



Munger Leads When Munger Reads

Year 1 Report
(January 1, 2018 – December 31, 2018)

Table of Contents

- Overview . . . 3
 - Pilot Description . . . 4 & 5
 - Partners . . . 6
- Programming for ages 0 to 3 . . . 7
 - Brilliant Detroit and Raising a Reader . . . 8, 9, & 10
 - Great Start Collaborative Wayne . . . 11 & 12
- Great Start Readiness Program . . . 13 & 14
- Munger Programming for students in kindergarten to third grade . . . 15
 - Attendance and Tardiness . . . 16, 17, & 18
 - Tutoring . . . 19
 - Family Engagement Programming . . . 20
- Evaluation . . . 21 & 22
- Goals for Year Two . . . 23 & 24

Pilot Description

- The Munger Leads When Munger Reads pilot seeks to improve literacy in Detroit's Munger neighborhood. It brings together neighborhood and community organizations, and Munger Elementary Middle School staff to create a literacy-based continuum for children from birth through third grade. Munger Leads when Munger Reads targets families and students in the Munger neighborhood in Detroit. It provides a wide variety of resources including prenatal supports, the Raising a Reader program, a community literacy campaign, tutoring at school through the Michigan Education Corps (MEC) Reading Program. These resources provide critical child development tools for children from birth through third grade.
- Overarching pilot goals include:
 - Create a literacy-focused community in the Munger neighborhood.
 - Provide parents with information and strategies to strengthen language skills in their children. Language skills are the foundation of literacy skills.
 - Ensure children possess grade level readiness when they enter Kindergarten at Munger.
 - Empower parents to teach, talk, read, and play with their children every day.



Criteria used to select Munger

- Munger was chosen as the pilot site because it met the following criteria:
 - Community and Adolescent Health Center onsite at Munger (operated by Henry Ford Health System);
 - Munger offered a full time Pathways to Potential caseworker from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and a full time Community School Site Coordinator from Southwest Solutions;
 - Great Start Readiness Program (prekindergarten) operated onsite at Munger run by Wayne RESA;
 - Principal Donnell Burroughs and Assistant Principal Edith Carter were both pleased to participate and to promote participation by the school staff and students. Munger also had an active Parent Teacher program;
 - Presence of community organizations in the area immediately surrounding Munger including Brilliant Detroit, Great Start Collaborative Wayne, and Nurse Family Partnership along with an existing partnership with Conley Public Library, the neighborhood's public library.
- Munger Leads When Munger Reads is an ambitious coordination of stakeholders across silos to make progress on literacy in the Munger neighborhood.
- Third grade reading scores are very low in Detroit. Munger Leads When Munger Reads will demonstrate whether a coordinated effort, along with nationally recognized new resources, can better support children's literacy.

Munger Leads When Munger Reads Partners

“The success of our children really depends on a community-wide approach to education, starting with early childhood learning. The Munger Leads When Munger Reads pilot program is an excellent example of a wide range of support systems coming together in a focused way that I hope to see replicated across our city.”

- Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan

- Munger Elementary Middle School Principal, Assistant Principal, Staff and Parent Teacher Association
- Detroit Public Schools Community District – Central Office
- Authority Health – Nurse Family Partnership program
- Brilliant Detroit
- City of Detroit Office of Neighborhood Revitalization, District 6
- Detroit Fire Department, Ladder 22
- Great Start Collaborative Wayne
- Grosse Ile Presbyterian Church
- Henry Ford Health System
- Maura Corrigan, Counsel at Butzel Long and retired Michigan Department of Human Services Director and Supreme Court Chief Justice
- Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
- Paul and Amy Blavin, Founders, Inspiring Action For Good
- Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan
- Southwest Solutions
- United Way of Southeastern Michigan
- Wayne RESA



Munger Leads When Munger Reads Zero to Three Programming

Brilliant Detroit and Raising a Reader

- Brilliant Detroit is dedicated to building successful children, families, and neighborhoods where families with children ages 0-8 have what they need to be school ready, healthy and stable.
- Brilliant Detroit builds successful children, families, and neighborhoods by establishing and operating homes in high need neighborhoods that offer proven programming to families and children.
- In Munger Leads When Munger Reads, Brilliant Detroit has hosted neighborhood-based programming, primarily the Raising a Reader program (RAR), to provide parenting support and training to Munger parents with children ages 0-3.
- Through the generous support of Paul and Amy Blavin, Brilliant Detroit became an affiliate of the national RAR, which is an effort to help families develop, practice, and maintain literacy skills at home by sharing books.
- Children bring home a red book bag each week with award-winning books to practice the habit of sharing books, and families are connected with local libraries to maintain the habit of borrowing and sharing books.
- The ultimate goal of these efforts is to increase literacy in the 48209 and 48210 zip codes, the Munger neighborhood.

Brilliant Detroit and Raising a Reader

To date, Brilliant Detroit's Southwest site has implemented four Raising a Reader cohorts and served 76 children and 37 parents. In collaboration with the Nurse Family Partnership, 12 families have received one on one RAR sessions in their home.

Brilliant Detroit has implemented the Raising a Reader program in three ways:

- **One-on-one home sessions with a visiting nurse**
 - Brilliant Detroit collaborates with the Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) to reach participants who are unable to make it to the Brilliant Detroit site for a RAR session. NFP works by having specially-trained nurses regularly visit young, first-time moms starting from early in their pregnancy until the child's second birthday. For each of the 8-12 weeks during the home sessions, the visiting nurse implements one-on-one RAR parent education sessions and exchanges the family's books. Ten NFP staff have been trained for RAR and are implementing it in their activities.
- **Play and Learn**
 - The Raising a Reader play and learn curriculum is a 6-8-week cohort that introduces families to literacy activities that can be replicated at home. Each week families are exposed to a new book, a literacy craft, and are given tips to replicate the activities at home. Families receive a red book bag that they swap each week for a new set of books. Families are connected to their local library at the end of the cohort.
- **Parent Education workshops**
 - The parent education workshop is a 6-week workshop that provides parents with knowledge and resources to help develop the foundation of academic success. Family-friendly, research-based practices are shared with caregivers to help them overcome their own anxiety about sharing books and develop reading habits with their children.

“Before, my son didn’t really pay attention to books, now he grabs them and brings them to me and turns the pages and acts like he’s reading the story to me.”

- Concepcion Orea, Brilliant Detroit and Raising a Reader participant



Brilliant Detroit and Raising a Reader participant

The Raising a Reader program nationally has had a tremendous impact on participating families. Brilliant Detroit participant Concepcion Orea was drawn to the Raising a Reader program at Brilliant Detroit because she wanted to develop her children’s language and vocabulary skills. Concepcion Orea, who participated in the third Raising a Reader cohort at Brilliant Detroit with her 1 year old son, stated that the Raising a Reader program has not only affected her but also her entire family. Mrs. Orea stated, “Before, it was only me who read to the kids, now my husband takes a part in reading to the kids and now everyone reads together.”

Great Start Collaborative Wayne - Social Media Campaign

Great Start Collaborative undertook the social media and community campaign for Munger Leads When Munger Reads. This campaign included:

- Kickoff breakfast for the Munger community members and partners
- The following literacy related items:
 - 300 Family Fun Guides to families at Munger
 - 275 Munger Leads When Munger Reads yard signs for families of the students and community members
 - 750 Munger Leads When Munger Reads t-shirts for students in kindergarten through third grade
 - Community engagement materials specific to the 48210 (Munger) zip code
- A billboard and cellphone “Talking is Teaching” literacy campaign that included giving away 120 books from the Conley Library

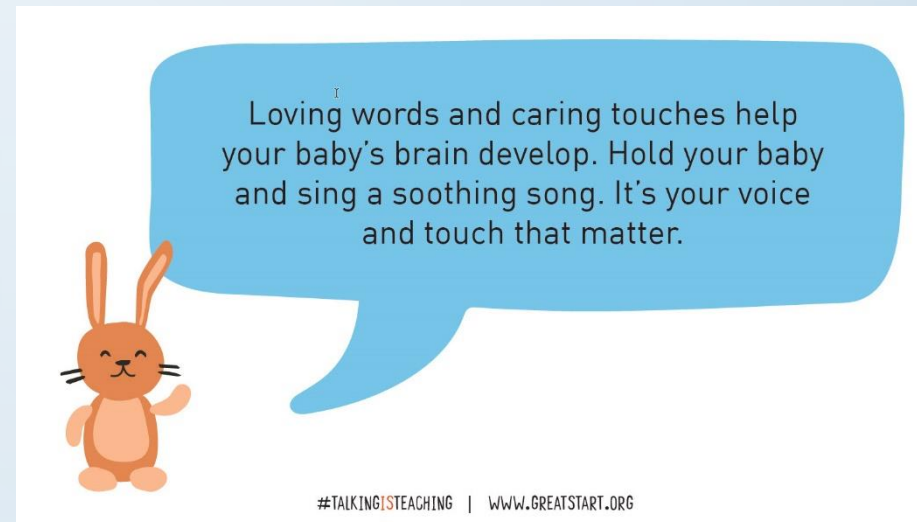


Great Start Collaborative Wayne

Talking is Teaching

Talking is Teaching: Talk, Read, Sing Community Campaign has been built to increase everyone's knowledge about the importance of talking and interacting with young children beginning at birth. Reinforcing messaging, skill building, recognizing adults for what they are already doing and working together to help each of us do more are the critical elements of this Campaign.

- Great Start Collaborative Wayne was the first Talking is Teaching Campaign site in Michigan.
- As part of Talking is Teaching, Great Start Collaborative Wayne has developed 1 minute, 5 minute, 10 minute and 30 minute messages meant for everyone as both a language / literacy awareness and encouragement piece.
- Talking is Teaching kits have been shared with Munger pilot partners along with community members.
- Great Start Collaborative Wayne has provided Talking is Teaching training and kits to Munger and other community organizations.
- Talking is Teaching messaging was used on the billboards and on the cell phone banner ads for the Social Media campaign.





Munger Leads When Munger Reads

Great Start Readiness Program
(Prekindergarten)

Great Start Readiness Program (Prekindergarten)

Literacy Methods

- The Wayne County Great Start Readiness Program follows the HighScope Curriculum.
- Through language, literacy and communication content areas, preschool children learn the intricate systems of reading and writing. Teachers focus on speaking skills, listening and comprehension, verbal fluency, alphabetic knowledge, reading, book enjoyment and writing.
- The preschoolers learn about literacy content by recognizing letters in their name through letter links, environmental print, abundant and diverse reading materials, and intentional writing opportunities.
- Interactive read aloud activities take place in small groups twice a day, with a focus on vocabulary, comprehension, and reference to print.
- Teachers create lending libraries and talk with families on home visits promoting literacy. Parent advisory meetings and workshops to promote developmentally appropriate literacy practices.
- The ten Literacy Essentials, created by the statewide General Education Leadership Network, are embedded into daily classroom curriculum and practices.

Measuring Literacy Improvements

- 72 four year old students are enrolled in the Great Start Readiness Program at Munger.
- The Child Observation Record (COR) is used to assess language, literacy, and communication skills.
- Teachers collect observations and anecdotal notes throughout the year to plan classroom experiences and individualized instruction for enrolled, eligible children.
- Average Munger student is at 2.31 age upon entering into the Great Start Readiness Program.
- Students initially test lowest in listening, reading and comprehension.
- Student growth is reported at the end of the school year.



Munger Leads When Munger Reads

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade Munger
Programming

Attendance and Tardiness Awards and PBIS Programming

- Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a general approach to supporting academic and social success of all children in a school. This approach focuses on creating and maintaining a positive environment in school by teaching and encouraging appropriate behavior and discouraging problem behavior.
- At Munger, PBIS is used for attendance and tardiness purposes with three Tiers developed to classify student attendance.
 - Tier I students have excellent attendance. Students in this group receive monthly recognition for perfect attendance.
 - Tier II students have borderline attendance. This tier requires a meeting with the parent, involves wrap around services to alleviate any barriers keeping the student from attending school, and requires the parent to sign a contract promising that their child will attend school, on time, everyday.
 - Tier III students have poor attendance (have been absent for more than 10% of the entire school year) and are referred to the attendance agent. The behavioral office also follows up with these students.
- Munger has perfect attendance awards and attendance competitions with prizes. It also recognizes students of the month.
- The Butzel Long Charitable Trust donated \$1,000 to Munger for prizes associated with the attendance awards and Tier I students.
- With 1,059 students at Munger, attendance remains a high priority and Munger has maintained a 94.03% rate since the start of the school year on September 4, 2018.

Attendance and Tardiness

Truancy Intervention Program (TIP) for Kindergarteners through Third Graders

- TIP addresses school truancy and chronic absenteeism by bringing together representatives from the Wayne County Juvenile Court, schools, law enforcement, social service agencies, and mental health providers to help stabilize families and re-engage youth in their education.
- The Munger TIP Program currently exists for students in the 5th grade and above.
- The Wayne County Juvenile Court TIP staff met with representatives from Munger to establish a truancy program that targets Munger parents of students in kindergarten through third grade.
- Through this new partnership, a staff member from the Wayne County Juvenile Court TIP program will visit Munger once monthly for conversations with selected parents about the importance of children attending school, on time, everyday.
- These conversations with parents will take place at Munger in an informal atmosphere.

Attendance and Tardiness Pathways to Potential

- Pathways to Potential is an innovative approach to human services that targets five outcome areas: attendance, education, health, safety and self-sufficiency.
- In Pathways to Potential schools, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services places employees called Success Coaches in schools where high numbers of families are already receiving assistance through the department.
- The Success Coaches work closely with school principals, social workers, attendance agents and teachers to monitor attendance and address barriers to attending school when they arise.
- The Pathways to Potential Success Coach at Munger is Deborah Lesure.

By the Numbers. . .

In 2018, the Munger Pathways to Potential Success Coach:

- Connected with 609 Munger parents and 421 Munger students;
- Helped 361 Munger families and students to meet their basic needs;
- Provided information on additional services to 280 Munger families and students;
- Intervened to help 247 Munger families and students;
- Assisted 117 Munger families and students with utility assistance.

The Munger Success Coach has also interceded to provide families with financial assistance, homelessness and housing assistance, food resources, job employment and legal assistance.

Tutoring

Munger's Reading Corps is administered through tutors affiliated with the Michigan Education Corps (MEC) Program.

- The goal is to improve reading among students in Kindergarten through third grade.
- This school year, Munger has two full-time tutors who are each assigned fifteen 2nd and 3rd grade students.
- The tutors use multiple reading intervention strategies during their 20 minute daily tutoring session with students.
- Duet Reading and Newscaster Reading are the intervention strategies most employed with Munger's current Reading Corps students.
 - Duet Reading increases fluency and teaches students to read every word.
 - In Newscaster Reading, students read a passage repetitively to help build the skills of reading expression and comprehension.
- Once a tutored student has met the target goal, the Reading Corps member will add a new student from the identified list.
- Students of the Reading Corps program were identified through their i-Ready test scores.
- Student attendance and participation is stable and consistent.
- Tutors observed gains in their students' reading.
- From March to May 2018:
 - 33 Munger students participated in the MEC program.
 - 15 Students met readiness standards.
 - 4 Kindergarten, 3 first grade, 1 second grade, and 1 third grade students exited the program because they were reading above grade level.
 - On May 31, 2018, 24 students were reading at or above level (including the students who exited the program), 9 students were reading below level.

Family Engagement Programming

Munger Parent Teacher Association and Parent Academy have strong support and involvement from Munger parents.

- For the 2017-2018 school year
 - Parent Academy operated every Thursday with 2 Math, 1 English Language Arts, and 1 Social Studies classes offered.
 - From 45 to 70 parents attended parent programming at Munger each month, depending on the weather conditions.
- For the 2018-2019 school year
 - Literacy University is currently running at Munger for parents.
 - Parent involvement has increased this year.

Multiple special events and programs have connected families to Munger, some based on requests from Munger families and students such as:

- English as a second language classes for parents;
- Career Day;
- Reading with the Stars;
- PJs and Popcorn Reading night with Principal Burroughs;
- Community Garden at Munger.

Evaluation

Poverty Solutions at the University of Michigan

Poverty Solutions is a university-wide initiative that partners with policymakers and communities to find new ways to prevent and alleviate poverty in Michigan, the nation, and the world.

The work of Poverty Solutions on this pilot has been partially funded by the generous donation of Paul and Amy Blavin and Ed and Jennifer Magnus.

The key updates from the Evaluation component of Munger Leads When Munger Reads are:

- **Evaluation Strategy:** This year, Poverty Solutions has identified the evaluation strategy. Poverty Solutions plans on evaluating the pilot in two ways:
 - Student-Level Analysis: If data sharing permission is granted, Poverty Solutions will evaluate student level outcomes for students who are a part of pilot programming compared to those who are not involved in pilot programming. This will also include flagging students who are involved in Brilliant Detroit programming as they transition to Munger and tracking their outcomes.
 - School Level Analysis: Poverty Solutions will also compare Munger's year-end outcomes compared to schools without this pilot effort. This will include nearby schools, schools with similar demographics, and schools that have historically had similar test scores to Munger.
- **Data Sharing:**
 - A data sharing agreement with Brilliant Detroit has been submitted to the University of Michigan Office of Sponsored Research Projects, which handles data sharing for the university.
 - Data sharing with Detroit Public School Community District is on hold.
- **Data Agreement:**
 - Poverty Solutions is in negotiations with the body that grants access to researchers to the state-level education data for grades K-12. This will give this pilot access to match the Brilliant Detroit data to the Munger Leads When Munger Reads data. Poverty Solutions expects this access will be granted in the next 3-4 months.
- **IRB Approval**
 - This project has received IRB approval through the University of Michigan. This approval allows Poverty Solutions to access student-level outcomes.



Munger Leads When Munger Reads

Goals for Year Two

Goals for Year Two

- Increase the number of parents and children in the Munger neighborhood served by Brilliant Detroit through the Raising a Reader program to 75 parents and 150 children.
- Provide ongoing Talking is Teaching training sessions to parents at Brilliant Detroit
- Begin preliminary data analysis.