

Management, Research & Marketing

F. J. Zarlengo, Ph.D., President

Testimony of

Stephen Anderson
MRM, Inc.

to

Educational

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MRM-Speaking
Speaker: Stephen Anderson

My name is Steve Anderson and I am the principal consultant for MRM, Inc. MRM is an independent evaluation firm out of Providence, Rhode Island. It is owned and operated by Dr. Phil Zarlengo, former Director of the Northeast Regional Lab at Brown University. MRM has extensive experience in evaluating after school programs in various settings throughout the Northeast.

I am grateful to the Chairperson(s) and Committee Members for the opportunity to present written testimony to you today concerning the latest evaluation findings for the Lighthouse After School and Summer Program located in Bridgeport, Ct. MRM has provided the Lighthouse Program with yearly evaluations for the past decade. In addition to our qualitative findings, MRM is pleased to report on the following quantitative analysis conducted on a random sample of 98 Lighthouse students representing 15 schools throughout the district. Students were selected based on an 80% attendance rate and approximately half of those chosen participated for two years. The 98 students were from grades 3-8 and included 45 males and 54 females. Forty-six were of African American descent, 41 were of Hispanic descent, 9 were White, and 3 were Asian. Only 10 students, or roughly 10% of the sample, came from two magnet schools.

A comparative analysis of 2006 CMT scores was done to determine the effect of after school educational and recreational programming on the academic performance of the sample. The CMT scores of the Lighthouse sample were compared to the scores of the Bridgeport Public Schools for all grades tested. The focus of this analysis was on the positive difference the Lighthouse Program made on students' performance in school when compared with the performance of their peers from their home schools as well as district-wide.

The following significant findings resulted and are further explained in the attached chart.

- The average 2006 CMT Mathematics score of Lighthouse students exceeded the district score at all grade levels.
- The average 2006 CMT Reading and Writing score of Lighthouse students exceeded the district score in grades 3, 5, 7, and 8.

Table: 2006-2007 Connecticut Mastery Test Comparison of Raw Scores and Levels of Performance

Lighthouse Students				Bridgeport School District			
Grade	Skill area	Average Raw Score	Level	Grade	Skill area	Average Raw Score	Level
3	Mathematics	225.1	3 - Proficient	3	Mathematics	215.4	3 - Proficient
3	Reading	212.2	2 - Basic	3	Reading	207.7	2 - Basic
3	Writing	234.9	3 - Proficient	3	Writing	222.1	3 - Proficient
4	Mathematics	219.4	3 - Proficient*	4	Mathematics	213.6	2 - Basic
4	Reading	213.5	2 - Basic	4	Reading	214.6	2 - Basic
4	Writing	219.9	3 - Proficient	4	Writing	220.9	3 - Proficient
5	Mathematics	246.0	4 - Goal*	5	Mathematics	223.7	3 - Proficient
5	Reading	219.6	3 - Proficient*	5	Reading	207.1	2 - Basic
5	Writing	243.2	4 - Goal*	5	Writing	223.3	3 - Proficient
6	Mathematics	225.9	3 - Proficient	6	Mathematics	221.4	3 - Proficient
6	Reading	210.4	2 - Basic	6	Reading	218.7	2 - Basic
6	Writing	217.1	3 - Proficient	6	Writing	225.0	3 - Proficient
7	Mathematics	218.8	3 - Proficient	7	Mathematics	216.5	3 - Proficient
7	Reading	216.5	3 - Proficient*	7	Reading	204.0	2 - Basic
7	Writing	230.8	3 - Proficient	7	Writing	220.1	3 - Proficient
8	Mathematics	227.4	3 - Proficient*	8	Mathematics	211.8	2 - Basic
8	Reading	225.4	3 - Proficient*	8	Reading	217.0	2 - Basic
8	Writing	234.5	3 - Proficient	8	Writing	223.0	3 - Proficient

* Each asterisk indicates that the average score of the Lighthouse group registers at a level of performance higher than that calculated for the average score of the Bridgeport school district.