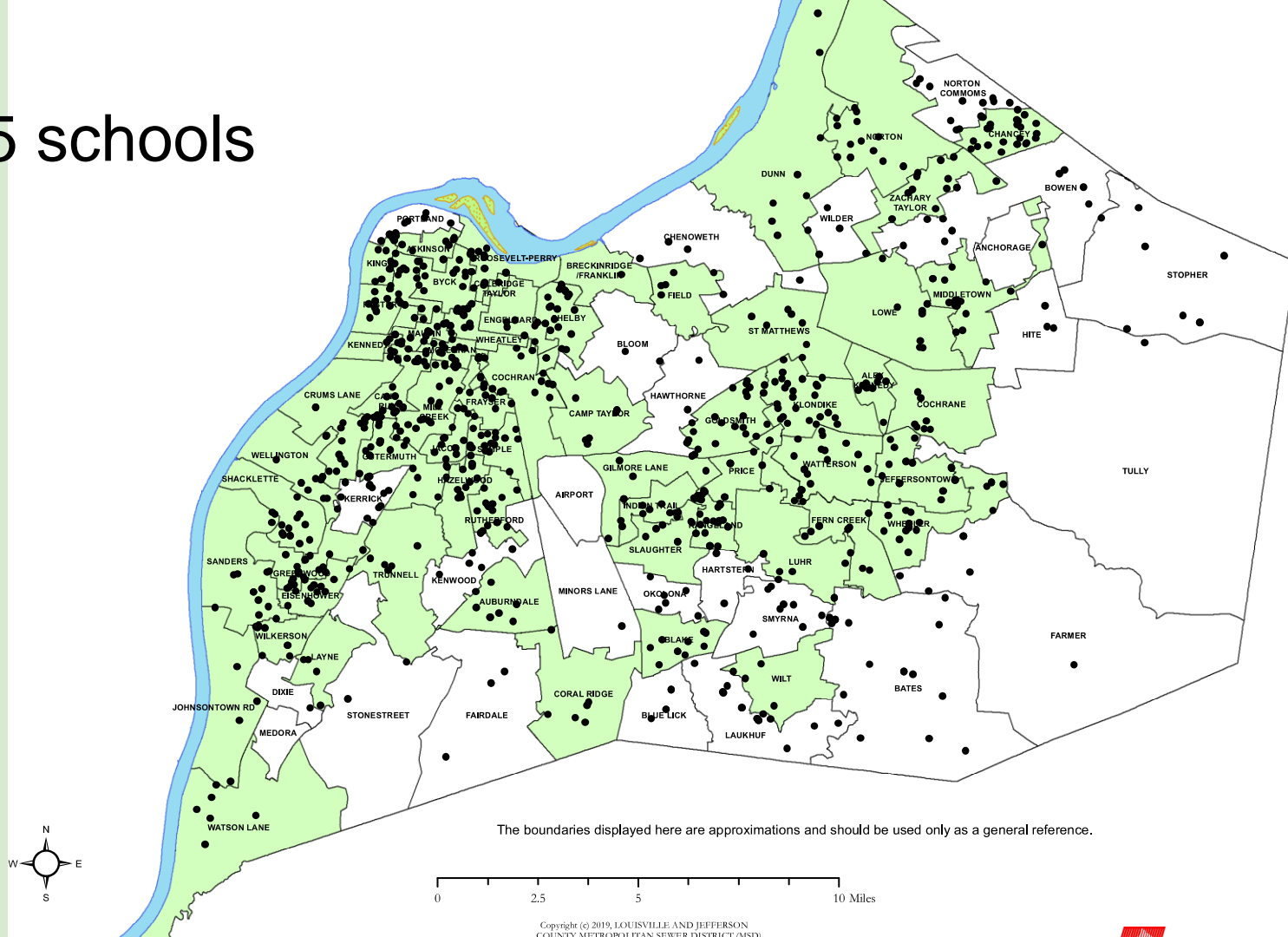
869 Students

43 Buses

136 Field Trip Volunteers

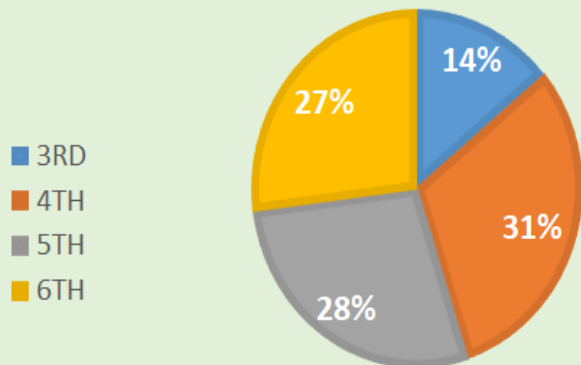
81 Teachers and Instructional Assistants

65 schools

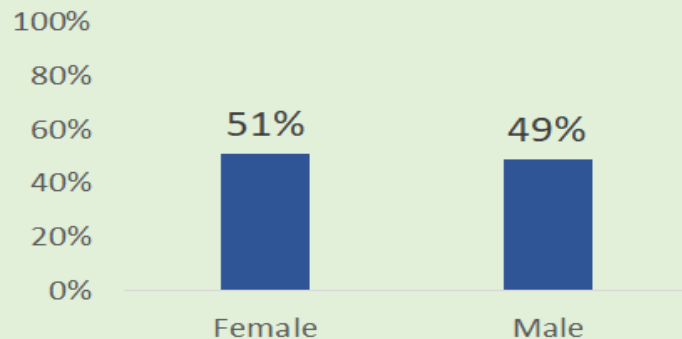


Our Students

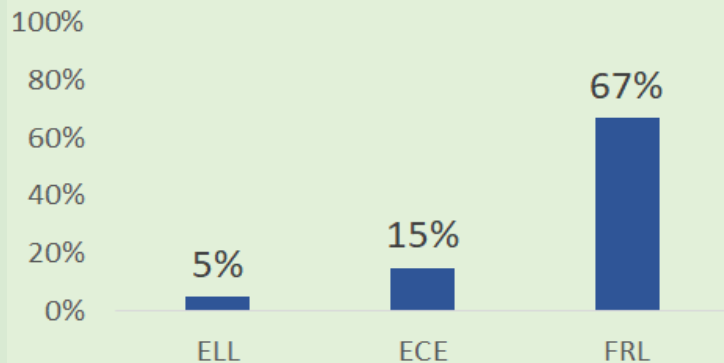
GRADE



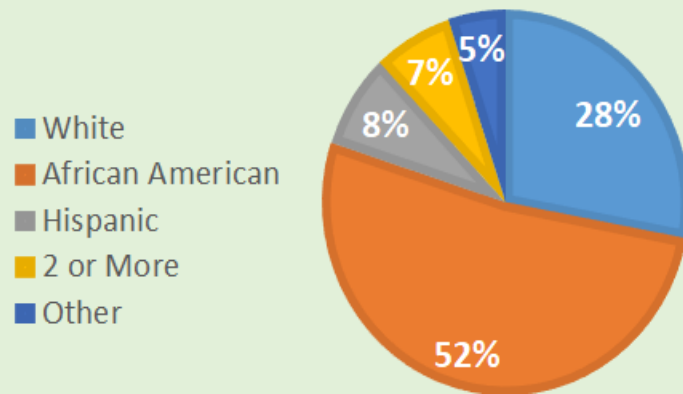
GENDER



OTHER SERVICES



RACE/ETHNICITY



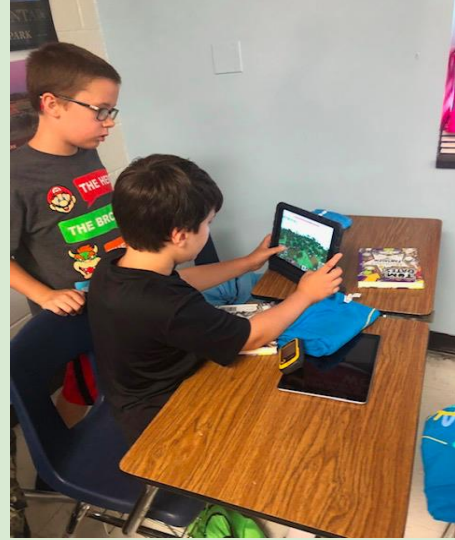
The Adventures

- Animals and Ecosystems
- Bullseye in Academics
- Breaking in Escape Design
- Cardboard Empire
- Chasing Art
- Compassion in Action
- Creating Music Through Art and Technology
- Designing Parks
- Geocaching in The Ville



The Adventures

- Kentucky in Pictures
- Kidpreneurs: Young Entrepreneurs with Big Ideas!
- Lean Into Louisville QR Readers
- Learning About the Hispanic/Latinx Culture in Louisville
- Letting Off STEAM: Building Robots with LouCity FC
- Louisville Problem Solvers
- Mayan Adventure
- Muhammad Ali's Six Core Principles: Character and PE
- Mutant Project
- Storytelling
- Telling Our Cultural Story



The Adventures

- The Walking Classroom
- We Can Build a Better Community
- WhoDunIt? Mystery Solved!
- WILD for Animals
- Hunger and Poverty in Our Community
- Reading and Calculating Our Way to Helping
- Integrating Arts into the Curriculum
- Constructing My City Scape by My Voice through Social and Environmental Justice



Special Experiences

Library

Culinary

CrossFit Kids

Social and Emotional Learning

Business and Marketing

Graphic Design

Music

Robotics



Were we successful?

"It's fun and the people here are nice." *Teagan*

"I like it because we get to do fun stuff and coding." *Ashton*

"We learn more in this camp than in real school. We meet new friends, get to learn about being an upstander, bullying, cyberbullying and peer pressure." *Reagan*

"It's fun. I love all the field trips, getting to climb, walk and get exercise." *Jayda*

"I like that we go on field trips and when we find the geocaches." *Sreedevi*

"It means being in a fun learning environment." *Rhaegan*

"This place is awesome and everything we are learning is helping us." *James*

"We are learning things that we do not learn about in regular school." *Romell*



Were we successful?

“The backpack league has given me an opportunity to really showcase how powerful a student’s voice is... and an opportunity to learn from others and delve into content I’ve been unfamiliar with. Thanks to the Backpack League, we are all empowered,” Sarah Reed, Integrating Arts: Social and Environmental Justice.

“For me backpack league has been a wonderful opportunity to get creative and invent a whole new adventure around my passion (playing guitar). I have seen kids that rarely experience success blossom and get excited when they produce their first chords on the guitar,” Vicki Meares, Creating Music Through Art and Technology.

“Backpack league is an opportunity to go large with learning for students and teachers, We have gotten to wrestle with big ideas, try out new things and have fun,” Lisa Downs, Chasing Art.

Were we successful?



Our District's summer learning opportunities for students were expanded by providing support for students in grades 3-6.



Students will start the year with artifacts for their backpacks. 2394 artifacts were uploaded after the first two weeks.



Students participated at no cost, received breakfast and lunch and transportation.



Teachers were engaged in reflective practice for designing engaging instructional units focused on content standards and Success Skills.

Reflections and Next Steps

Innovation in teaching and learning is deeper learning! The Backpack League created a space for all involved to take risks, promote active learning, and experience “school” from a different lens.

All means all! All students were in the classroom during Backpack League, learning alongside their peers. No student was served in a resource room or self-contained. This includes EBD students.

Relationships Matter! Teachers and students have communicated the impact of quality leadership and building relationship has been powerful.

Questions?

